

Baltimore City Schools Quarterly Coordinating Committee Meeting on School Construction: Notes

Wednesday, January 21, 2026

Prepared by Jaffa Weiss & Patrick McMahon, Department of Planning.

Attendees

Weiss, Jaffa (DOP)

Gabriel, Qiana

Gaskins, Maurice A (Unverified)

Gershberg, Maureen C (Unverified)

Hayes, Chad (DOP)

Mason, Fred D (Unverified)

McMahon, Patrick (DOP)

McNeill, Ivy D (Unverified)

Melissa Wilfong -IAC-(External)

Nicole Matthews

Housekeeping

- Review and Approval Minutes of October 15, 2025
- Fred Mason motioned, Maureen Gershberg seconded, approved

Agency Updates

School walking routes (DOP/DOT)

- INSPIRE Area Sidewalk Repairs
 - Cross Country Elementary/Middle School is the final remaining school receiving sidewalk treatment; anticipated completion date by March 2026 (weather depending)
- Curb ramp improvements
- Contract awarded, construction expected over the summer
- Follow up meeting with contractor and DOT on Friday 1/23
- Crossing study for Frederick Douglass at Gwynns Falls Parkway
- DOT recommendation is a refresh of the transverse markings; at this time DOT isn't able to do more than a refresh (no beacons, electronic crossing features, etc.)
- Slated for summer for refresh
- Other route improvements

INSPIRE Planning (DOP)

- Upcoming plans (Patrick/Jaffa)
 - Walter P. Carter final draft nearly completed, going to Planning Commission on February 5

- Northwood Recommendation Report approved by community, drafting final report, and anticipate going to Planning Commission in March
- Good turnout at the Billie Holiday/Katherine Johnson Public Meeting on Jan. 7
- Public meeting for Montebello next Tuesday, Jan. 27
- Cross Country EMS – Next community meeting on Feb 3; key feature of meeting with be discussion of community project (likely involving pedestrian safety/traffic calming)

Design and Construction Updates (21st Century/MSA) - Nichole Matthews

School name	Previous Meeting Status	Current Status	Recent updates	Scheduled Opening
Com. John Rodgers EMS	Construction	Construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topping out ceremony - On schedule, construction proceeding • Out of the ground, • All elevated decks are poured out in Area A • Setting steel in Area B • Working Masonry Bearing Walls in Area C • Interior MEPs and Light Gage Framing is underway in Area. • Continuing North Property Line Retaining Wall • Street Utilities are underway 	Mid-year 2026, Still on track
Frederick Douglass HS/Briscoe	Construction	Construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On schedule, construction proceeding • Renovation is progressing with finished paint & ceiling grid on the 3rd floor • The majority of the rough-ins are complete on the renovation • Briscoe Addition has the majority of the Structural Steel erected with the Aux. Gym underway • A large portion of the underground utilities are complete with permanent power & gas this month 	Summer 2026, still on track

- **Built to Learn**

- Status of new BCPSS website
- Not complete, currently in process
 - City College (currently on track for summer 2028 completion)
- Poly-Western – completed design phase
 - Other updates

Baltimore City Quarterly Meeting on High School Planning and Construction

Building Name	Previous Status	Current Status	Design	Relocation to Swing	Construction	Grand Opening	Swing space
Frederick Douglass High School	Construction	Construction	SY 22/23 - SY 23/24	Summer 2024	SY 24/25 – SY 25/26	Summer 2026	Northwestern Building
Baltimore City College	Design	Construction	SY 23/24 - SY 24/25	Summer 2025	SY 25/26 - SY 27/28	Summer 2028	University of Baltimore
Western High School	Design	Design	SY 24/25 - SY 25/26	Summer 2026	SY 26/27 – SY 27/28	Summer 2028	Northwestern Building
Baltimore Polytechnic High School	Design	Design	SY 24/25 – SY 25/26	Summer 2028	SY 28/29 – SY 29/30	Summer 2030	Northwestern Building

21st Century Schools Community Outreach

- FD community meeting 1/21 - Northwestern building
- Commodore John Rodgers – 1/29 - flyer to be sent

Built To Learn Community Outreach

- W 2/26 poly 2/25 at the schools
- City just had a meeting on Jan. 14

Next Scheduled Coordinating Committee Meeting: **Wednesday, April 15, 2026 at 9:00am**