



**MINUTES
of the meeting of the
BOARD OF TRUSTEES of JOHN ADAMS ACADEMY, CALIFORNIA
December 11, 2025**

I. PRELIMINARY

(A) CALL TO ORDER, (B) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, AND (C) ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by Chair Dean Forman at 4:06 p.m. Members present were Dean Forman, Kevin Brandon, Roy Braatz, Erin McCoy, and Jean Pagnone (after oath at 4:12 p.m.)

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments on sections III or IV of the agenda.

III. DISCUSSION & ACTION AGENDA

A. Nomination and Appointment to Vacant Board Member Position – Jean Pagnone

Chair Forman noted that the nominating committee of himself and Member McCoy interviewed candidates and recommended Jean Pagnone for the vacant board position. Ms. Pagnone, a long-time community member with one child who has graduated from the Academy and another who graduates this year, shared her appreciation for being considered for the position.

MOTION: MEMBER MCCOY MOVED TO NOMINATE JEAN PAGNONE AS THE NEWEST BOARD MEMBER. MEMBER BRAATZ SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

Ms. Pagnone took the Oath of Office as instructed by Chair Forman.

IV. CLOSED SESSION AGENDA

The Board adjourned to the closed session at 4:13 p.m. to discuss items per the titles and codes referenced on the agenda.

- A. **Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation [Gov. Code § 54956.9(d)(4)]** (2 Matters)
- B. **Public Employment [Gov. Code § 54957(b)(1)]:**
 - 1. Elementary Academic Dean – El Dorado Hills Campus
 - 2. Executive Director/General Counsel
- C. **Real Property Negotiation [Gov. Code § 54956.8]:**
 - 1. 5 Sierra Gate Plaza Suite 150, Roseville CA
 - 2. 13 Sierra Gate Plaza, Roseville CA

Agency Negotiator: Joseph Benson

V. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION AND REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

Chair Forman reported that no action was taken in closed session.

VI. PRELIMINARY

(A) CALL MEETING TO ORDER, (B) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, AND (C) ROLL CALL

Open Session was called to order by Chair Forman at 5:10 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Board members present were Dean Forman, Kevin Brandon, Erin McCoy, Roy Braatz and Jean Pagnone.

Also present were Superintendent Dr. Troy Henke, Deputy Superintendents Bob Billings and Emily Devers, Principals Danielle Boldt, Norman Gonzalez, Heather McCarthy, Carrie Guilliford, Heather Marziale, Zeta Cammarota, Karessa Borjas, and Jesse Meeks (remote), Teachers Mr. Michael Boal, Mr. Paul Everts, and Dr. Shane Schulthies, Advanced Solutions owner Sean Galliher, along with Academica representatives Travis Keys, Kimberly Martin, Samuel Haggard, Brooke Johnson, Karen Hansen, and Brandi Reinert.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

A. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Twelfth grade scholar Milan K. spoke about the Online program, expressing gratitude for its focus on participation and engagement through initiatives like Unique Spirit Week, Scavenger Hunts, scholar interviews, and debates, providing scholars the flexibility to pursue dual enrollment and extracurricular activities without burnout.

VIII. COMMUNICATIONS

A. THOUGHT OF THE DAY

Board Member McCoy shared thoughts from Dale Carnegie's "How to Win Friends and Influence People," focusing on principles like giving honest appreciation, becoming genuinely interested in others, being a good listener, admitting when you're wrong, and seeing things from others' perspectives.

B. PSO UPDATE

The Board received the PSO update in the board materials, Chair Forman appreciated the updates, there were no other comments.

C. FACILITIES UPDATE

Mr. Samuel Haggard reported on the first phase of the El Dorado Hills Gate project, which included trimming, clearing, and completing the rail along the fence line and noting that Phase 2 will include electrical work. He added that the AV and acoustical project in Lincoln will be starting on Christmas break.

D. LEADERSHIP UPDATES

1. KEEP BOOKS DISTRIBUTION (MINIMUMS)

2. ATTENDANCE RECOVERY REPORT

3. CAMPUS SAFETY FOCUS GROUP UPDATE

Dr. Henke highlighted the launch of a new website characterized by its clean design, crisp visuals, and enhanced user-friendliness, enabling visitors to navigate and find the information they seek within three clicks. He also updated the Board on the excellent adoption of required texts across all campuses, noting that 100% of these texts were being utilized either as keep books for scholars to engage deeply with the material or as class sets available for collective classroom instruction.

Member McCoy inquired about the members of the Campus Safety Focus Groups. Dr. Henke offered to share the details of the 16-17 members of that group.

E. FINANCIAL UPDATE

Ms. Brooke Johnson presented the Financial Report, explaining that the revenue differences from expected amounts were attributed to the uneven distribution of state funding throughout the year. Chair Forman clarified that the receipt of funds is not evenly divided by 12 months; rather, some months see allocations as high as 20%, while others are as low as 7%, making it crucial for the Academy to account for these fluctuations in its financial planning.

F. UPDATE ON THE 2025-26 WILLIAMS MONITORING REPORT – EL DORADO HILLS CAMPUS

Deputy Superintendent Bob Billings presented the report on the Williams Monitoring audit, noting that the El Dorado Hills campus received an exemplary rating and met all standards for materials and curriculum without exception.

G. BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Forman shared artwork created by Ms. Catherine Hood that incorporated the "Spirit of '76" theme into a teaching resource with Socratic inquiry elements.

IX. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Warrants & Credit Card Expenditures

B. Approval of Resignations & Terminations

C. Approval of New Hires

D. Approval & Ratification of Contracts

E. Approval of Previous Minutes

1. November 06, 2025 Regular Meeting
2. November 06, 2025 Special Meeting

F. Approval of Surplus Property Disposition

1. Computer/Technology – Roseville Campus
2. Curriculum – El Dorado Hills Campus

G. Approval of Board Policy Updates

1. Board Policy on School Facilities Use
2. Board Policy on Credit Cards
3. Board Policy on Uniform Complaint Procedures
4. Board Policy on Title IX

H. Approval of Resolutions:

1. 2025-12-11-02 - Resolution of John Adams Academies, Inc., as a Sole Member of JAA Facilities, LLC, Appointing Manager of LLC
2. 2025-12-11-03 Resolution of John Adams Academies, Inc., as a Sole Member of JAA Lincoln Holdings, LLC, Appointing Manager of LLC

I. Approval of Revised Discipline and Accountability Section of Family Scholar Handbook

MOTION: MEMBER BRAATZ MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA. MEMBER BRANDON SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

X. DISCUSSION & ACTION AGENDA – CONTINUED

Items H and K were requested to be moved – items are listed in the order they were discussed.

MOTION: MEMBER MCCOY MOVED TO APPROVE MOVING AGENDA ITEMS H AND K TO BE HEARD AHEAD OF ITEM B. MEMBER BRANDON SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 5-0

H. DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF TPUSA HIGH SCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

Mr. Mike McCoy and scholar representatives Jack McCoy and Jacob Collier presented on the proposed Turning Point USA “Club America” enrichment program, explaining how it would help scholars develop debating skills and engage in civic issues. They noted that the program aligned with John Adams Academy's mission of developing servant leaders.

MOTION: MEMBER BRANDON MOVED TO APPROVE THE TPUSA HIGH SCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAM AT EL DORADO HILLS. MEMBER PAGNONE SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

K. DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIPS

1. New England Band Trip in 2028
2. Latin Secondary Trip – Roseville Campus

Principal Heather McCarthy introduced Mr. Paul Everts to present his vision for a New England band trip in 2028. He explained this trip was designed to create another reason for scholars to stay in the band program through high school. The trip would include participation in the oldest Fourth of July parade in Bristol, Rhode Island, and visits to historical sites.

Principal Norman Gonzales and Mr. Michael Boal presented on the Latin Secondary field trip to Hearst Castle and other cultural sites, explaining how it would enhance scholars' appreciation of Latin culture and its continued relevance today.

Scholar Connor Sorenson and parent Ms. Amy Sorenson spoke in support of this trip as well.

MOTION: MEMBER BRAATZ MOVED TO APPROVE THE NEW ENGLAND BAND TRIP IN THE SUMMER OF 2028 AND THE LATIN OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP FOR ROSEVILLE SECONDARY. MEMBER BRANDON SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 5-0

B. DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF UPDATED BYLAWS

The Board discussed the updated bylaws, which included changing the term "Board of Directors" to "Board of Trustees," extending board terms to three years to better stagger potential changes, and removing the July requirement for the annual meeting, allowing the Board to designate in which month that meeting could be held.

MOTION: MEMBER BRAATZ MOVED TO APPROVE THE UPDATED JOHN ADAMS ACADEMY BOARD OF TRUSTEE BYLAWS. MEMBER BRANDON SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

C. APPROVAL OF TERM RENEWAL FOR BOARD OF TRUSTEE ERIN MCCOY

Member McCoy confirmed her willingness to continue serving on the Board for an additional three-year term.

MOTION: MEMBER BRAATZ MOVED TO APPROVE THE TERM RENEWAL FOR BOARD OF TRUSTEE MEMBER ERIN MCCOY FOR AN ADDITIONAL TERM. MEMBER PAGNONE SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

D. DISCUSSION AND RE-APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS

The Board discussed officer positions, with Member McCoy being nominated as Vice Chair and Member Braatz being nominated as Treasurer.

MOTION: MEMBER PAGNONE MOVED TO APPROVE ERIN MCCOY AS VICE CHAIR AND ROY BRAATZ AS TREASURER. MEMBER BRANDON SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

E. DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF 2024-25 AUDIT

Mr. Travis Keys presented the audit, with one finding related to the timing of financial statement closures. The auditors reported that the timing of financial closures and the frequent revisions during the audit process led to delays. No costs or transactions were questioned, as all auditor inquiries were answered. Mr. Keys stated corrective actions had been implemented, including personnel changes within the accounting team and improved month-end closing procedures. The Board was asked to approve the audit for compliance, reflecting confidence that the corrective measures had addressed the auditor's findings.

MOTION: MEMBER MCCOY MOVED TO APPROVE THE 2024-25 AUDIT. MEMBER BRANDON SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

F. DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF FIRST INTERIM BUDGET

The first interim 2025-26 budget was presented by Mr. Keys, revealing a projected deficit of \$39,000 at current expense levels. This budget accounted for a

lower-than-expected average daily attendance; however, a savings of \$1.7 million was realized through certain positions that principals left unfilled. Below the Total Net Revenue line, non-cash items such as depreciation, a reserve for planned future expenses, and capital improvements were noted, which, while essential, did not directly affect the cash flow for this fiscal year.

MOTION: MEMBER PAGNONE MOVED TO APPROVE THE FIRST INTERIM BUDGET. MEMBER BRAATZ SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

G. DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF 2026-27 ACADEMY CALENDAR

Superintendent Emily Devers proposed three calendar options: one maintaining the current academic timeline, another starting the year a couple of days earlier and providing additional PD/workdays afterward, and a third which introduced a flexible professional development day for campus leaders to reschedule based on specific needs. The Board and Principals weighed the various parameters, including alignment with the districts. It was noted by Member Pagnone that to maintain the schedule of spring break during the week preceding Easter needed consideration, ensuring both tradition and consistency in the academic calendar.

MOTION: MEMBER MCCOY MOVED TO APPROVE OPTION 3 WITH THE REVISION TO PLACE SPRING BREAK BEFORE EASTER. MEMBER BRAATZ SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

I. DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF NEW GRADUATION REQUIREMENT: PERSONAL FINANCE – ALL CAMPUSES

A new state requirement mandating personal finance education was introduced during the meeting. This new requirement stipulates that, starting with the graduating class of 2031, students must complete a standalone personal finance course lasting for at least one semester. This course aims to equip JAA scholars with essential financial literacy skills, ensuring they are better prepared to manage personal finances as they advance into adulthood. Chair Forman noted how this addition aligns with the academy's mission of fostering informed and responsible citizens and acknowledged the importance of incorporating financial know-how into the academic program.

MOTION: MEMBER MCCOY MOVED TO APPROVE THE NEW GRADUATION REQUIREMENT OF PERSONAL FINANCE FOR ALL CAMPUSES. MEMBER BRANDON SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

J. DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF CURRICULUM: LATIN, MATH 7, MATH 8, ALGEBRA I, GEOMETRY, ALGEBRA II – ALL CAMPUSES

Dr. Henke presented curriculum recommendations for Latin 1 through 4 and secondary mathematics courses. These recommendations included adopting Envision as the math textbook for grades 7 through Algebra II, ensuring coherence and continuity across middle school and high school math classes. Additionally, the Archimedes standards for mathematics were introduced as a framework to enhance mathematical understanding, providing a clear and concise set of guidelines that integrate historical, philosophical, and biographical perspectives into the learning of

mathematics. Dr. Shane Schulthies and Principal Zeta Cammarota contributed to the discussion and answered Chair Forman's questions.

MOTION: MEMBER PAGNONE MOVED TO APPROVE THE SECONDARY CURRICULUM FOR LATIN AND SECONDARY CURRICULUM FOR MATHEMATICS FOR ALL SITES. MEMBER MCCOY SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

L. DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICY ON INVOLUNTARY DISENROLLMENT

Dr. Henke presented a policy allowing for the dismissal of scholars who do not adhere to school policies. This policy was based on legal precedent stating that charter schools are places of choice, and it was explained that if scholars were disenrolled, they have the option to return to their district schools. The policy aims to maintain a conducive learning environment by ensuring scholars comply with the set standards while safeguarding their educational opportunities.

MOTION: MEMBER MCCOY MOVED TO APPROVE THE BOARD POLICY ON INVOLUNTARY DISENROLLMENT. MEMBER BRANDON SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

M. DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 2025-12-11-01 - RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF JOHN ADAMS ACADEMIES, INC. DECLARING THE OFFICIAL INTENT OF JOHN ADAMS ACADEMIES, INC. TO REIMBURSE ITSELF FROM THE PROCEEDS OF DEBT FOR CAPITAL EXPENDITURES, CERTAIN PRELIMINARY EXPENDITURES AND COSTS OF ISSUANCE TEMPORARILY FUNDED FROM REVENUES OR OTHER SOURCES RELATED TO JOHN ADAMS ACADEMY – ROSEVILLE

Chair Forman introduced the resolution regarding the academy's intent to reimburse itself from debt proceeds for capital expenditures.

MOTION: MEMBER BRAATZ MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2025-12-11-01. MEMBER MCCOY SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

N. ACCEPTANCE OF RESIGNATION OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dr. Henke and the Board expressed great appreciation for Executive Director Joseph Benson's 9.5 years of service, noting his key role in establishing additional campuses. Chair Forman clarified the resignation was effective December 12th, 2025.

MOTION: MEMBER BRAATZ MOVED TO ACCEPT THE LETTER OF RESIGNATION FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR JOSEPH BENSON. MEMBER PAGNONE SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

O. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON IT SUPPORT SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH ADVANCED SOLUTIONS

Dr. Henke presented a proposal to maintain IT support services with Advanced Solutions, but on a flat-rate fee model for one year. Mr. Sean Galliher from Advanced Solutions explained their comprehensive services including cyber security, phone systems, and technology support. Dr. Henke requested approval to finalize the negotiations and make non-substantive changes as needed.

MOTION: MEMBER PAGNONE MOVED TO APPROVE THE IT SUPPORT SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH ADVANCED SOLUTIONS AND AUTHORIZE THE SUPERINTENDENT TO FINALIZE NEGOTIATIONS AND MAKE NON-SUBSTANTIVE REVISIONS AS NEEDED. MEMBER MCCOY SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

XI. BOARD INITIATED BUSINESS

Board members exchanged holiday greetings.

XII. NEXT MEETING

The next regular board meeting was scheduled for January 15, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.

XIII. PUBLIC COMMENT (Continued)

A. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

At the Board's courtesy and discretion, two members of the public were allowed to provide comment outside of the regular public comment period due to traffic delays that were expressed. El Dorado Hills parents Doyle and Sarah Renner addressed the Board regarding accommodation requests for their daughter. Mrs. Renner exhausted her allocated public comment time and continued to argue beyond the permitted time; Chairman Forman determined the comments to be out of order and disruptive and concluded the public comment period.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: MEMBER BRAATZ MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. MEMBER BRANDON SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE AND THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:26 P.M.

JAACA 20251211 Board Meeting Minutes

Final Audit Report

2026-01-21

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