



**MINUTES**  
**of the meeting of the**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES of JOHN ADAMS ACADEMY, CALIFORNIA**  
**February 24, 2026**

The Board of Trustees of John Adams Academy held a meeting on February 24, 2026, at 4:00 p.m. at 1797 Bella Breeze Dr, Lincoln, CA 95648

**I. PRELIMINARY**

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

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dean Forman at 4:02 p.m. Members present were Dean Forman, Roy Braatz, Kevin Brandon, Jean Pagnone, and Erin McCoy (until 5:00 p.m.).

**II. PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no public comments on the closed session items.

**III. CLOSED SESSION AGENDA**

The Board adjourned to the closed session at 4:02 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)] (1 Matter)**

**IV. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION AND REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION**

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

**V. PRELIMINARY**

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

Open Session was called to order by Chairman Forman at 5:06 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Board members present were Dean Forman, Kevin Brandon, Roy Braatz, and Jean Pagnone.

Also present were Superintendent Dr. Troy Henke, Deputy Superintendent Emily Devers, Outreach and Compliance Specialist Carlos Yniguez, Academic Services Manager Bri Gordon, and Academics representatives Travis Keys, Brooke Johnson, Karen Hansen, and Brandi Reinert.

**VI. PUBLIC COMMENT**

## **A. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

There were several public comments from the Roseville Campus on non-agenda items.

Ms. Jenna Holmes, 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, thanked the Board for approving the Coloma field trip, praised the learning and experience gained, and shared that thank-you cards from the scholars would be delivered to the Board. Scholars Liam H., Westin H., Amanda P., William A., Olivia H., and Jenifer R., each shared a favorite aspect of John Adams Academy.

## **VII. COMMUNICATIONS**

### **A. THOUGHT OF THE DAY**

Member Brandon shared a reflection on "burning the ships," citing Hernán Cortés's 1519 Aztec conquest and Alexander the Great's 334 BC Persian campaign. Both leaders eliminated retreat options to ensure full commitment from their men, leading to success against the odds. Brandon linked this to John Adams Academy's mission, emphasizing that their education demands commitment, calculated risks, and resilience, with everyone playing a part in the institution's success.

### **B. PSO UPDATE**

Chairman Forman mentioned the PSO updates were in the Board materials and thanked the PSO for their hard work and volunteerism.

### **C. FACILITIES UPDATE**

There was no discussion on the facilities update.

### **D. LEADERSHIP UPDATES**

#### **1. ROSEVILLE CHARTER RENEWAL**

Dr. Troy Henke reported that the Roseville campus charter renewal with the Roseville Joint Union School District was scheduled for March 10th, where the RJUSD board will make their decision on a five-year renewal. He invited parents and scholars to attend and support the academy.

#### **2. CAMPUS SAFETY FOCUS GROUP UPDATE**

Dr. Henke announced that the Board had authorized a safety site focus group and received a full detailed confidential report. The site safety plan report will be utilized to create one to three-year site safety improvement plans to upgrade and improve current safety procedures.

#### **3. SCHOLAR BODY PRESIDENT REPORT**

Roseville Scholar Body President and Senior Ava E. provided an update which outlined campus achievements, noting growth in financial and community aspects. The scholar government hosted two dances, socials, and four rallies, organized spirit weeks, and played roles in special assemblies. They developed leadership between middle and high school, passed nine bills and two constitutional amendments, and held a successful Harvest Festival with over 1,100 attendees and \$5,200 in revenue.

The first homecoming week was a success, including multiple events. Their treasury grew from \$11,000 to nearly \$17,000, with two Congressional ratifications in progress.

#### **E. FINANCIAL UPDATE**

Ms. Brooke Johnson reported that as of January 31st, total revenue was \$36 million with expenses of \$41 million, creating a deficit of \$5.3 million. She announced that the state had certified their K-18 ADA data, so true-up funding should begin in mid-March. The academy received in-lieu documentation worth about \$1.7 million for Roseville and \$1.3 million for other campuses. Budgets would be distributed to the Principals starting March 9th on a weekly or bi-weekly basis.

Chairman Forman asked about the projected deficit after the true-up funding, Ms. Johnson indicated there would still be approximately a \$4 million deficit.

#### **F. MID-YEAR LCAP REVIEW INCLUDING I-READY AND RECENT ACADEMIC DATA**

Ms. Bri Gordon explained that the LCAP (Local Control and Accountability Plan) represents their three-year plan for schools, currently in year two. The mid-year update shows progress on completed actions toward their three goals: increasing scholar achievement in math and ELA, increasing scholar connectedness and building community, and decreasing absenteeism while improving attendance.

She reported significant academic growth across the board in both i-Ready and MAP scores, with MAP testing having just concluded the previous week. Dr. Henke praised principals and teachers for their hard work toward these improvements.

Chairman Forman noted progress in all areas, mentioning that El Dorado Hills campus had over 50 scholars with 100 percent attendance, demonstrating the importance of education.

#### **G. BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chairman Forman invited 11<sup>th</sup>-grade scholar Miriana S. to read her first-place winning *Daughters of the American Revolution* poem.

### **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. January 15, 2026 Regular Meeting

#### **F. Approval of Board Policy Updates**

1. Board Policy on Independent Educational Evaluations
2. Board Policy on Independent Study
3. Board Policy on Naming Conventions
4. Board Policy on Non JAA Extracurricular Program Trips
5. Board Policy on Scholar Discipline

6. Board Policy on Secondary Electives

**G. Approval of Expanded Learning Program (ELOP) Plan Update**

**H. Approval of Spring Semester Enrichment Programming**

*MOTION: MEMBER BRANDON MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA. MEMBER PAGNONE SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 4-0.*

## **X. DISCUSSION & ACTION AGENDA**

### **A. DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF THE COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL SAFETY PLAN (CSSP) (5-10 MINUTES)**

**1. EL DORADO HILLS CAMPUS**

**2. LINCOLN CAMPUS**

**3. ROSEVILLE CAMPUS**

Mr. Carlos Yniguez presented the annual update of the comprehensive school safety plan, noting key updates including the instructional continuity plan approved by the Board in late spring, "Procedures for Notification of confirmed Immigration Enforcement Presence" mandated by SB 98, a cardiac emergency response plan, and an opioid overdose recognition and response plan.

*MOTION: MEMBER PAGNONE MOVED TO APPROVE THE COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL SAFETY PLAN FOR THE JOHN ADAMS ACADEMY EL DORADO HILLS, LINCOLN, AND ROSEVILLE CAMPUSES. MEMBER BRANDON SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 4-0.*

### **B. DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL DESIGNATION FOR JOHN ADAMS ACADEMY HIGH SCHOOLS**

Dr. Henke explained that administration sought Board approval to establish John Adams Academy High Schools as Early College High Schools, which would allow high school scholars to pursue concurrent enrollment and work toward associate degrees while completing high school. He distinguished this from middle college high schools, which focus on technical training rather than four-year degree preparation.

He requested authorization to contact community colleges and seek partnerships to establish the early college high school program, which would allow designation of honors courses and provide concurrent enrollment opportunities for high school scholars pursuing associate and bachelor's degrees.

Chairman Forman expressed strong support for the initiative, noting that it would help ambitious scholars avoid repeating material they already mastered, since many John Adams Academy graduates find college easy due to their excellent preparation.

*MOTION: MEMBER BRAATZ MOVED TO APPROVE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE JOHN ADAMS ACADEMY EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL DESIGNATION AND AUTHORIZE THE*

*SUPERINTENDENT TROY HENKE TO PURSUE THE FOUR ITEMS OUTLINED. MEMBER BRANDON SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 4-0.*

**C. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO COMBINE THE JOHN ADAMS ACADEMY – LINCOLN AND JOHN ADAMS ACADEMY – ROSEVILLE IN-PERSON HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAMS (GRADES 9-12)**

Dr. Henke began by acknowledging the exceptional TK-12 program at Lincoln campus and the remarkable scholarship and academic efforts of scholars and staff. He noted they were facing a big decision regarding the future of John Adams Academy Lincoln due primarily to financial causes.

Dr. Henke presented data showing that Lincoln campus had been running deficits for the last three years: \$1.4 million, \$1.47 million, and a projected \$950,000 for the current year. With reserves depleted and loans being repaid, the campus could no longer operate in the red and needed to become self-sufficient. The deficit translated to needing 101 additional scholars to meet breakeven.

He explained that while they had hoped high school enrollment would grow over time after starting with fewer grades, the numbers had remained relatively stable since 2022, with approximately 135-138 high school scholars. Despite having a significant elementary waitlist that could fill four additional classrooms, the high school program struggled to maintain sufficient enrollment.

Dr. Henke described the financial challenge of operating a high school program, noting that teachers need single-subject credentials and scholars require very specific classes to graduate. When only 6-10 scholars need a particular course like US government or geometry, providing it in a classroom becomes extremely expensive.

He proposed that making Lincoln a dedicated TK-8 campus would allow every classroom to operate at full capacity while focusing on creating an exceptional TK-8 program. The high school programs could merge at Roseville, which with added scholars could expand academic and extracurricular activities.

The proposal included data showing that Lincoln elementary had 34 teachers serving 848 elementary scholars, while secondary had 31 teachers serving 342 scholars, illustrating the teacher-to-scholar ratio challenges.

Regarding concerns about Roseville's capacity, Dr. Henke noted that while Roseville's driveline clears by 8:15 AM and high school starts at 8:30, class sizes could be adjusted through master schedule modifications. Current average high school class sizes of 19-22 scholars could accommodate Lincoln scholars.

Dr. Henke presented survey results from 196 responses: 119 from Lincoln families (roughly 10% supportive, 85-90% opposed) and 27 from Roseville families (about 50-50 split). Lincoln concerns included logistical transportation hardships, sibling separation in TK-12 families, loss of TK-12 continuity, disruption to current

juniors and seniors, fear of losing small school culture, and traffic concerns. Some families indicated they would leave entirely if the merger proceeded.

Dr. Henke acknowledged the financial necessity while recognizing the impact on families. He promised that if the merger proceeded, the academy would work with all families to facilitate the transition, potentially providing transportation assistance, carpooling facilitation, or other support. He also proposed beginning collaboration between scholar leadership organizations from both campuses to help scholars get to know each other before the transition.

### **Public Comment Period**

Chairman Forman allocated 45 minutes for public comment, reminding speakers that the Board had read all submitted emails and Google form comments, requesting that speakers not repeat previously submitted information but rather add new perspectives.

Speakers who provided public comment were (comments from Lincoln attendees unless otherwise noted):

- Fiona M., 8th Grader
- Aero O., 11th Grader
- Ms. Grace Kajimura-Harper, Parent
- Ms. Bethany Wyatt, Parent
- Fedek S., Scholar
- Mya R., Scholar
- Ms. Shirley Loss, Parent
- Ms. Corky White, Grandparent
- Santiago, 11th Grader
- Mr. Mark Loftus, Teacher
- Mr. Andrew Pettit, Parent
- Anais C., 10th Grader
- Greta A., 11<sup>th</sup> Grader
- Addison M., 9<sup>th</sup> Grader
- Ms. Megan Lake, Parent
- Ms. Reba Ronning, Roseville Parent
- Ms. Kylie Bryson, Parent
- Mr. Brian Shan, Teacher
- Ms. Nicole Stokes, Parent

The speakers collectively expressed deep concern regarding the proposal to relocate John Adams Academy's high school scholars from Lincoln to Roseville. Numerous parents and scholars highlighted the potential disruption and logistical challenges that such a move would entail, particularly for families that had children in multiple grade levels who benefitted from the convenience of having all levels in a single location. There were worries about how this relocation could adversely affect scholar stability, potentially weaken community ties, and result in job losses for teachers.

Both scholars and parents emphasized the essential role played by the school's robust community culture, mentorship opportunities, and the close-knit environment at Lincoln, where scholars had the opportunity to grow together from an early age.

Many called for more transparency and an evaluation of the reasons behind the declining high school enrollment. There was also a strong sentiment that better communication and more comprehensive consultation with families should occur prior to advancing with decisions of such magnitude. Several speakers strongly encouraged

that delaying this critical decision may give the community a chance to find solutions. Although one individual acknowledged the possibility of greater competition and the prospect of improved educational excellence through merging the campuses, most feared that eliminating the high school program at Lincoln would undermine the school's culture and its longstanding commitment to providing a stable TK-12 educational pathway.

### **Board Discussion and Administrative Response**

Dr. Henke thanked all speakers and acknowledged the strong connections and community evident in Lincoln. He addressed some questions, confirming that transportation solutions would be explored, noting that high school athletics were already combined between campuses, and emphasizing that excellent teachers, mentoring, and welcoming communities existed at all campuses.

Chairman Forman asked about the teacher-to-student ratio, Dr. Henke reported that 31 secondary teachers served approximately 124 high school scholars in Lincoln, while in Roseville had roughly the same number of teachers serving close to 600 scholars. When asked what would change in coming weeks to address the financial shortfall, Dr. Henke indicated he didn't believe much could change realistically, as they needed 101 additional high school scholars just to break even, but he welcomed input and ideas.

Roseville Principal Norman Gonzales, who had experience as a principal at both Lincoln and Roseville campuses, provided perspective on the situation. He commended the well-spoken scholars and acknowledged the financial necessity while emphasizing that Roseville had been restored and reinvigorated with a culture focused on core values and kindness. He noted that the Lincoln community felt caught off-guard and suggested they deserved an opportunity to problem-solve and find solutions, recommending a pause to allow community input in the decision-making process.

Chairman Forman shared several observations: He regularly visits Roseville campus and confirmed that arriving at 8:15 AM provides easy access. He noted that going from 350 to 450 high school scholars would still constitute a small school by any measure. He mentioned the availability of their highly interactive online program with PhD-level teachers as another option for some families.

Chairman Forman emphasized that the same educational quality, mission, core values, and results were evident across all campuses. He explained that the school had been discussing this issue with administration for years, noting persistent downward enrollment trends despite various improvement efforts. He emphasized the Board's dedication to providing educational refuge for families while ensuring long-term viability.

Member Pagnone acknowledged the difficulty of the decision while noting the Board's responsibility for financial stewardship. She expressed concern about negative social media comments from some parents that could discourage prospective families

from enrolling. She emphasized that Board members viewed scholars as individuals, not financial figures, but stressed the importance of financial sustainability to keep the school available for everyone.

Member Braatz reflected on his 11 years of Board service and the rarity of public attendance at Board meetings, noting that decisions are typically made based on management recommendations and individual analysis. He questioned what could realistically change in a two-week delay, but acknowledged that this decision, if made, ultimately affected those very families most loyal to the K-12 concept, which made it a very difficult decision.

### **Final Board Action**

Extensive discussion was had about the merits of immediate action versus allowing more time for community input and potential solutions. Academica representative Travis Keys detailed the Board's options, and assured them support would be provided for whichever decision was made.

*MOTION: MEMBER PAGNONE MOVED TO TABLE THIS ITEM UNTIL THE MARCH MEETING TO PURSUE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, INCLUDING THE FEASIBILITY OF TRANSPORTATION, WITH THE CAVEAT THAT A DECISION MUST BE MADE AT THAT MEETING. MEMBER BRANDON SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 4-0 BY ROLL CALL VOTE.*

### **XI. BOARD INITIATED BUSINESS**

There was no Board initiated business.

### **XII. NEXT MEETING**

The next regular board meeting was scheduled for March 12, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.

### **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 7:56 P.M.*