



Restoring America's Heritage by Developing Servant Leaders

BOARD POLICY ON TRANSITIONAL KINDERGARTEN TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

Transitional Kindergarten ("TK") is the first year of a two-year kindergarten program that uses a modified kindergarten curriculum that is age and developmentally appropriate. John Adams Academies, Inc. ("JAA") operates three public charter schools serving grades TK-12.

Pursuant to Education Code section 48000(g)(4), teachers who are first assigned to a TK classroom after July 1, 2015, are required to have one of the following by August 1, 2025:

- A. At least 24 units in early childhood education, childhood development, or both; or
- B. As determined and documented by the local educational agency employing the teacher, professional experience in a classroom setting with preschool-age children that is comparable to the 24 units of education described in (A) above; or
- C. A child development teacher permit, or an early childhood education specialist credential, e.g. the PK-3 Early Childhood Education (ECE) Specialist Instruction Credential, issued by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing.

Pursuant to (B) above, JAA's governing Board of Directors hereby establishes the following criteria that JAA determines is comparable to the 24 units of education described above and in Education Code section 48000(g)(4)(A):

- One or more school years of professional experience working in an early childhood classroom setting. This may include, in the discretion of JAA's Superintendent or designee, the individual teacher's experience as combined in any of the following childhood classroom settings: a TK classroom or TK/Kindergarten combination classroom, state preschool program, other public, private or faith-based preschool program, licensed childcare center, Head Start or Early Head Start program.

JAA hereby determines that the above-described one or more school years of professional experience is comparable to the 24 units of education described in Education Code section 48000(g)(4)(A) in the determination of the Superintendent or designee, in that such experience provides direct opportunities for credentialed teachers to have learned the necessary knowledge, skills, pedagogical techniques and developmentally appropriate curriculum for young children; to have gained an appreciation of professional and ethical standards; to have observed and gained a thorough understanding of the physical, social, emotional and cognitive development of TK age children; and/or to have participated in relationships between families, communities, and schools in supporting children's development. This determination recognizes and values the rich background and extensive experience that diverse teachers who come from current and/or prior work in the early education field bring to JAA.

JAA's Superintendent or designee shall be responsible for determining and documenting, on a case-by-case basis as needed, whether a TK educator possesses the requisite comparable professional experience.