
Why should WJCC School Redistricting matter to you?

We Need Your Help!

What is school redistricting?

The WJCC School Board is redistricting the middle schools and possibly the high schools. This means they are redrawing the boundaries for school attendance zones to determine which students go to which school.

Why does school redistricting matter for ALL students?

Diversity - Redistricting influences the **diversity** of schools by deciding who goes where.

- Williamsburg-James City County is a diverse community.
- Research shows that learning to cooperate with people who are different from you is important for **academic achievement, reducing prejudice, and fostering civic engagement.**
- But, **some of our schools are more diverse than others:**

	Jamestown	Lafayette	Warhill
White	74.5%	55.7%	64.7%
Black	10.7%	24.6%	19.8%
Hispanic	8%	9.9%	6.8%
Economically disadvantaged	19%	35.6%	29.1%

Equity - Redistricting influences **equity** across schools by determining what resources are available at each school.

- There are **double-digit achievement gaps** between white students and black students and between economically advantaged and disadvantaged students in WJCC.
- Students who need more resources to succeed are concentrated at Lafayette and Warhill but **school funding is based on NUMBER of students at each school, NOT on student needs.**
- Schools like Jamestown with a higher percentage of affluent families benefit from teachers with higher expectations for student learning and parents with more time, resources, and political clout to demand rigorous classes and raise funds for additional programming.
- For example, Jamestown currently offers **more Advanced Placement (AP) classes** than the other two high schools, and Jamestown students take **double to triple** the number of Advanced Placement (AP) exams. Lafayette and Warhill students don't get these same opportunities at their schools.

As the WJCC School Board redistricts our schools:

- Each school should reflect the diversity of our community as a whole to create greater equity, reduce prejudice, and ensure the success of ALL of our students.**

The WJCC School District is collecting community feedback on the maps of the proposed school attendance zones through a survey.

It is important to urge the school board to prioritize diversity and equity during redistricting. You can make your voice heard by:

1) Completing the School Board's online survey. The maps and survey will be made available on November 28 at wjccschools.org/redistricting.

2) Joining us at the School Board meeting on December 12 at 6:30pm at the School Board & Central Office Annex, Rm. 300, 117 Ironbound Rd.

Do you need a ride to the School Board Meeting?

Would you like more information?

Contact **The Village Initiative**, 757-713-2543

The Village Initiative is a grassroots organization devoted to closing the achievement gap and ending the school-to-prison pipeline.
