

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF NEW KENT  
VIRGINIA**

**R-22-21**

At the regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the County of New Kent, in the Boardroom of the Administration Building in New Kent, Virginia, on the 12th day of October, 2021:

Present:	Vote:
John N. Lockwood	Aye
Ronald P. Stiers	Aye
C. Thomas Tiller, Jr.	Aye
Patricia A. Paige	Aye
Thomas W. Evelyn	Aye

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Motion was made by Mr. Stiers, which carried 5:0, to adopt the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION ADOPTING 2021 REDISTRICTING  
PROCESS CRITERIA**

**WHEREAS**, redistricting is the process of redrawing lines for local election districts and precincts and establishing polling places; and

**WHEREAS**, the Constitution of Virginia requires any locality that conducts elections by district to change its district boundaries every ten (10) years in the year ending in one (1); and

**WHEREAS**, the Code of Virginia requires localities to use the most recent decennial population figures from the U.S. Census for the purposes of redistricting and reapportionment; and

**WHEREAS**, the Virginia Redistricting Commission is responsible for redistricting the congressional and state election districts; and


**WHEREAS**, the Board is responsible for redistricting the local election districts and precincts;

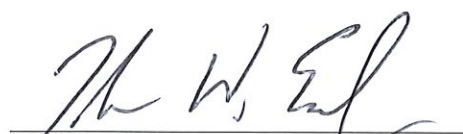
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board hereby adopts the following criteria to guide the Board in its efforts to revise local election district boundaries:

1. Election districts shall be "as nearly equal in population as practicable."

2. Election district populations shall not exceed five (5%) less or five percent (5%) more than the ideal district population.
3. Election districts shall be drawn in a way that assures equal opportunities for racial and ethnic communities to participate in the political process and shall not diminish their right to elect candidates of their choice, as mandated by the Voting Rights Act.
4. Election districts shall be compact and contiguous, with due regard to natural features and accessibility of voting places.
5. Election district boundaries shall follow clearly observable boundaries.
6. Election districts shall avoid splitting precincts, as precincts must be wholly contained within single congressional, state, and local election districts.
7. Election district boundaries shall preserve communities of interest, to the maximum extent possible. A community of interest means a neighborhood or any geographically defined group of people living in an area who share similar social, cultural, and economic interests.
8. Election district boundaries shall recognize incumbency of both the Board and the School Board, to the maximum extent permissible under law and consistent with the other criteria, so that existing incumbent office holders remain in separate districts.
9. Election district boundaries shall maintain existing boundary lines, where possible, if existing locations can be reasonably accommodated.
10. Election district boundaries shall be politically fair to not unduly favor or disfavor any political party.
11. The redistricting process shall involve various opportunities to receive public input through community meetings, public hearings, social media, and the County's website.
12. The redistricting process should result in meeting the basic representational and constitutional requirement of "one person, one vote," as applied by the Supreme Court in Reynolds v. Sims.

Adopted this 12<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2021.

  
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Rodney A. Hathaway  
County Administrator

  
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Thomas W. Evelyn  
Chairman