



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Office of School Design and Continuous Improvement

Banneker HS Relocation and Expansion

February 2019



Goals of the Banneker HS Expansion

DCPS remains committed to increasing the number of excellent schools throughout the city and growing schools to promote diversity and innovation.

Moving the Banneker HS program to the Shaw site aligns with this goal and allows DCPS to:

- ❖ Provide high-quality programming to more students
- ❖ Expand a successful high school model, led by an experienced school leader
- ❖ Meet increasing demand for rigorous academic high school experiences
- ❖ Leverage the centrally located Shaw site to serve students from across the city
- ❖ Build a high school facility that meets 21st Century design standards

Proposed Expansion: The move will allow Banneker to grow to serve 800 students.

Timing: The new Banneker campus is scheduled to open for School Year 2021-22.

Banneker Expansion Increases High-Quality Seats

Banneker HS consistently performs above District averages on many key indicators of program quality.

PARCC Scores

Banneker has performed consistently high on the PARCC assessment. In 2018, over ninety percent (92.0%) of students at Banneker scored proficient (Level 4 or 5) on the PARCC ELA assessment. This was the second-highest proficiency in the city behind School Without Walls. Nearly seventy percent (69.6%) scored proficient on PARCC Math – an increase of fifteen percentage points since 2017. ELA scores increased 2% and Math saw a 15.8% increase from 2017.

Attendance Rates

Banneker has the highest attendance rate for DCPS high schools. Banneker's **SY2017-18's In-Seat Attendance rate was 94.6%**, up 0.6% points from SY2016-17.

AP Passage

Nearly half (49%) of Banneker students take at least 1 AP course and 62% of students who take AP exams earn a passing score of 3, 4, or 5, the equivalent of earning college credit. This is well above the district average pass rate of 38%.

Banneker HS Prepares Students for College and Career

Banneker HS achieves some of the highest District outcomes in graduation rates and outcomes.

Graduation Rate

Banneker has consistently had the highest graduation rate in the city. **In 2018, Banneker graduated 100% of its graduates within four years. This continues a four-year trend of a 100% graduation rate.**

Graduation Outcomes

Consistently, since 2010, over 94% of Banneker students enrolled in postsecondary programs.

- ❖ Data for the latest cohort shows Banneker's Class of 2011 6-year postsecondary graduation rate (74.2%) to be significantly greater than the national completion rate (56.9%).
 - ❖ 94.8% of the class of 2017 enrolled in postsecondary school.
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Responding to Enrollment Growth & Demand

By moving the Banneker program to Shaw, the school can significantly expand, helping meet the demand for more selective high school seats citywide

- **Banneker High School has grown the most of all selective schools, increasing their enrollment by 12% in 5 years.** As a school with controlled enrollment, DCPS has a lot of control over the pace of growth.
 - Demand for Banneker is high and growing. In SY18-19, the school received **over 750 applications for 9th and 10th grades.** Over the past three years, applications to Banneker have increased 23% (+140 applications).
 - Banneker HS enrolls students from every Ward, with the largest group of students from Ward 4, 5, 7 and 8.
 - Among all the selective high schools, Banneker pulls a higher percentage (48%) of their 9th grade class from charter schools – providing an opportunity to increase enrollment by attracting students into the DCPS system.
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Enrollment at Banneker Up 12% Since 2013

Within 6 years, Banneker has experienced the largest amount of enrollment growth, while other selective schools have either declined slightly or remained steady in enrollment.

School Name	SY13-14	SY18-19	Δ 5 Yr.	% 5 Yr Growth
Banneker HS	430	482	+52	12%
Ellington HS	541	544	+3	0%
CHEC	946	953	+7	1%
McKinley Tech HS	674	633	-41	-6%
Phelps HS	319	265	-54	-17%
School Without Walls HS (SWW)	585	592	7	1%

Banneker Attracts Students into DCPS System

Among all the selective high schools, Banneker pulls a higher percentage of their 9th grade class from charter schools – providing an opportunity to increase enrollment by attracting students into the DCPS system.

Selective HS	SY17-18 % of 9 th Grade from a DCPS School	SY17-18 % of 9 th Grade from a PCS School	SY17-18 % of 9 th Grade from Other
Benjamin Banneker	47%	48%	5%
Columbia Heights	59%	25%	16%
Duke Ellington	46%	33%	21%
McKinley Tech	58%	37%	5%
Phelps ACE	53%	41%	6%
School Without Walls	44%	35%	21%
Total	52%	35%	13%

Banneker HS Plan for Growth

By moving to the Shaw Campus, Banneker will be able to serve up to 800 students.

Banneker Growth Considerations:

- ❖ In SY19-20, Banneker is projected to enroll 505 students
- ❖ Banneker growth to 800 students will not occur all at once in one year.
- ❖ Rather, growth will start by increasing the size of the 9th grade class. Larger 9th grade cohorts will matriculate up through the school, gradually growing the school population over time.
- ❖ Banneker's 9th grade class is projected to grow 10% in SY19-20, but larger growth will not occur until after the school moves to Shaw.
- ❖ DCPS and Banneker leadership will collaborate on the best approach to growing the Banneker 9th grade class, with a focus on ensuring operational success and a strong instructional plan to support larger incoming classes.

Relocating the Banneker HS Program to the Shaw Site

Modernization Process Kicks Off in Fall 2017

- Community meeting held in October 2017 to kick off modernization process and begin forming School Improvement Team (SIT).
- DCPS gathered feedback on hopes, fears, and recommendations for Banneker modernization.
- Banneker HS is the second to last high school left to be modernized.

Feasibility Study Commissioned in February 2018 to Consider Shaw Site

- The option of considering another site wasn't presented until February 2018.
- Study evaluated Banneker and Shaw buildings/sites. No other sites were considered, due to lack of options that are centrally located and accessible.
- Purpose of study to evaluate most suitable site given program requirements and estimated total cost of modernization.
- Due to the heavily used park and recreational space on Banneker site, DCPS limited the scope to the current building footprint, so as not to negatively impact surrounding neighborhood and community.

Feasibility Study Indicates Shaw a Better Site for Program

The Shaw site provides the flexibility needed to achieve 21st century design standards at a central and accessible location.

- Shaw site allows for program expansion to 800 students. Banneker site only able to accommodate 560 students.
- Banneker site is limited in its ability to expand footprint and implement design flexibility given site constraints and historic significance. Multiple spaces do not meet HS educational specifications.
- Shaw site allows for new construction, which is the most flexible option for a modernization.

The existing Banneker Building is a former Junior High School building that cannot accommodate an 800-student high school. Specifically, the site has:

- Limited functionality in auxiliary PE/Health support spaces such as the dance/aerobics/wrestling room due to structural columns in the room.
 - Lacking square footage in academic support spaces and offices
 - Limited design intervention options due to historic building designation
 - Zoning limitations on building height
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Next Steps for Banneker Modernization

- Community Meeting will be held on 2/28 from 6 – 7:30pm at the Phyllis Weatley YMCA (901 Rhode Island Ave. NW) to provide an update on the project
 - Anticipated Design-Build award is targeted for March 2019
 - Request For Proposal (RFP) Submissions were received on February 13, 2019
 - RFP Submissions for a Design Build team are under review
 - Banneker HS will continue to operate at the Banneker site in SY19-20 and SY20-21 until the modernization at Shaw is complete
 - Building is scheduled to open in August 2021
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Resources

- Banneker Modernization: <https://sites.google.com/a/dc.gov/dcps-school-modernizations/home/banneker-high-school>
 - School Planning in the Cardozo Feeder Pattern: <https://dcpsplanning.wordpress.com/category/cardozo-feeder-pattern/>
 - November 2018: DCPS Testimony on Plans for Shaw Junior High School Campus and Benjamin Banneker Academic High School: https://dcps.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/dcps/release_content/attachments/11-15-18%20DCPS%20Banneker%20Shaw%20Testimony.pdf
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