

PUBLIC FACILITIES

FREDERICK COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The establishment of new community facilities creates opportunities to improve the quality of the surrounding community. Schools in particular through the incorporation of Neighborhood Design can serve as the focal point for Neighborhood Villages and Urban Centers within the UDA and Rural Community Centers in the Rural Areas. Neighborhood Design promotes neighborhood-centered schools as an element of a fully integrated community and as a resource and enhancement for the locality as a whole.

Schools should be located in existing or future neighborhoods, within walking distance and be accessible to residents. Community centered school planning makes good use of existing resources, while ensuring that schools are located within neighborhoods and fit into the scale and design of the area. They act as neighborhood anchors and community centers. Well planned school sites, by encouraging walking and bicycling, can improve student health and academic performance and reduce traffic around schools. A good example of community centered school planning can be found in Greenwood Mill Elementary School, the county's 11th Elementary and newest school.

CURRENT CONDITIONS

FCPS is the 19th largest of 134 school systems in the Commonwealth of Virginia, with just over 13,000 students in the 2010-11 school year. With over 2,000 full time employees Frederick County Public Schools is the second largest employer in the Frederick-Winchester County area. The school district has 11 elementary schools, 4 middle schools, 3 high schools, and 1 alternative education/career & technical school. The school division also owns and operates a regional special education facility that provides special education services to students from Frederick and Clarke Counties and the City of Winchester. Support facilities include the administration building, the maintenance/warehouse facility, and the transportation facility. There are a total of 24 schools and support facilities operated by FCPS. Five new schools were constructed over the past 10 years.

Residential growth continues to impact the school system as additional homes are built throughout the County. During the past several decades, the student enrollment in the school division has increased steadily. Student enrollment has grown by 2,360 students in the past ten years alone, an increase of 22%. Recently, student membership growth has been flat, a reflection of the real estate market slump and the broader economic crisis.

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As the local real estate market recovers, school growth will regain momentum.

As growth occurs, it is important that new and refurbished schools serve as a focal point for Neighborhood Villages and Urban Centers. When located in the Rural Areas, new and existing schools should be located in or near Rural Community Centers when possible.

FUTURE FOCUS

As Frederick County looks toward the future, it will plan for new school facilities that are strategically located where students live to optimize individual schools' population levels. Where possible, schools should be located to provide a focal point for community life and where students can walk or ride their bicycles to school. Opportunities to co-locate schools with other community facilities should be sought. Fire & Rescue stations co-located with schools provides a specific benefit to FCPS, as schools are identified by the Fire and Rescue Department as a "target hazard" (a land use having a higher risk of injury due to the demographics of the users). To meet the continuing challenge of student population growth, more new schools will be needed.

FCPS also has the responsibility of providing instruction that prepares students to work and live in the 21st century. The use of technology as a tool in nearly every facet of education has dramatically changed the way in which instructional services are provided to students. Renovation, expansion, or outright replacement of certain schools will be needed to meet needs created by technological advancement, evolving educational practices, implementation of full-day kindergarten, building safety and security, aging facilities, and a desire to implement green building practices. These same circumstances plus an increasingly rigorous regulatory environment drive the need for larger, technologically modern support facilities.

Detailed descriptions of the school division's capital needs are included in the Frederick County Capital Improvements Plan, which is updated annually. The anticipated location of the proposed facilities is shown on the Potential New School Locations map.

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COMMUNITY BENEFITS

The mission of Frederick County Public Schools' (FCPS) is to ensure all students an excellent education. The school system works hard to meet the needs of all students, from those who will go to college to those who are challenged to master the most basic of life skills. FCPS fosters a culture of success and collaboration as well as a desire to constantly improve. All Frederick County schools are fully accredited by the Virginia Department of Education. Over the past ten years, the student dropout rate has decreased dramatically from just over 3% to 1.34%. Eighty-seven percent of the class of 2010 planned to pursue continuing education.

There are specific programs offered by FCPS to meet the varying needs of special groups of students. In collaboration with the City of Winchester and Clarke County, FCPS provides an education for children who are emotionally disturbed or who have multiple disabilities. FCPS helps adults with limited educational opportunities reach their individual goals and potential as workers, citizens, and family members by providing quality adult education services through the GED program. GEDs are also offered to students 16 and 17 years old through the ISAEP (Individual Student Alternative Education Plan) Program. FCPS offers a variety of trade and industrial programs and health occupations programs designed to meet the needs of students who wish to improve their employability skills and explore different career possibilities. FCPS also provides enriched and expanded instruction for students who qualify for Gifted Education.

In addition to the above, FCPS provides a number of additional benefits to the community

- Varsity and junior varsity athletics help provide each community an identity and give participating students competitive skills that can be used throughout their lives.
- School buildings serve as a center where various community activities can take place.
- The cafeteria offers two nutritious meals a day to all students. This is particularly important for students who qualify for free or reduced cost meals.

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POLICIES/IMPLEMENTATION

Each local school board in Virginia is required by State Code to adopt a division wide comprehensive plan. Accordingly, the Frederick County Public Schools Division Comprehensive Plan is the document that governs the future direction of FCPS. Long-range school planning documents that are developed under the umbrella of the Division Comprehensive Plan include curriculum improvement plans, school improvement plans, a technology plan, enrollment projections, a capital improvement plan, and a staffing projection plan. The following policies are mostly excerpts from the FCPS 2007-2013 Division Comprehensive Plan. Please refer to that plan for the official version of these policies:

POLICY: CONSIDER THE SURROUNDING NEIGHBORHOOD VILLAGES, URBAN CENTERS, AND RURAL COMMUNITIES; SITE LOCATION, SITE SUITABILITY, PROGRAM DESIGN, AND THE NEEDS OF OTHER AGENCIES IN LOCATING NEW FACILITIES.

IMPLEMENTATION:

- In evaluating potential school facility locations, consider the role of the site in building diverse, walkable communities in the UDA.
- In evaluating potential school facility locations, consider each location relative to arterial roads, planned roadways, the SWSA, the UDA, surrounding neighborhoods, floodplains, Civil War battlefields, and Agricultural and Forestal Districts. Also consider surrounding land uses, nearby petroleum releases, and other potential environmental hazards.
- In evaluating individual candidate sites, consider each site's zoning, planned land use, topography relative to program requirements, historical features, water features, wetlands, petroleum releases and other potential environmental hazards, geology, soil suitability, and tree cover. Also consider constraints contained in the site's deed and plat and the potential for the presence of rare, threatened, and endangered species.
- Purchase sites that are suitable for co-locating school facilities with facilities other agencies have identified in their CIP or other studies if doing so does not interfere with FCPS' educational mission and is a responsible use of public funds. Future school sites have the potential to be collocated with future fire and rescue stations, parks, community centers, libraries, convenience sites, and satellite offices for several County Departments. Additionally, future school sites could become part of the network of properties needed to execute the Eastern Road Plan.

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POLICY: FCPS WILL CONTINUE TO FOCUS ON STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AND WILL PROVIDE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES MEETING STUDENTS' NEEDS.

IMPLEMENTATION:

- Students in all population groups will demonstrate high levels of achievement in the core academics and the fine arts as evidenced by increased levels of proficiency on standards of learning assessments, on advanced placement tests, and by grades in dual enrollment courses.
- Students will enroll in coursework that provides opportunities to earn college credit or industry certifications while enrolled in secondary school.
- Students will be prepared for continued learning and application of learning to the workforce.
- Students' academic success, core character traits, and citizenship will be enhanced by parental involvement.
- Student achievement and progress will be reported efficiently to parents.
- Students will benefit from collaborative teacher planning and problem solving.
- Students and staff will learn and work in buildings that are conducive to learning, cost-effective, energy-efficient, at or below program capacity, attractive, and well-maintained.
- Students who are highly talented academically and in the arts will have access to multiple learning opportunities grades 2–12.
- Students will be able to make choices that lead to a healthy and productive lifestyle such as walking or bicycling to school when feasible and safe to do so.

POLICY: FCPS WILL PROVIDE A HIGH QUALITY OF STUDENT LIFE.

IMPLEMENTATION:

- Students will have access to high quality guidance and academic counseling services.
- Students will learn in a safe and orderly environment.

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- Students will have access to nutritious and healthy meals that meet RDA guidelines.
- Students will be encouraged to participate in school-sponsored extra- and co-curricular activities.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS AND STAKEHOLDERS

The Frederick County School Board is the elected body which governs the school division. The School Board adopts broad goals and objectives for the school system's operation, sets and enforces school policy, prepares and adopts annual budgets, oversees student instruction and division administration, and manages school division property. In performing this work, the School Board coordinates effort with numerous agencies:

- Northwest Regional Education Program, or NREP.
- Frederick County Educational Foundation.
- Frederick County Parks and Recreation.
- Frederick County Sheriff's Office.
- Mountain Vista Governor's School, or MVGS.
- Performing and Visual Arts Northwest, or PAVAN.
- Blue Ridge Environmental Studies Regional Summer Governor's School.
- Access Independence.
- The ARC of Northern Shenandoah Valley.
- Child Development Clinic of Northwestern Virginia.
- Child Parent Center.
- Frederick County Parent Resource Center.
- Northwestern Community Services.
- Parent to Parent.
- Shenandoah University.
- Virginia Board for People with Disabilities.
- Youth Development Center.
- Winchester Area Autism Spectrum Disorder Family Support Group.
- Virginia Autism Resource Center.

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SUPPORTING MATERIALS AND RESOURCES

- Frederick County Public School Division Comprehensive Plan – Charting Progress 2007 – 2013
- Frederick County Public Schools School Board Approved Budget Fiscal Year 2010
- Frederick County Public Schools Capital Improvement Plan 2009 – 2014
- Frederick County Public Schools September 15, 2009 Enrollment History and Projections
- Frederick County Public Schools Character Education Core Traits
- Frederick County Public Schools 2009 – 2010 High School Program of Studies
- Frederick County Public Schools 2009 – 2010 Middle School Program of Studies
- Frederick County Public Schools 2006 – 2011 Local Plan for the Education of the Gifted
- Frederick County Public Schools Six-Year Technology Plan 2003-2009
- Commonwealth of Virginia 2008 Standards of Quality
- Commonwealth of Virginia Standards of Accreditation
- Educational Technology Plan for Virginia 2003-2009

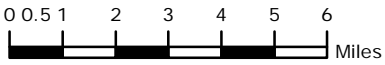
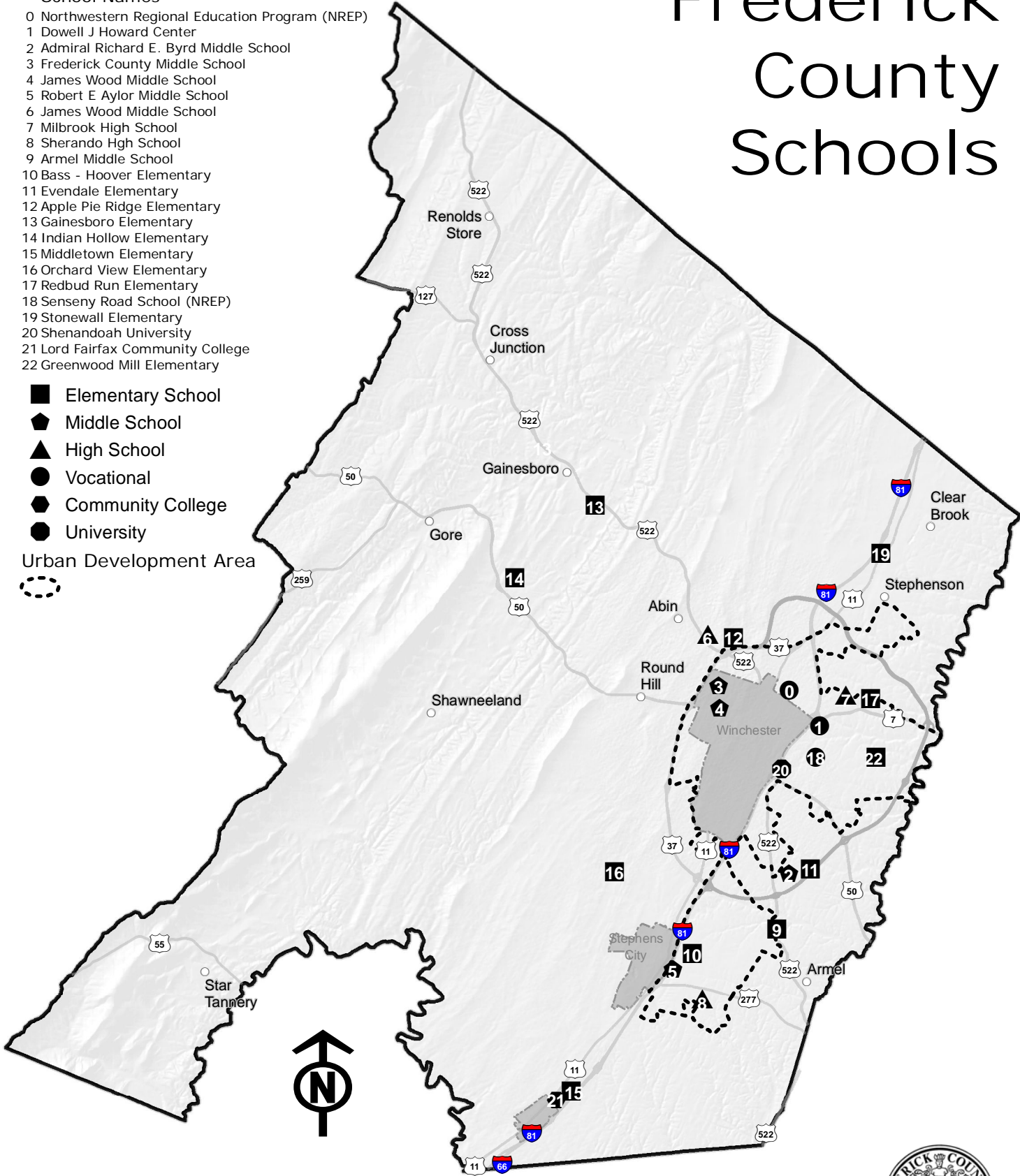
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Frederick County Schools

School Names

- 0 Northwestern Regional Education Program (NREP)
- 1 Dowell J Howard Center
- 2 Admiral Richard E. Byrd Middle School
- 3 Frederick County Middle School
- 4 James Wood Middle School
- 5 Robert E Aylor Middle School
- 6 James Wood Middle School
- 7 Millbrook High School
- 8 Sherando High School
- 9 Armel Middle School
- 10 Bass - Hoover Elementary
- 11 Evendale Elementary
- 12 Apple Pie Ridge Elementary
- 13 Gainesboro Elementary
- 14 Indian Hollow Elementary
- 15 Middletown Elementary
- 16 Orchard View Elementary
- 17 Redbud Run Elementary
- 18 Senseny Road School (NREP)
- 19 Stonewall Elementary
- 20 Shenandoah University
- 21 Lord Fairfax Community College
- 22 Greenwood Mill Elementary

- Elementary School
- ◆ Middle School
- ▲ High School
- Vocational
- ◆ Community College
- University
- Urban Development Area
- ⋯



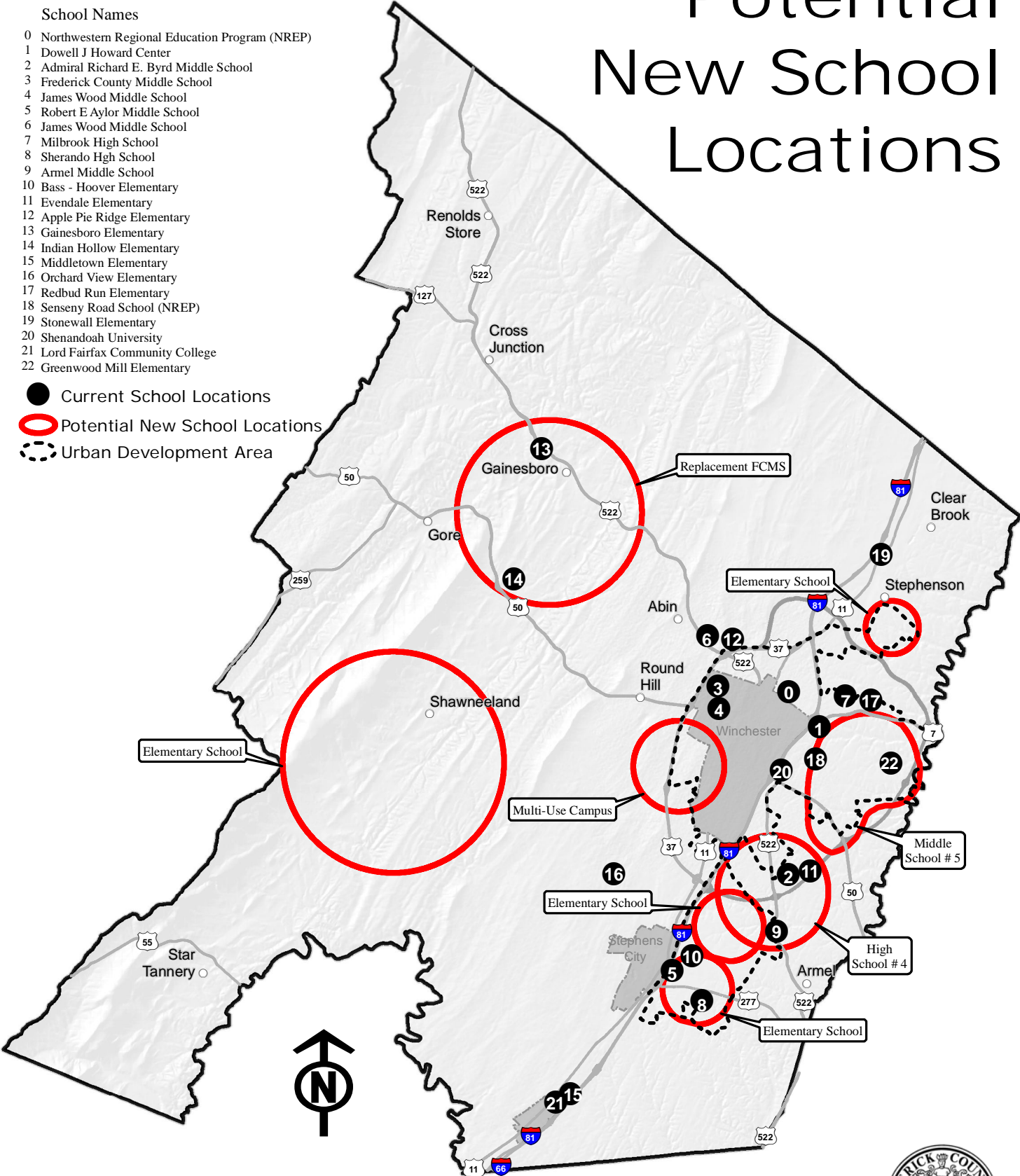
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Potential New School Locations

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- Current School Locations
- Potential New School Locations
- ⋯ Urban Development Area



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