

Why should my student attend John Adams High School?



COLLEGE PREPARATION

The mission of John Adams, a tuition-free charter school in Douglas County, is to prepare our students for collegiate success. Students will:

- Gain acceptance into at least one, four-year college of their choice.
- Meet regularly with their college counselors to track their progress toward their individual collegiate goals.
- Complete three Advanced Placement (AP) courses prior to graduation.
- Take a life skills course where they will learn essential skills to attain ambitious educational and career goals while maintaining a healthy, balanced lifestyle.

JAHS is focused on preparing students to take and pass AP courses in preparation for collegiate success. These courses provide students an excellent opportunity to build study skills. Other benefits include college credit, course waivers, and diploma recognition.

Initial non-AP classes will prepare students for the rigors of an AP course. And because of the rigor associated with AP coursework, electives will provide students with stimulating educational opportunities but without the rigor so students can focus on AP courses or progressing toward them.

PATRIOT PROGRAM

We want our graduates to be ready for college as well-rounded individuals who are ready to take on the world. We are developing a character education program for our students that will be tied to our name sake, John Adams.

Our Patriot Program is a required multiyear course that will be developed, monitored, and revised by a committee of founding parents, the principal and key staff members. It will be taught by all staff members with a few exceptions. College counselors and outside speakers shall be utilized as teachers. This program will provide three main functions.

1. **Teach life skills:** Students will learn about various necessary skills including money management, time management, study skills, social skills, consumer protection, social media awareness, smart phone management strategies, etc.

2. **Provide character education:** Students will study and discuss biographies of notable leaders and thinkers. The course will provide a forum where students can discuss and consider the character of such individuals as a means to develop the students' own character. The character education component may also include student-organized service projects.

3. **College counseling:** Students will learn about admission requirements, college admissions essay writing, career planning, ACT and SAT course preparation, course planning, etc. This portion of the course may work in conjunction with individual college plans.

COLLEGE COUNSELORS

John Adams students will have unparalleled input and help available to them through our college counselors. College counseling has a significant impact on students' post-secondary aspirations and attainment. Our goal is to have more counselors on staff than any high school

in Colorado. Students will meet regularly with our counselors -- monthly in the first two years and quarterly in the last two years. Counselors will advise students on college readiness, test preparation and college planning. Students will also track their individual post-secondary education goals and visit colleges during the first two years of high school.

STUDENT AMBASSADORS

Our student ambassadors are a group of incoming students who meet twice a month to brainstorm ideas for the school. They have been coming up with some great ideas that will shape JAHS. Some things that are being explored include a later start time, driver's education classes, year-long outdoor education program, various foreign languages, etc. Their input will also be critical in developing the school's extracurricular activities and clubs.

This group also gives incoming students a chance to get to know each other, easing some of the fears that can come with making the leap into high school.

CONTINUE A LEGACY OF EXCELLENCE

John Adams is unique in that it's drawing parents and students from charter, neighborhood and private schools across the south Denver metro area (and beyond). Several members of our board have been founding families of successful charter schools in Douglas County. Also on our board is John Carson, former president of the Douglas County School District (2009-2013) who was instrumental in helping advance charter schools in Douglas County.

We find there is not only a need, but a growing passion for a school like John Adams, which will bring together students from schools across the region to continue the tradition of excellence in which they have thrived. John Adams is open to ALL students, not just those in Douglas County and not just students in existing charter schools.

BENEFITS OF ATTENDING A NEW SCHOOL

One of the questions parents ask is, "Why should I choose an untested school for my student? How can you assure my student is not going to be a 'guinea pig?'"

Students are not guinea pigs. Students are the heart of John Adams High School. A new school doesn't mean a disorganized one that lacks focus and attainable goals. Accountability will come from the Douglas County School District and the Colorado Department of Education. Ultimately, accountability comes from our students and parents.

It is common in new schools for the staff and administration to go above and beyond the first few years to ensure success of the school. With no upperclassmen, our first sophomores and freshmen will have the undivided attention of our teachers, counselors and administrators. No upperclassmen also mean less social pressure, a chance to shape the high school for years to come, and more opportunity to participate in sports and other extracurricular activities.

John Adams is a community, not just a school. It requires all of us to be passionate about what we're doing and hold ourselves accountable to our mission. We invite you to jump on board and be part of a great school.

John Adams High School – Opening Fall 2017 – location announced soon
Scan the QR code to fill out a non-binding intent-to-enroll form
Intent-to-enroll form also found on our website, www.johnadamshs.org
Facebook: @JohnAdamsHS - Instagram: @johnadamshighschool
Twitter: @JohnAdamsHS_CO



