



2026-27

Redistricting Study

West Warwick Public Schools: Public Information Session 1

Presented by Cropper GIS Consulting

Sept. 30, 2026



01

Welcome and Introductions

Today's agenda, the firm, and the project team



Introductions

Cropper GIS Consulting, LLC

K-12 school planning is our business and our passion

Matthew Cropper

PRESIDENT

GIS mapping and analysis for school districts. Redistricting projects across the U.S. Published on K-12 facility and redistricting topics.

James Cooper

PROJECT DIRECTOR

Conner Cropper

ASSOCIATE PLANNING ANALYST



The Company



Redistricting plans



Community engagement



Facility & enrollment
planning



Facility master plans



Housing & yield studies

DISTRICTS WE HAVE SERVED

East Greenwich School District, RI

Baltimore County Public Schools, MD

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, NC

Lowell Public Schools, MA

Wicomico County Public Schools, MD

Huber Heights City Schools, OH

Nauset Public Schools, MA

Spotsylvania County Public Schools, VA

Akron Public Schools, OH

Thomaston Public Schools, CT

Columbus City Schools, OH

Charleston County Schools, SC

20+ YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

K-12 redistricting, facility, and enrollment planning, with numerous recent projects across the U.S.

02

Project Objectives

Project background and important considerations

Project Objectives

West Warwick Public Schools (WWPS) is undertaking a redistricting study to evaluate and modify attendance boundaries to account for the district's facilities plan, which includes the following objectives:

01

Sending 5th graders to their local elementary schools from John F. Deering Middle School. John F. Deering MS will then serve 6-8th grade students in the district.

02

Maisie E. Quinn School will convert to a traditional Elementary school serving PK-5th grade students in the district.

03

Greenbush, John F. Horgan, and Wakefield Hills Elementary School will serve grades K-5th in the district.

The outcome of this study will inform a redistricting plan for the district, with implementation scheduled for the 2027-28 school year

Redistricting Criteria



Balance school facility utilization

Make every effort to have equitable utilization (where possible) across the district and in accordance with school capacities. Make efficient use of available space.



Consider economic, cultural, and ethnic diversity

Ensure schools are inclusionary and not adversely affected by enrollment decisions.



Close proximity

Students should be assigned to the school within the closest proximity to their homes where possible. As well as avoiding creating zones that are not connected to primary attendance zone.



Maximize busing efficiencies in transportation of students

Make every effort to account for transportation (school bus and car rider), parent commuting patterns, balance busing travel time, and costs.

CRITERIA 1-4

Of eight criteria guiding the development of attendance boundaries

Redistricting Criteria



Use major roads and natural boundaries wherever feasible to define attendance zones

Minimize the number of students who need to cross major intersections and other barriers to maximize the safety and security of students.



Minimize impact on students

Attempt to minimize the number of students impacted when making boundary adjustments. Impact on specialized school programs or a change to school capacity.



Make every effort to establish contiguous zones

Avoid creating zones that are not connected to the primary attendance zone, where possible.



Account for future economic growth

Allow for increasing attendance in high growth areas.

CRITERIA 5-8

Of eight criteria guiding the development of attendance boundaries

03

Stakeholders

Who is involved, and what each group is responsible for

Outline of Stakeholder Responsibilities

Consultant	• Schedule and facilitate internal planning team meetings. • Communicate updates with planning team, including updated handout and meeting schedule logistics. • Conduct public meetings to solicit feedback related to draft options that are under consideration. • Support the district in providing materials such as presentations, handouts, and online interactive maps for the public's consumption. • Coordinate and summarize online feedback received from general public and internal planning team.
Internal Planning Team	• Consists of key WWPS administrators including central office, senior leadership, department staff personnel, planning, and West Warwick community members. • Group will work to review draft options that are being developed in preparation to share with the School Committee and public. • Review input provided from the consultant and general public regarding draft options and continue to modify maps with a focus on the best solution for all students as a whole. • Recommend redistricting plan to the School Committee.
General Public	• Informed through website. • Invited to submit comments and input throughout the entire process. • Invited to participate in public information sessions (both virtual and in-person), and to provide input via surveys and online general feedback form.
School Committee	• Charge internal planning team with its responsibilities. • Identify questions the planning team is expected to answer. • Advise staff and the process regarding policy-related considerations and other committee-level decisions. • Vote on redistricting plan.

04

Timeline

The process and schedule for the redistricting study

Process & Timeline for Redistricting

	June 2026	July 2026	Aug. 2026	Sept. 2026	Oct. 2026	Nov. 2026	Dec. 2026	Jan. 2027
<i>Data Collection</i>								
<i>Data Analysis / Assimilation</i>								
<i>Baseline Options Development</i>								
<i>Planning Team Work (1-2 meetings per month)</i>								
Public Information Session #1 : Present Project Process, Criteria, Timeline, and Redistricting Objectives to Community. Web-based meeting.				9/30				
Public Information Session #2: Present DRAFT Redistricting Options to General Public for Comment/Feedback. On-site meeting (or virtual if preferred) to review options and q/a at end of session.					10/28			
<i>Presentation of Final Recommendations to the Board of Education</i>							12/9	
<i>Board of Education Votes on Redistricting Plan</i>								1/13

05

Project Approach

Phases of the study and resources

Redistricting study phases

01

Data collection

Enrollment, facilities/capacity, transportation, and any other stakeholder input.

02

Data assimilation

Assimilating student records, boundaries, planning blocks, and other data.

03

Report + options

Background report plus baseline options development.

04

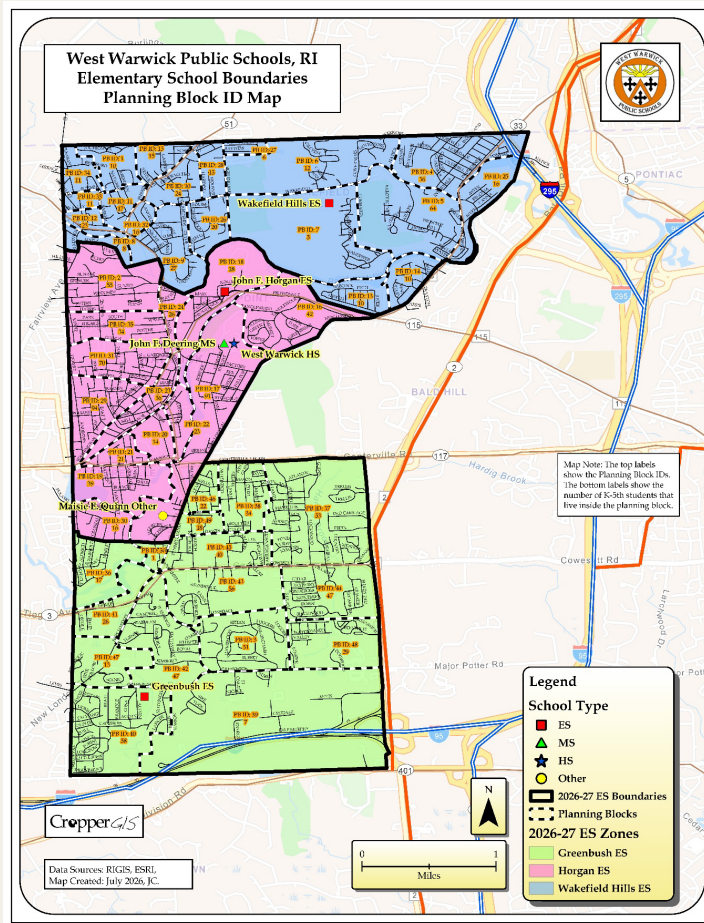
Engagement

IPT meetings, public information sessions, survey feedback, and final recommendation.

4 PHASES

Each phase progresses the study and gets a closer to achieving the end project objectives

Phases 1-2: Data Collection & Assimilation



The early work includes gathering files and getting district, city/county, and data into our map-based planning system.

PHASE 1 - DATA COLLECTION

- Official enrollment counts by school and grade
- Student address database and school locations
- Transportation, facility, road, and development data

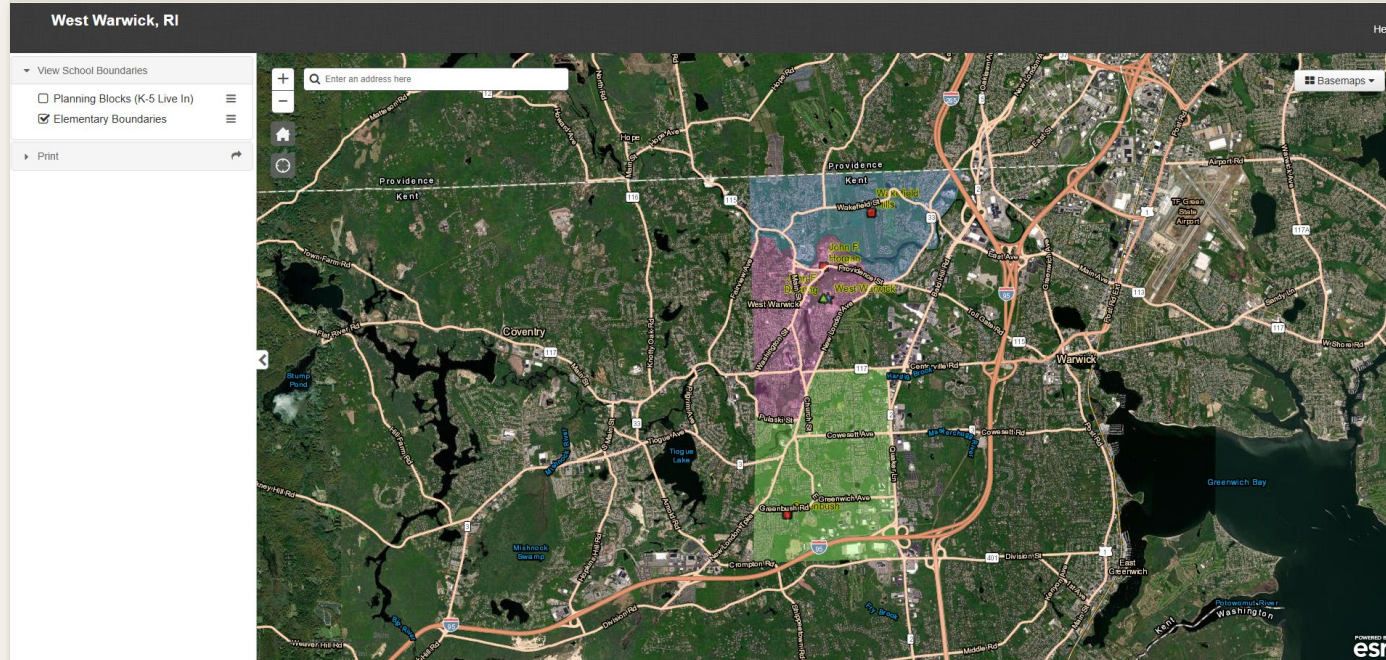
PHASE 2 - DATA ASSIMILATION

- Geocode student addresses
- Convert boundaries and build planning blocks
- Analysis and option testing

Planning blocks create the unit of analysis: small areas with student counts that can be moved, combined, or compared.

Based on 2025-26 student enrollment. Top labels show the planning block ID (PB #); bottom labels show the number of K-5th WWPS students living inside the planning block.

Interactive Webmap



Webmap Features

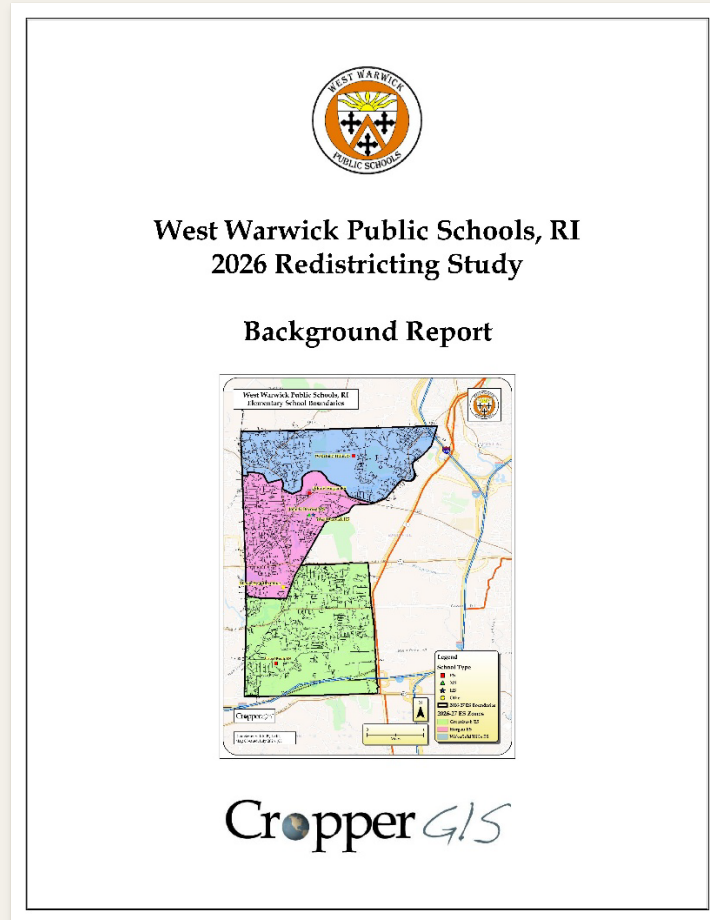
- Turn current zones, options, and planning blocks on or off.
- Update the map as new options or requested data layers are developed.
- View on desktop, tablet, or phone with an internet connection.

Current zones · Options · Planning blocks · Requested layers

OPEN THE MAP

croppermap.com/westwarwick

Phase 3: Background Report



Purpose of the report

Build the same starting point for every stakeholder

- Background and key objectives
- Guidelines, criteria, and process timeline
- Live-attend maps, enrollment, and utilization tables
- Mapping conventions for evaluating options

Then development of baseline options begins

- Start with a range of viable choices
- Put options up for internal review
- Eventually get public feedback on developed options

Background Report cover: West Warwick Public Schools 2026 Redistricting Study.

Phase 4: Public Engagement & Option Analysis



OPTION DEVELOPMENT

Baseline options begin after PIS 1 and will be shared at PIS 2

06

Communication Logistics

How to stay informed and provide feedback



Project Website

West Warwick Public Schools, RI: 2026 Redistricting Project

[Project Overview](#)[Project Maps](#)

Project Overview

Useful Links:

[West Warwick Public Schools Website](#)

[Background Report](#)

[Web Map](#)

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Website URL

www.WWPSredistricting.com

How to stay informed and provide feedback

01 VISIT THE WEBSITE

Project updates and materials

02 SHARE FEEDBACK

Comments, meeting, and survey



03 FOLLOW THE TIMELINE

Recommendations and vote

NEXT MILESTONE

Public Information Session 2

October 28, 2026 / 6:00 PM / Location TBD

Questions & discussion

Thank you

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Visit www.WWPSredistricting.com
- Provide feedback through the general feedback form
- Public Information Session #2 - October 28

Sept. 30, 2026
