



BOARD POLICY ON SCHOLAR PROMOTION & RETENTION

Principles

The Board recognizes the importance of measuring retention rates and scholar proficiency levels in planning, implementing and evaluating the instructional program of John Adams Academy. The Board expects that scholars enrolled in a John Adams Academy school will demonstrate growth in learning during each academic year and demonstrate progress toward meeting grade-level expectations.

Promotion

It is the expectation of the Board that where practicable all scholars will progress one grade level each academic year with retentions minimized to the extent possible and that no scholar is promoted out of grade sequence.

Retention

The Board recognizes that though studies indicate that retention alone does not ensure grade level mastery, some scholars may benefit from grade level retention as part of an overall comprehensive intervention strategy. This policy seeks to ensure that the abilities and best interests of the scholar are the primary consideration for such decisions.

1. Retention decisions shall be made using various indicators such as emotional and social readiness, scholar grades, and multiple measures assessments (including state standardized tests).
2. Scholars shall be identified as at-risk for retention as early in the academic year as possible.
3. Scholars identified for retention or at-risk for retention shall be the subject of a Scholar Success Team meeting to determine the extent of additional resources and remedial instruction opportunities needed for the scholar to increase achievement.
4. Administration shall make every effort to include the parents/guardians in the retention decision-making process.
5. A scholar that is retained shall not jump grades or promote out of grade sequence for the duration of their attendance at any John Adams Academy campus.

The Superintendent, or designee, and the Principal shall put into place processes for identification and support of individual scholars or groups of scholars who are not demonstrating proficiency of grade level standards and will develop processes for retention of scholars in alignment with the objectives listed in this policy.

Parent/Guardian Right of Appeal

The Superintendent, or designee, shall establish processes for parents/guardians to appeal a retention decision with which they do not agree.