



Thinking of Moving to Washington Grove? Information for Parents Last updated April 2022



Community Amenities for Kids

- Lake with beach, dock, and diving board. Free swim lessons and lifeguard staff every summer
- Playground, basketball, three tennis courts, soccer/baseball field
- Miles of wooded hiking trails
- Kids' library
- Summer tennis lessons
- Easter egg hunt
- Summer in the Parks camp for 5-12 year olds (subject to sufficient interest)
- Halloween parade and party
- December holiday show by and for residents



Area Schools

Washington Grove Elementary School (WGES)

- ~460 students in Head Start and full-day Pre-K through Grade 5.
- 8712 Oakmont St, Gaithersburg, MD 20877 (by bus or 4 minutes by car) | (240) 740-0300
- Website: <https://bit.ly/washgroves>



- MCPS School-at-a-Glance data: <https://bit.ly/washgrovees-aag>
- School day: 9:25 am-3:50 pm. Five bus stops in town, pick-up and drop-off 9:05 to 9:15 a.m., 4:05 to 4:20 p.m.
- Campus modernized and expanded in 2010
- Two-way English-Spanish immersion program: half the day is spent learning in English, the other half in Spanish. Students who are native Spanish speakers help the students who are learning Spanish and vice versa. See <https://bit.ly/wges-langimmersion> and <https://bit.ly/mcps-langimmersion> for more information.
- Principal: Ms. Amy Alonso
- Average class size: Kindergarten = 14; Grades 1 to 3 = 15; Grades 4 to 5 = 27
- Child care before- and after-school program, 7 am-6:30 pm

Gaithersburg Middle School (beginning with the 2022-23 school year)

- ~875 students in grades 6-8
- 2 Teachers' Way, Gaithersburg, MD 20877 (by bus or 4 minutes by car) | (240) 740-4950
- Website: <https://bit.ly/gaithersburgms>
- MCPS School-at-a-Glance data: <https://bit.ly/gaithms-aag>
- School day: 8:15 am-3:00 pm. Number of bus stops in town and pick-up and drop-off times are uncertain as of the date of this document; see <https://bit.ly/gaithms-transp> for the latest information.
- Campus renovated in 1988
- Spanish immersion program beginning with the 2022-23 school year. Any county resident enrolled in the WGES Spanish immersion program is eligible to continue in the middle school immersion program. Students who did not participate in the elementary program may test into an immersion program if there is space available.
- Principal: Ann B. Dolan Rindner
- Average class size ~13-14 students



Gaithersburg High School

- ~2400 students in grades 9-12
- 101 Education Blvd, Gaithersburg, MD 20877 (7-minute drive) | 301-284-4500
- Website: bit.ly/gaithersburghs
- MCPS School-at-a-Glance data: bit.ly/gaithersburghs-aag
- Campus expanded and modernized in 2013
- Principal: Mr. Cary Dimmick
- School day: 7:45 am-2:30 pm. Four bus stops in town, pick-up and drop-off 7:01 to 7:20 a.m., 2:42 to 3:00 pm
- Signature Academies in Arts and Communication; Business Studies; Leadership and Education; and Science and Technology create smaller schools within a larger school body.
- Project Lead the Way STEM program in Biomedical Sciences
- College Institute program allows eligible students to earn college credits at Montgomery College while completing high school.
- Average class size ~15-16 students



Magnet and Other School Choice Programs

(More information: bit.ly/mcps-specialprograms)

- **Elementary school level:**
 - Magnet program at Mill Creek Towne Elementary for gifted 4th and 5th graders. Competitive. Transportation provided from central location stops.
 - Spanish, French, and Chinese elementary immersion programs at seven county schools including Spanish at Washington Grove Elementary.
- **Middle school level:**
 - **Programs where students are admitted via selective lotteries.** Admission to the following two magnet programs formerly depended on a student's scores on a single test administered in the 5th grade. Starting in 2022,

admission is dependent on the results of selective lotteries¹ (with transportation provided from central location stops).

- Clemente Middle School in Germantown - science, math and computer science.
- Martin Luther King Jr. Middle School in Germantown - humanities and communications

- **Programs where students are admitted via non-selective lotteries** (none close by and no transportation provided):
 - Argyle - Digital Design and Development
 - Loiederman - Creative and Performing Arts
 - Parkland - Aerospace Technology

- **High school level**
 - **Programs where students are admitted via specific admissions criteria** (these are referred to as “criteria-based programs”). The criteria include school performance data, a scored essay, and report card grades. Transportation is provided from central location stops.
 - International Baccalaureate (IB) diploma programs at Richard Montgomery HS in Rockville and at Watkins Mill HS in Gaithersburg
 - Poolesville HS in Poolesville:
 - Humanities program
 - Science, Math and Computer Science (SMACS) program
 - Global Ecology program
 - Visual Arts Center at Einstein HS in Wheaton

 - **Programs where students are admitted via non-selective lotteries** (these are referred to as “interest-based programs”):
 - Clarksburg - Network Operations and Information Technology
 - Gaithersburg - Project Lead the Way Biomedical Sciences
 - Magruder - Aviation and Aerospace

¹ Per [this document](#), Grade 5 students will now be subject to a “universal review” of their academic profiles, using multiple measures that include results of assessment tests, reading level, report card grades, and student services. Generally a student needs to have scores in the 85th percentile of the Measures of Academic Progress-Reading (MAP-R) and Measures of Academic Progress-Mathematics (MAP-M) tests to be placed in the lottery pool. Students in the pool will be guaranteed enrichment in either a middle school magnet program or in enriched programming/courses at their local school. See the document for more information.

- Northwest - Middle College @Montgomery College (MC2) Program
- Seneca Valley
 - Healthcare Professions
 - Hospitality and Tourism Management
 - Information Technology and Cybersecurity
 - Construction Management and Architecture
 - Project Lead the Way Engineering

Four-Year Colleges Attended by Kids Who Grew Up in Washington Grove

Allegheny	Mercyhurst	University of Maryland
Bennington	Mount Holyoke	Baltimore County
Bowdoin	Oberlin	Univ. of Massachusetts
Brown*	Ohio Wesleyan	Univ. of Miami
Cal Polytechnic Pomona	Penn State	Univ. of Pennsylvania*
Cornell	Rochester Inst. of	Univ. of Rochester
Gallaudet	Technology	Univ. of Toronto
Goucher	Salisbury*	Univ. of Western Ontario
Johnson and Wales	Skidmore	Ursinus
Longwood	St. Mary's College of MD*	Vassar
Louisiana State	Towson*	West Virginia
Macalester*	Univ. of Dayton	Wheaton
Mary Washington	Univ. of Maryland College	Wilson
Maryland Institute	Park* (includes UMd	Yale
College of Art (MICA)	Honors College*)	

*multiple students