

**4J School District  
Adams Elementary School  
Parents Survey**

Narrative Responses to Open-Ended Questions and Comment Opportunity  
July 2008

*The survey of elementary and preschool parents in the Adams Elementary attendance area asked the following open-ended questions and provided an opportunity for additional comments at the end of the survey. Open-ended question/response opportunities were:*

- *What suggestions or improvements would enhance Adams Elementary?*
- *If you have a child enrolled at Adams:*
  - a) *What is the main reason for choosing to enroll at Adams Elementary?*
  - b) *As Adams considers program changes, what is important to keep or not change?*
- *If you DO NOT have a child at Adams:*
  - a) *Did you consider enrolling your child in Adams Elementary? Why or why not?*
  - b) *Is there anything Adams could do or offer that would encourage you to enroll there?*
- *Please provide any additional comments in the box below or on a separate sheet of paper.*

*Narrative responses are recorded verbatim. They have been corrected for spelling but not for grammar. In the interest of space, responses such as "I don't know", "I can't think of anything", and "no comment" have been removed from the document. Personally identifiable information was omitted while retaining the essence of the comment.*

**Question 4:  
What suggestions or improvements would enhance Adams Elementary?**

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Academic program at Adam's was rated 'poor' "when one of my children attended".

Pair new student families with PTA representative to build sense of community. More involvement of parents, a committed school district that would embrace it as a neighborhood school with a focus on community gardens, well rounded liberal arts academics, and diverse student population.

Better discipline in classrooms. Better education base for development of each student. Less time taken away from educational class time. Better communication with parents.

Create and support a highly involved parent group.

Smaller class size. All children feed to same high school. Administration that allows the teachers to teach the children in all the different ways children learn.

We have not yet started school.

We don't go there.

My biggest concern with Adams is the uncertainty about the schools future is unsettling. I would like it to be a strong neighborhood school with a range of programs. I would like to see language options offered to Adams.

More backing of principal to teachers and students would bring up morale. Garden project, parents want SPANISH. Better advertising for "green school", music programs, more art.

Smaller classes, better principal and (specific) staff, higher academics (to meet needs of advanced students), more creative projects learning.

We don't go there.

Lower teacher/student ratio

Students need to respect each other and teacher/staff. No cussing during recess. No calling teachers by their first names. Overall I don't feel safe sending my children to Adams because I don't feel students are taught to be respectful.

(Name removed) calming down. I've only read her letters, but she is a real turn-off!

A friend who currently sends her child to Adams is unimpressed with a teacher's math class (too many worksheets, not stimulating, etc.). Attention to math curriculum could possibly be an important factor (fewer worksheets, more multi-dimensional curriculum).

We would have enrolled there if it had been stable and one school vs. two.

Foreign language

Spend more time teaching academics and less of "character education". If mom and dad don't demonstrate honesty and respect at home, children will not grow into adults that do, no matter what they schools teach. Parents are children's foremost role model - rarely the teacher.

More diversity, more arts & music, foreign language program

Adams doesn't have a very good reputation for academics, reflected in its test scores. I might have been interested in a Spanish immersion at this end of town, but not Chinese.

Offer a foreign language option (in addition to an immersion track). Keep current excellent staff and add an immersion set of classes dispersed on the site.

It's a great school

If there were more individualized programs for advanced or focused remedial learning or referrals to such programs (teachers have been helpful with ideas) more opportunities to meet staff other than child's primary teacher.

Single classrooms, higher standards, emphasis on academics, rigorous coursework

I toured Adams and other schools within walking distance. I was not impressed with (specific classroom) at Adams for the following reasons: teacher led (students were expected to listen quietly for long periods), sugary treats (counting "fruit loops"), seemingly traditional, not very creative or stimulating for bright students

More garden projects, hands on.

My daughter goes to Cesar Chavez. Don't know anything about Adams.

Imitate Parker's model: language, PE, music instruction, blended interest groups, enthusiastic staff.

Smaller class sizes in lower grades especially more music art foreign language

Less media and technology use with students. Ability group for reading and math with more than just one classroom.

More focus on academics, art and culture, and physical activities. Community involvement, interaction among all grades.

More community based (involve business) "FAN" Friendly-area neighborhood association, community garden.

No direct experience yet - we have two children: 2.5 and 4 months

To enhance writing

Encourage the school board to make a decision about its programming and future and stick to it. Incorporate some non-traditional innovative programming project-based learning, language, etc.

Better stronger more progressive leadership

A principal that fosters real community and follows through in dealing with TAG students.

More emphasis on academics including more homework and in-depth projects. Program does not compete with other "academic" schools (i.e. Edison, Crest, Hillside, Parker, Edgewood)

Something that sets them apart. Maintain library access, improve music program, more school days (fewer teacher work days), smaller teacher/student ratio, strengthen math/reading

We are scheduled to enter Fall 09

Keeping Adams a neighborhood school

Smaller class size

Not sure of exact recommendations. However it seems to me that to make Adams a more successful neighborhood school, it needs a "draw". Even though our neighborhood is economically diverse, an interest in high-quality education is a common thread and families seem to chase distinctive programs.

Spanish immersion, grade level classes only, small class size

Parking/drop off is horrible and dangerous. Use some of that empty land to change that problem. I don't care for the loud music in the morning.

Focus on green schools certification. Keep a traditional but flexible academic program supplemental with foreign language instruction, arts, etc. A strong effort to attract neighborhood families.

Adams suffers from the same problem all neighborhood 4J elementary schools suffer from there is not effort made to accommodate TAG children. Direct instruction in a class of 28 does not work for kids far outside the box.

They need to challenge kids academically, allow accelerated students to move ahead in their subject level (math, reading, writing).

Bilingual immersion programs! Small classes and excellent staff with supportive administration. If Adams had had a successful language immersion program 6 years ago when I was searching for a school for my son, I would have highly considered it.

I'm not sure what the problem is for why 70% of elementary students in the Adams area are attending other elementary schools. Until that number can be reduced I think Adams may have a problem. Are the other elementary schools with a similar number of low attendees?

Offer a pre-k program

More respect from principal for parents. Open and clear communication with parents rather than closed door decisions.

When we toured Adams 3 times in the last 4 years, the curriculum seemed very "traditional" and especially this past year, the teachers seemed tired and beat down. Spanish and project based learning.

Please see separate sheet. In general my suggestions for Adams could apply to all 4J elementary schools. First and foremost I want excellent teachers and high academic standards. I also think children benefit from a caring environment, opportunities for learners at all levels, foreign language instruction and education in more than the "basics" (art, history, science, etc.)

More art, another language, ability of children to be self directed in their studies. Not just sit, listen, memorize and test but let them determine the route of learning by encouraging creating thoughts.

I would love to see smaller classes, an emphasis on foreign language (most practical being Spanish)

Provide teachers more flexibility in applying the language arts curriculum. Provide the school with an excellent hands-on principal who likes children, lets the teachers teach and stays for more than 2 years.

Stress love of reading; with good library program which encourages love of reading books/ stories

A stable future. Maintain status as neighborhood school; investigate leadership changes (principal); focus on green strengths.

Adams has a decent reputation and has an excellent principle. We have our child at family school because of the emphasis on parental involvement. We loved our first year at Family School and are thrilled to have it.

Hire good & capable teachers.

Provide more assistance to needy families. Work on community building and character education. Provide Spanish, French or German curriculum - not immersion.

Allow home-made snacks and treats for birthdays, etc. The idea that industrialized/store bought food is safer or cleaner is ridiculous. Parents care more than corporations.

I think Adams suffers from a bad - and wholly undeserved - reputation. I don't know where it came from but finding the roots of it might help reverse it.

Follow-up with TAG students. Curriculum based for TAG students

Better principal, more academic focus, more parent involvement. Based on what I have heard - language immersion should be offered

On site Spanish or French offered during or after school

Greater enrollment of neighborhood children. Opportunity for Adams students to attend same high school. The logical high school for Adams is South, not Churchill

1. Needs more fine arts - visual and performing! REAL art teachers!! 2. Don't care for Xeroxed hand-out approach to art OR academics.

Have not yet had my children attend, but would love to have the Chinese immersion program there when they do.

Raise academic standing from strong to excellent. Introduce a project based learning rubric, like Edison's "Marine Science" program or Crest's "Watershed Curriculum" or Parker's varied "specialty units" - not sure what they are called.

Enhanced neighborhood base by reducing the number of middle schools and high schools that Adams feed into. School boundaries should keep Friendly Area Neighborhood intact. At the least, the South/Churchill boundary needs to be adjusted so that it is consistently placed on arterial road in a predictable layout as the west as practicable.

Close or more alternative schools that concentrate hardest to teaching in the neighborhood school. Given 4J's crazy system of unmanaged choice, not attending the neighborhood school with crowded classrooms and a high concentration of the hardest kids and parents can be a rational choice.

Have alternative school programs, give parents/children some choice in curriculum design. Stop going after schools that have done these things.

**Question 10 a - *If you have a child enrolled at Adams:***  
**What is the main reason for choosing to enroll at Adams Elementary?**

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Good reputation.

Good reputation & friendly community.

Close to home. After-school care. Small school. Its proximity to our house, the ability to go to our neighborhood school with neighborhood kids and parents, the diversity of the student population, the well-rounded academic programs, the outstanding library.

Only because it's a neighborhood school. Having my child attend has been a big mistake. If I could do it again, I would enter a lottery for Crest or somewhere else.

Neighborhood, diversity, teachers, blended classes.

Neighborhood school size and I loved the (specific) teacher when we visited.

My daughter will start at Adams in Kindergarten in the fall. We did try to enter her into the school choice lottery for Chavez because of all day kindergarten and greater diversity and the uncertainty surrounding Adams. We liked the staff and parent involvement at Adams.

The proximity to our home and feel of community.

Neighborhood school, local school

Close to home - meets other neighborhood children who attend Adams.

It's our neighborhood school and we loved the teachers!

Location, teachers, diversity

Close, diverse, academic record, curriculum and staff diversity (at one point anyway - it's slipped in the past 3 years).

location/neighborhood

It is close to home, has a good reputation with both students and parents and is relatively small. The staff is friendly.

It is our neighborhood school.

Diversity, life skills program, excellent teaching staff, emphasis on respecting all students and inclusion of life skills students into typical program.

Quality teaching staff and small classes, neighborhood school.

Neighborhood school.

Neighborhood school. Before and after care programs.

Diversity of student body by race and class. Teachers and parents concerned about diversity issues.

Lower ratio of students to teacher. Lower number of same ethnic student in order to improve English.

Neighborhood school

(Specific) teacher, size of school, within walking distance

Walking distance

Range of programs

Title 1

State required

Neighborhood school

Like the community and diversity

The learning center

Neighborhood school

Neighborhood school with strong emphasis on diversity and family involvement.

Neighborhood school

Adams is a diverse, academically strong neighborhood school

The (specific) teacher is wonderful. She provides a warm and caring classroom that enables all children to learn in a comfortable and supportive environment. We looked at all k-5 schools in South Eugene and chose Adams because of this teacher.

It's a wonderful place. Also we need a school with appropriate Special Ed and it's in walking distance.

We support the concept of a public neighborhood school that reflects the diversity of the area in which we live

Better reputation and academics than our neighborhood school (Caesar Chavez). Smaller class size.

We toured other schools and we chose Adams because we liked the teachers and the rest of the staff. We particularly liked that it was/is a school designed to meet the needs of students.

My child just completed 5th grade. I enrolled her at Adams for Kindergarten 6 years ago primarily because it is our neighborhood school. At the time Spanish & Science were available after school which was great. On site YMCA is also a plus.

We choose not to enroll in Adams because there was no all-day kindergarten.

Don't try to fix what isn't broken.

Small School. Neighborhood involvement. Childcare.

The teachers! The diversity of our students! The well rounded academic program (PE, music, artist in residence), library.

This school, as a whole needs to focus on doing better at just the basics of reading, writing, math and much better behavior for classrooms. We have been very unhappy with this school.

Neighborhood schools, diversity, teachers

All day kindergarten, greater diversity, less uncertainty. We will enroll our son (now 3) at Adams if something doesn't make us change our minds.

**Question 10 b – *If you have a child enrolled at Adams:*  
As Adams considers program changes, what is important to keep or not change?**

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Keep the active family nights and library. Keep (specific) teacher.

Keep mission statement/philosophy of Adams. Change/lower teacher/student ratio.

Art, music, library, PE, etc.

Diversity; multicultural education; library, PE and more music and arts; foreign language; all important

PE, music, library and technology aspects should be kept. Staff is excellent and shouldn't be displaced. Keep learning center, title programs and blended classrooms.

Ratio

Keep classes under 30 (preferably under 20-25) keep gym and music program.

Keep arts, library, computer, PE, recess

Inclusion program of life skills students and the diversity of the school.

Small, neighborhood school.

Peer mediation

It's important to move back toward a more diverse faculty and staff and administration.

Keep current good programs such as writing and practicing computer.

Keep positive behavioral support (be respectful, kind, responsible), classical music in the morning, science focus

Keep sense of community, keep small size, need strong leader

Change the principal, add a science curriculum

Please do not make it a de-facto alternative school by making it a foreign language immersion program.

Keep title 1

Not keep mixed grade classrooms

Improve physical ed program

Strong equity/diversity recognition and education. Behavior program. Teachers who recognize and work with a range of learning styles and abilities.

The emphasis on serving all students and families, making all people feeling welcome - equity is very important - afraid another exclusive school might move in. Aces, blended classes

Keep neighborhood focus, learning centers and life skills programs, small size.

Adams plays a very important role in a transitional neighborhood. Students come and go as families move into the neighborhood or leave. Adams is the glue that holds the neighborhood together and provides a welcoming place for children in transition.

The warm and caring school culture. The staff and families are great.

Peer mediation, Green School, library time, well-rounded curriculum

Keep the "green" emphasis w/garden-based projects.

**DO NOT EVEN CONSIDER ANY LANGUAGE IMMERSION.** In other words keep your teachers and not give up their dedication

Please keep focus on a neighborhood school that can build enrollment. Great library, don't reduce library/computer lab focus.

All day kindergarten. Higher school rating.

**Question 11 a – If you DO NOT have a child at Adams:**

**Did you consider enrolling your child in Adams Elementary? Why or why not?**

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No, I like the programming of the alternative schools.

No. Haven't heard anything outstanding about the school.

No. Poor reputation, low test scores.

Wanted a school closer to home.

No because of the reputation of the school, academic reputation as well as behavioral issues with students.

I enrolled one child, was not happy and remaining children attend Crest Drive.

No. Already in other school when moved.

No - nothing special to recommend it.

No because at the time we entered my son in the lottery we were not living in the Adams boundary.

Yes, we toured Adams. At the same time, we toured Hillside and ultimately chose Hillside because it offered a diverse population, excellent curriculum and academic standards and involved parent group.

Yes. Why: close to home, walking distance. Why not: accepted into French Immersion. Kindergarten schedule (3 full days) worked better with work schedule and French Immersion feeds into Roosevelt/South allowing us to continue to bike (with minimal car traffic) to school.

Yes because it is our neighborhood school.

No, poor academic history and "district report card".

no

We looked at it for our older kid a long time ago and it seemed pretty chaotic (when Willard school joined). It is not really walking distance for little kids (we live on Lincoln). Friends have not been happy with the school. We really wanted language instruction. Adams does not really function as a "neighborhood" school for our house, Willard did.

I was new to the area this year. Since my nephew was already enrolled at Harris, I wanted my son there also. If this were not the case, my son would be at Adams.

No. Lack of language immersion. Poor academic reputation.

Distance. We are within walking distance to Harris even though we are in Adams neighborhood boundary.

no

Yes we considered it but decided on Edison as we were drawn to its energetic, vibrant staff, parents and overall learning community. When we were checking out schools 4 years ago, Adams just didn't have the feel of a school with a lot to offer. That seems to have changed some as I know many folks whose children go there and they are quite happy. I know there has been a change in principal since then.

No. Did not provide progressive instructional model, robust curriculum, or enough student learning choices.

We considered enrolling our child but did not for several reasons. 1-We are on the eastern edge of the boundary and do not feel connected to the neighborhood. 2- Our daughter did not know anyone going to Adams but knew 5 kids going to Edison. 3- We like that Edison does not mix grades until 4th. 4- We liked the extended day kindergarten offered at Edison.

No. Poor academics

Yes but I was afraid to because I know there is a risk of closure. My perception is that my daughter's advanced ability (99th percentile for IQ) may not be addresses adequately but I could be wrong.

Yes. I checked out all the schools, particularly Adams which was our neighborhood school, but oddly Crest Drive is closer to our house.

No. I did not feel that the students were respectful to each other and staff. No follow through when students are disrespectful with each other. Staff is informed about an event but nothing is done. Students aren't reprimanded. No structure and low curriculum standards.

Edison is closer. Edison has higher academic ratings.

Edison is on my way to work; Adams is the opposite way. Low academic rates according to newspaper (RG).

Yes. Ideally I would like to send my child to a close neighborhood school. Eastside however better fits my child's learning needs (fluid classes with various "ability" levels and project-based).

No we went to Harris for the alternative kindergarten and decided to stay.

Yes we support neighborhood schools and would prefer enrolling in the closest school.

Because it does not have a very strong academic rating.

Yes. Proximity/local school

no

We went to Adams as it is our neighborhood school. I was much more impressed by Crest and Parker. I was troubled by Adams test scores then I began to hear that Adams was not such a good school - from other parents. We all want the best for our kids.

Yes but I didn't. His friends at his current elementary will not be staying so we put him somewhere we knew he would have friends.

No wanted either a smaller school such as Crest or a foreign language school.

No a friend of mine did not have a very good experience.

No bad experience with staff and students. When our student enrolled at Hillside. (Name removed)

I did consider it. I was attracted by the diversity of the school and the fact that it was within walking distance but I decided against it for several reasons: 1-language immersion was very important to my family, 2- School test scores/rating made me wonder if it could challenge/fulfill my child, 3- I was not impressed with the kindergarten.

We looked at elementary schools 10 years ago when our older daughter was starting kindergarten. At the time we were in the Parker neighborhood and Adams was a little too far to bicycle to. Our daughter was TAG identified and Edison seemed to offer stronger academic opportunity.

Yes, neighborhood school.

No. low test scores

No we lived closer to the school she's in now. I've great things about her school. My sisters used to go to Adams and it was good too.

Yes for next school year, we just moved into the neighborhood.

Yes because it is our neighborhood school.

Lackluster teacher energy. Too much TV, video use in families and classroom. Our neighbor 8 yr old has watched 2 full length movies this week at school.

Academic reputation. Although it is my home school (I live at: ++ it) is not near my house.

Yes, chose Hillside for strong academic standards and children's' friends were attending.

Yes, chose not to as fate of school seemed uncertain and its academic program was less impressive.

Yes. I visited the school and considered it.

Yes because it is our neighborhood school

Low test scores (2006 report)

Yes, it is our neighborhood school and I visited several times. We chose to send our children to a different school because we were unsure of Adams' future and thought that it would be closing. There is also every small number of girls in my daughter's grade and we thought that it would be difficult for her socially. I appreciate the diversity of children at Adams and wish that was more prevalent at other 4J schools.

I did consider Adams but McCornack is 2 minutes from my work. So I get to volunteer in her class every week. Also kinder-care picks her up after school. Her baby sitter is also at kinder-care.

Yes. I toured 2 separate years. I was not impressed with academic offerings for students on the higher end of learning curve - especially TAG. After volunteering in building and library a lot, I feel like Adams has been saddled with more than their fair share of learning center/life skills etc. students and is always affected by this slant.

Yes. I think it would be great to walk her to school and to have our friends in the neighborhood. I have her enrolled elsewhere because of academic school ratings and school closure issues.

Not really. Friends and neighbors go to Edison. Edison very strong in academics and character/behavior development, strong parent involvement.

Yes, it is very close but the class size was too large and had not the best scores. We are very close to a family at Crest and we are able to help each other out.

I started at Adams with my first 2 children and tried to stay there years past when I felt in my heart it was not a good match for us. I did not consider sending my 3rd child there at all.

Not initially- I had heard that test scores are low and there seem to be many choices of interesting programs within driving distance of our home. We are also considering a private school. We would love to see a reinvention of our neighborhood school since its only blocks away and we want to be involved in our neighborhood.

Yes I would like my children to go to school with other children in our neighborhood. Being able to walk to our elementary school would be in line with our values of conserving energy and staying close with our community.

Yes, we moved to Eugene into Adams neighborhood boundary, but didn't enroll due to its uncertain future under the district's current emphasis on closing small schools.

No we moved in to the neighborhood to be close to work and the charter school my 3 kids attend. We gave public school a try and when that failed to meet the needs of my son we switched schools and drove across town for 3 years until we could move.

Yes because it is our neighborhood school.

I did tour it 6 years ago for my son but I was more interested in an immersion language program (French being the only one on the south end of town). I wasn't impressed one way or the other with the brief viewing I had of the Adams teachers. If I could have had an immersion program at my neighborhood school I would have probably enrolled him and subsequently my daughter too.

Yes but once we did more research on class size and instruction programs offered we took Adams off the list as a possible candidate.

Yes because it is our neighborhood school.

We wanted to consider it because we could walk to school but out of all the schools we looked at Adams was the least impressive. We didn't see much creativity or joy or passion for teaching or learning. Very traditional.

No. Location is not close to home/work and not on route to work.

Parker was my neighborhood school and then we moved into Adams area.

Yes we considered Adams twice. Once we purchased our home in the Adams area and again when our youngest was entering kindergarten. Please see statement regarding our decisions.

No. We found the perfect educational setting for both our child and our family at Family School. Family school has been the best of all worlds for us, it is environmentally aware, academically sound and full of creative parents who add to the curriculum.

Yes, but not really seriously because at the time we didn't live in the neighborhood and my child's best friend who went elsewhere.

We are considering enrolling our child at Adams but aren't hearing great things about it frankly. People formerly excited seem to be withdrawing their students, especially those with educated/high income parent. Very troublesome.

Not much consideration. Mostly reputation and feedback we heard from other parents and from teachers.

Yes.

Not really. My oldest child had already started at Village School when we lived in a different neighborhood. And we were happy enough with that school. FYI - we chose Village School because they taught some Mandarin Chinese, as well as Spanish!

Yes, I visited Adams twice. Willard would have been our neighborhood school. We wanted a neighborhood school. Though Adams is now designated our neighborhood school, it's nearly the same distance as Edison which is much closer to my husband and my work places and closer to the childcare. Adams is really too far from us for me to consider it a neighborhood school so when I compared it to Edison for location, Edison won out, compared to sense of community, Edison won out. Compared to attention available to TAG students Edison won out.

No. Won lottery.

Yes - because it was our neighborhood school & was the most convenient.

See Survey for Extensive Comments

Yes - really liked the (specific) teacher and it's our neighborhood school

I didn't really consider Adams because when my kids started school, I worked on campus (half-time) and Edison's location & kinder schedule allowed me to drop off my daughter, bike up to campus, work 4 hours, & bike back to get the girl with no wraparound care. That would not have been possible at Adams. Also, we're in this weird sliver of land that has our neighborhood schools as Adams/Roosevelt/South. If we'd gone to Adams, not many of her classmates would have gone to RMS & SEHS with her.

No. We were interested in a Montessori Program

No. There was a history of high principal turnover and the new and current principal did not impress me, nor did the reputation of Adams

No. Didn't live in Adams district when children were entering Elementary school.

Yes. I don't care for mixed levels in grades. Also see #4. I was seeking a program in which art, storytelling, music and dance were integrated into elementary ed.

Yes - because it's our neighborhood school and although not very, i.e. walkable, close - it is the closest. We only know of one other young child in our neighborhood (College Hill) attending Adams. The others attend Edison/Charlemagne, etc. But we had hoped to find more neighborhood kids there.

Poor reputation. Unimpressive academic performance

Yes

Yes. It was our neighborhood school but far away. The school choice system has created a huge district for Adams because it so depleted the school's enrollment. We were just down the street from Willard, but the choice system closed that school and replaced it with two big alternative schools. We chose to send our child to another strong neighborhood school just as far away as Adams. Without choice Willard would be thriving and we likely would have chosen that neighborhood school.

Yes. We were moving to South Eugene when my youngest was entering kindergarten. We looked at Village School, Hillside, Magnet Arts (where my older daughters have finished) and Adams. While Adams was fine, the other schools were exceptional and uniquely suited to our daughter. Village was full. We chose Hillside and LOVED it. (specific teacher combined w/diversity)

No. It was too traditional when we first looked and already in decline with no sign of revival when we looked again.

Yes. It was my neighborhood school.

Yes. We wanted to be at our neighborhood school, but we went there several times and never felt welcome. The principal never came out to meet us. At Harris - the principal came out and was welcoming right away. Also, the general ambiance felt kind of "rowdy" to us at Adams after school program didn't seem good. Even when we went back in 07 when we thought Harris was closing felt put off by the principal & some of the teachers seemed not very engaged and a bit burned out.

**Question 11 b - *If you DO NOT have a child at Adams:***

**Is there anything Adams could do or offer that would encourage you to enroll there?**

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Smaller classes, emphasis on gearing each child's education to each child's need, blended classes (age levels).

They could offer Hillside back. Loved their protected learning environment and high expectations of parents and teachers alike.

Not at this point. We are happy with my child's current elementary school.

No, but it is a great school. I just live all the way across town.

TAG curriculum.

Not sure at this point, the program seems uncertain. I guess if I knew the school was not going to close I might consider it.

More highly involved parent group! Not all or even most of the parents need to be involved to make it work. At Hillside, a core group of parents implemented many programs and activities that benefitted all families and children in the school.

We are not likely to change from our current school. If we were considering programs then language immersion, full day kindergarten and feeding into Roosevelt/South would be important to us.

Add a foreign language -preferably Spanish.

no

Language

Next year is my son's 5th grade year. I think any foreign language programs -immersion or otherwise - are a great investment for kids.

Probably not.

Programs (like language) not offered at current school. Maybe. Not using the car and walking/biking to school is important to us.

Mandarin language, calling teachers by their last name i.e. Ms. Doe, not Jane. I believe this shows respect.

No, we are actually moving to the Edison neighborhood this summer to ensure that our younger two children can go there. We are also drawn to the closer neighborhood feel of the school and look forward to walking to school. Adams boundary is so big that many who should go there aren't within walking distance. We live across from Willard and wish our kids could have gone there. Also the bus goes past our house at 7:20 every a.m. which seems really early. Given that I would already drive the kids to school to avoid the early ride, I was willing to drive a little farther to get to Edison (1.8 miles vs. 1 mile).

No, losing faith in 4J education to provide an educational model/curriculum to prepare students to participate/survive in a global economy.

At this point, we would only enroll at Adams if we could no longer attend Edison. Edison and Harris are both closer to our house than Adams.

Raise the academic bar. Focus on what make the high achieving schools successful and try to emulate that. More focus on TAG kids.

Small classes, excellent teaching for all levels, including high level without the children knowing the difference (diversity and blending is great). Creative hands-on projects (arts, building, science) are great.

Not at this point - we're committed to Crest.

Again teach respect. I want to see it when the students at the playground and playing nice and respectful without using bad language. More structure in the curriculum. A foreign language.

High academic rates, foreign language instruction

High academic rates. Foreign language. If Adams was project-based and provided sufficient stimulation to kids who are above grade-level we would consider Adams.

Not at this point. A small kindergarten with a teacher I really liked might have brought me there initially. My personal feeling about the teachers is what I paid most attention to.

If it were not split into 2 schools and if the one school was not on the verge of disbanding, we would have enrolled. Another big reason we didn't enroll at Adams we wanted everyone to go to the same middle school.

Excellent academics, especially writing, reading and math.

The future status of Adams is unknown (as with many 4J schools) and that was a major factor for us in NOT choosing Adams. We strongly prefer a stable and predictable environment in which to enroll our kindergartener (entering in the fall).

Foreign language programs

Now that we are enrolled at Crest we will probably stay there. If Adams had had a good reputation when we were first looking around we probably would have gone there. A Spanish immersion program would be a good way to build its reputation again.

Stability

Language immersion, strong academics. Too late child entering 5th grade. Would have considered Adams if it had as high expectations and successes as Hillside.

Language immersion would absolutely be a draw though my child would probably be too old to enter an immersion program in a new language. Something curricular that was unique and outstanding and based on educational "best practices" research. Project-based learning? Strong arts emphasis? Or a math/science focus?

Now that we live in the Adams district, we choose to stay at Edison because we've been there so long and it's proven to be a good fit for our daughters. It's only slightly further to bike to Edison than to Adams from where we live.

Stricter behavior expectations, single grade classrooms, foreign language instruction, more rigorous academic curriculum.

Change the image, get better families=better test scores. No I plan on keeping her there. She'll be in 5th grade next year. I'd like her to finish her grand school there and then get her ready for middle school. Language; some class blending opportunities like Parker or to a greater extent, Eastside. I also like that Parker has PE and music several times per week. Parker will also be starting a garden. I'd love a school that used local food in the cafeterias.

Part-time program (younger grades)? Less technology use and media use with students.

Spanish language ability levels in math and reading. More performing arts and programs, music and drama

I really love Edison.

No

Will enroll for 2008/09. Hope to become involved in PTA to rally for changes.

Language arts, music

Improve reputation in community, stronger principal-teacher relations within the school and with the community. Raise test scores.

At this point our kids will finish elementary school where they are. If I would have been more confident last year that Adams would not be closed, I would have been more likely to send my kids there and invest in it. I think the school board has done a real disservice to Adams by closing Hillside and then not taking decisive action to support to change Adams or at the very least, be clear about its survival.

If you offered an immersion program or a foreign language I would love to switch her.

no

Yes! If it offered a language immersion or had some other important strength.

Improve on times noted above (academics, character/behavior dev, parent involvement)

Better scores, better programs, more neighborhood kids enrolled (mainly, most of our neighbors do not attend Adams), foreign language

I can't tell you that, but it would seem that once a school gets a certain reputation people's perception of it lingers. I had heard stories generations before my children about attending Adams and they were strangely similar back then.

Emphasis on technology, science and math, a greater emphasis on academics - not just standard liberal arts curriculum. Emphasis on language that would help students compete in global economy - English, Chinese, Japanese, Spanish.

Provide a strong basic curriculum enhance by creative alternative options such as Spanish, art, dance and natural science courses.

An alternative program that stresses: educating whole child (well and rounded offerings, not just academic); experiential learning (not current 4J emphasis on worksheet); expectation of high level of parental involvement; non-violent conflict resolution and community building activities.

Adams could become a TAG magnet school or at least offer a specialized curriculum within its traditional one. All the kids I know who chose not to attend Adams are TAG kids. The public schools are not meeting the needs

of Eugene's brightest kids and they are leaving your neighborhood schools. This is a serious problem. Please do not ignore the issue.

Small classes and Spanish/English immersion

My daughter (2 grade) already has a good start at the French immersion school and friends too so unless oil disappears, we'll probably keep coming to Fox Hollow.

I think that another Spanish immersion school located on this side of town would be a plus. I also think the Chinese immersion idea has merit.

They seem to need a mission; the school lacks enthusiasm, it's hard to be excited about sending your child to a school like that.

Spanish but not immersion; project based learning where the kids get some say in what they want to study; creative & excited teachers; some blending of grades; was not very impressed by the principal either.

Certainly if Chinese immersion were to start up there we would try to place our children in the program.

No, only one more year in elementary

Spanish classes

Our youngest is now entering 4th grade so we will not be considering a school change.

Adams has had 4 or 5 principals in the past 10-12 years. Some were good, most were not. All of them left after a couple of years. The current principal will not hug or teach the children. You've got to find someone who will embrace the community and neighborhood and commit to making Adams a wonderful school.

No, we are too happy at Family School

Possibly an immersion school with our youngest. Our oldest has Aspergers and is in 5th and quite attached.

Ensure that high achieving students are given access/support with curriculum and teaching at their level. Develop clear/strong plan for attracting middle/high income and those families back to school to increase diversity and lower poverty level to something more manageable.

No, because we would not be willing to switch after establishing relationships at another school

Mandarin Chinese Immersion program. We would switch if they offered Chinese Mandarin immersion or at foreign instruction level probably, since my youngest is already going into 8th grade.

Intense charter education can help. I hear reports from unrelated parents that there is a strong presence of a class system that seems to fall along the lines of the haves and have nots. I'd like to see strong self community building followed with involvement in the outside school building followed with involvement in the outside school community. When children are comfortable, wanted and happy they can learn closer to potential.

Yes, offer Spanish. Strengthen your programs and reputation.

See Survey for Extensive Comments

At this point, probably not. I'm now 5 years into what will finally be a 10-year stint of grade school, and I see no need to change course.

Adopt a Montessori-style teaching environment. Multi age classrooms, individualized learning, hands-on materials, focus on life skills.

No, not interested in changing schools once we've begun at another

Look into Waldorf approach. Hire talented art teachers full time. An arts council visit once a year does not meet a student's needs (cultural, mental dexterity, creative, imaginative).

More focus on academic excellence and ability to challenge advanced children - vs. just these that need reading and work assistance. MORE inspiring teaching staff. We only had an opportunity to observe a few teachers and found their "appeal" to be very mixed.

No

All day kindergarten. More technology. It's easier for us to bike to the neighborhood school we chose due to traffic and hills. The alternative school system has depleted Adams of the most families. The problem isn't the curriculum at the school, it's that choice has concentrated the hardest to teach kids and least involved families in neighborhood schools.

Stop trying to bring down other schools - you have participated in the destruction of one of the best (Hillside), the slow probable demise of another (Magnet Arts - Arts & Tech), and we are finding Village is getting pressured now. No child can bully his way to excellence. Make your OWN programs unique, excellent and responsive to students as well as those w/challenges.

Not now - my youngest is going into 5th grade.

Offer an immersion program

Changes in teachers & personnel (Harris has great team!)

**Please provide any additional comments in the box below or on a separate sheet of paper.**

4J is so backward in their thinking. Instead of pondering how to make lackluster schools more appealing (Adams, Jefferson), the district chooses to close a fine example of academic achievement (Hillside). So sad, and such a waste of resources.

Coordinated middle and elementary school schedules (days off/vacation) are essential when considering households with multiple children.

Adams elementary is a vibrant neighborhood school where many children walk, bike or take the walking school bus to school. It is diverse in ethnicity, socioeconomic status and community. Bolstering its image as an inclusive school with solid academics through a well-developed website will increase student population attracting additional neighborhood children. Changing it into an alternative school will just increase alternative choices in 4J and decrease viable neighborhood schools! Why were there no other neighborhood schools involved in this survey?? If the district wants a Chinese immersion school, raise money and build one.

Thanks for conducting this survey. As a side note, I would probably not consider sending my children to Adams if it fell exclusively into the Churchill District, middle and high schools - mainly because Roosevelt and South Eugene are within walking/biking distance of our house. Thanks again.

I prefer Spencer Butte and will apply to the lottery. This school as a whole needs much help in general basics. My child has received less than adequate education on safety or behaviors in the classrooms. (Safety due to other children's behavior.)

Spanish immersion.

Adams seems like a good school. We were impressed by the teachers and by the parent involvement and welcoming atmosphere. 4J is killing Adams because the district is not supporting neighborhood schools and promoting economic separation through school choice. I would like to see language or other programs added to Adams, but not a separate school that is located at the Adam's site. I would like 4J to add Chinese immersion but I don't think Adams would be the best site.

I have spoken with many (15-20) preschool age families who would send their children to Adams. However they (including myself) are not supportive of a Chinese Immersion. We would like to strengthen Adams and market strong points to get more neighborhood students attending. We need more follow through and support from the principal. If Chinese comes to Adams I will pull out my oldest daughter so my son does not have Chinese.... 2 kids

Frankly when I was looking at schools, I took the word of other parents and what they loved or didn't love about the schools their children attended. No one seemed excited or had a lot of good things to say about Adams. With so many alternatives available it was easy to find some place we were excited about. I do think there are too many choices available. If everyone in the neighborhood sent their kids to Adams, maybe it would be different!?

I think neighborhood schools are great. I attended Willard as a child. If Willard were still open, that would be our neighborhood school and we probably would have sent our daughter there. I like that all the kids at Edison go to Roosevelt which is our neighborhood middle school so our children can continue friendships from elementary to middle school. We would love to move to the Edison neighborhood but can't afford to.

Quite frankly, out of 20+ schools that I visited in 2004, Adams was the only one that seemed dull or at least had nothing special to offer. An immersion (half day) language program or something unique might have interested me more. Good luck with your searches.

We are a transfer family from the Bethel School district. Have you considered other elementary schools in the Churchill area e.g. McCormack?

As a parent when deciding on an immersion program the most important factor it seems to me is that there's a lot of research out there that says that learning a foreign language helps develop the young brain in ways that helps kids learning everything else. I would prefer to have my child learn a language that I was familiar with and one that would be useful on a daily basis. There's more to the choice than trying to meet future economic needs which I believe is the push for Chinese! I talked with a parent of a child at Adams recently who said that the school board wasn't listening to them. They want Spanish also.

This survey is biased against hybrid programs and immersion/neighborhood track options. This would perhaps avoid an immersion-only option that adds to elitism and class segregation that is rampant in other immersing, charter and

Alternative school options and preserve the good and successful programs presently at Adams. We can have both an immersion and a neighborhood school at this site.

The school district needs to get stable. No one has any reason to invest themselves anywhere.

There are some great projects done in class, but there could be a separate art program. The (specific) teacher is very effective with reading! My child is reading and spelling as well as my second grader and helps her at times. He started the year not writing at all and is very proficient in a couple months.

Not a fan of blended classrooms. Some parents at Adams very negative about alternative schools made us feel unwelcome.

I think that a Mandarin Chinese immersion school would be a great thing for 4J, be it at Adams or elsewhere. Mandarin is an extremely important world language and still not widely taught in the U.S. It would be a unique offering that would provide an advantageous opportunity for our kids.

It's been 10 years since we've needed to make a decision about which school to choose. At the time I visited 5 or 6 schools and Edison impressed us with their strong teaching staff that worked well together. Even though cultural, racial and economic diversity weren't in my top 4 reasons for choosing Edison, it has been a nice addition. Because of the proximity to the university, my daughters have had friends from many different countries. There also seems to be economic diversity but again this may be slightly different from other schools because of the university and a community support for education. I think a successful school builds on itself (for example my husband and I volunteer about 200 hrs/year). It may take time, but I think every neighborhood school can be strong and successful.

Obviously I've talked a lot about Parker. Look at what is working well at the schools with high numbers of happy families and imitate them. Ask the principals, teachers and parents of those schools to what they attribute their success. I love that Eugene has school choice. Keep it. Bus people to alternative schools to have greater diversity represented.

I feel the expectations of the level of academic learning at Adams are lower than other schools my kids have attended. Ability groups do happen but not outside of their own classroom. Dividing the students by ability groups with 2 or 3 classes will make the groups more level specific. Homework needs to be a habit and parents need to be held accountable for it. Music program performances bring many parents and neighbors into the schools with pride and a feeling of community. With the music teacher working at two schools she does not have time to do this. A self manager program may help Adams with social expectations and behavior.

I think it would be great ideas for all Adams students to learn Spanish in any configuration but a terrible idea to add a Chinese immersion school or to try to layer it on the existing program. I'm also very frustrated that my soon

to be 6th grader is one of only 2 students in her class that is going to ATA next year. The district really needs a consistent feeder policy for Adams so middle schoolers don't feel like they're losing most of the friends.

Please do not make a decision regarding the future of Adams without parent involvement. If you are driven to find a Chinese Immersion because it will increase your federal funding and must be in Churchill's district- collect data - from all the elementary schools in that district, raise money to build a new school don't sacrifice another neighborhood school to be replaced by alternatives!

Good for you for doing this kind of planning!

One of the things I didn't like about Adams when we 1st considered it was that it was co-located with an alternative school. I think Adams will do better now that Hillside is closing whether it has a language program or not.

I think the best thing the school board and superintendent can do for 4J schools is to be decisive. Some decisions will be unpopular but without certainty about school closures and re-location, parents have a difficult time making informed decisions, and instead rely on rumors and hearsay. The school board is elected to research and know educational and budget issues and make reasonable decisions based on that information. If that means a school closure is necessary, then decision should be made and backed up with solid reasoning, not delayed and debated for years. If there's a way to keep all the current schools, funds, and maintain them and use the extra space to reduce class size let's do it. Tell the community how it can be done. If it's not possible, close a school and focus on making the rest quality schools.

Please let us know what is in store for Adams in the fall so that we can plan ahead. Thanks!

Although our child is currently enrolled in Adams (Chavez is our neighborhood school) we have decided to enroll her in Eastside/Harris next year. It seems like Adams has been neglected for years and not been given strong leaders. There are many things we like about Adams, but the leadership isn't there to make it a stronger school.

The (specific) teacher at Adams has been an amazing. She has a perfect talent for teaching to kids of every level. She is also a great resource for parents.

I would love to not have to drive so far for school. If Adams made some changes I would switch. Yes it's a global world. Let's first equip our kids with top reading and math skills and other basics. As it is now, language art get cursory attention in the curriculum.

We would love to see Adams have a Spanish immersion program. We live close to the school, love our community and would love Adams meet the needs of all our neighborhood children. We are also considering other Catholic school (2 blocks from our house) because of their Spanish language part of the curriculum starting in kindergarten.

We hope that 4J will settle on a plan by 2010 when our son starts kindergarten. We like the idea of him attending our neighborhood school as opposed to an alternative school, language immersion or private school. We hope a neighborhood school will still be an option in 2010.

Although we find it very important to have a neighborhood school for our daughter to attend, we feel we would be forced to seek alternative schools if Adams were to become a Chinese immersion school.

As parents we want to put our energy and financial resources into our son's school. Nothing would make us happier than having our school of choice be the one in our neighborhood. I think driving all over town chasing the best school programs is crazy! But I feel as though parents are just trying to make sure their children receive the best fit for them. Eliminating school choice although tempting, will only result in the emergence of more private schools. Thanks!

I believe public education should be a solid, well-rounded program acceptable to a broad range of families. Having a theme or specialty area seems to fit this idea but narrowing this program too much alienates people who want a general education. Neighborhood schools should be schools that someone could attend if they moved into the area at any point (i.e. 4th grade) without feeling like they don't have the background needed to attend.

4J should value their small schools and emphasize community-building within schools and among students. The emphasis on bigger schools being better is misguided at best and appears to only be a cost-savings measure, not one that will improve Eugene community in the long-term.

Churchill region is underserved, South region is over served. Alternative schools are not good unless they are centrally located and have equal SES/Race (4J really has blown it). Adams should not be an Alternative school. What about all schools have reading, writing, math and foreign languages?

My priority is a strong neighborhood school within walking or biking distance. This school hopefully Adams, should have a strong academic program that will not serve the general population of our neighborhood (i.e. not Chinese immersion). I am impressed with Adams' green school highlighted and focused on. I also would appreciate options for foreign language instruction (preferably Spanish). Mostly I just want a strong neighborhood school for my daughters to attend with their neighborhood friends.

My 3 kids come to school with the same amount of funding as all 4J kids and they deserve an appropriate education. How come we had to leave and attend a charter school that only gets 80% of the funding in order to have their needs met? We pour so much money into athletics but we do not celebrate our brightest minds. Why? Children need to be stimulated or they will not thrive. We offer so many services for special needs kids but I argue that gifted kids are special need and they need your help. Pull families on a TAG alternative school and see what kind of response you get. You may be surprised - you would have families driving across town and a wait list.

If the district changes the attendance boundaries and it has an undesirable effect on my child, I would sell my home and move to the neighborhood that has the school of my choice. It is wrong to force students to attend their neighborhood school. It will result in less diversity and trap some less fortunate from seeking a more suitable program elsewhere. I challenge the schools to create programs that students want to attend. My son is now a junior in high school. I tried him at Adams briefly. He was ignored by the teacher and spent his time reading novels in the back of the classroom while the teacher was trying to instruct classmates on paragraph formation. Adams had nothing to offer my son and I transferred him after 2 months to Crest. If I didn't have the option of a transfer, I would have gone to private schools.

Within the school, Adams has developed a strong identity as a "community" school with emphasis on respect and social justice. I don't know if the neighborhood will respond to promotion of these ideologies but I believe it would be the basis and ground work for future identity.

Great job on the questionnaire. I appreciate the chance to be heard. Foreign language instruction and immersion programs can be an important key in opening students to other cultures. It can help us achieve more respect for other cultures and broaden our horizons enormously. Make for better world citizens. I'm not convinced there will be enough support for a Mandarin Chinese program in Eugene- can see this happening in large cities with more Chinese heritage families.

I know many people who live in the Adams boundary who send their kids to other schools. Five other Harris families I know of, one because of the behavioral program and a number of families who attend Eastside or Village School. I would love to have a sense of community with my school in my neighborhood where my kids live by their classmates but it's not enough to get me to send them to Adams at this point.

Chinese immersion would definitely draw us to Adams. We will be considering Adams seriously in any case since it is our neighborhood school. It is somewhat of a long distance from our house though; the alternative and charter schools at the old Willard site are closer so we will also be looking at those (and possibly considering

Charlemagne/French immersion). Music and art as well as academics are very important to us. We also hope that there is some stability (that the immersion program not be moved away from Adams). One further thought, I wish that school could start later and end later e.g. 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Please see enclosed sheet

We picked Adams (it is our neighborhood school) because of the quality of the (specific) teacher. We are leaving Adams after one year because the school lacks effective leadership and parental involvement. The school has been without an effective principal for 12 years or more. 4J would be better served by placing an effective, involved and energetic principal at Adams. Adams provides an important role for families in the friendly street neighborhood. Chinese immersion would kill this and doesn't offer any other neighborhood school option for these families.

Adams is a very special and rare place. Please do everything you can to support it.

I have deep concerns over the Chinese immersion school. I believe that the principal at Adams is not working hard enough to find the school's niche and increase enrollment as the existing neighborhood school.

We are very interested in foreign language immersion - prefer Spanish. However if Mandarin is selected at Adams, we will enroll our kids elsewhere. Chinese immersion caters to a select few vocal supporters. We feel language instruction should reflect our community - Spanish does, Mandarin doesn't.

It is critical to me that the school offers very high quality education that allows the students to work at their own levels. I want to be sure that my child is given access to a curriculum that allows students to work about grade level if that is appropriate for that student. Thanks for doing this survey...

Two pages of comments attached to survey

The momentum for a Chinese immersion program at Adams seems to be coming from 4J staff and administrators and not from the parents of South Central Eugene. Perhaps the program might act as a temporary Band-Aid to budgetary problems, but at what cost? At this moment in time, when local and green and community can help solve the problems we hear and read about every day, it is irresponsible that our local school district would force us to drive out children to school. Please consider our children. Don't take away our neighborhood school. Let us make it vibrant.

Eugene has one of the best foreign language immersion programs in the nation. Keep up your good work. Thanks!

Question 12 concerns me. I'm in the Adams district but don't consider it my neighborhood school - Willard was. Roosevelt and South are our middle and high school being such a short walk away. I think Adams would be much stronger if all the students were destined to one middle and one high but it's too much to ask us to drive to middle and high when it's an easy walk to our present schools. We need Adams to go to Roosevelt/South or reopen a neighborhood school on the Willard void.

See Survey for Extensive Comments

Thank you!

We are enrolled in Parker because of the KEY (after school) program. It would have been great if Adams had something like that not Ycares.

I know plenty of parents of Adams students & they all think it's a terrific school, so I hope you can convince the rest of the community of it!

We really have enjoyed our child's teachers. It would be simply horrible if the school district gave in to pet projects that displaced staff and it would be a disservice to the students. If any child wants to learn a foreign language it can be taught at home.

We are excited that strong new academic programs are being considered for Adams Elementary. We will consider enrolling our children in our neighborhood school rather than an alternative or charter school if we believe it offers a caring but academically challenging program. Having myself experienced a school environment in which I was perpetually bored with the academic level, I want to ensure my children have the opportunity to be challenged and stimulated at school. However, with two working parents, all-day kindergarten and after-school programs are a must have. We hope that by the time our older daughter starts school, Adams will be able to offer both academic rigor and full-day kindergarten!

We think what's important is that there is a language immersion program in this region, be in Mandarin or Spanish

Strong multiculturalism and respect in general are more important to me than an immersion program. Thinking and reasoning skills over rote memorization. Independence and tolerance, compassion and action.

I am concerned that 4J seems intent on dismantling or relocating thriving, popular and successful alternative schools in our area in order to boost enrollment at Adams. If the program we preferred was at Adams, we'd be there.

Chinese immersion for 2010 YES!

See page of comments attached to this survey

Schools with enrollment/recruitment problems would be good ones to select for closing

Thanks for doing the survey. Unfortunately many may not respond due to timing at the busy start of summer. Maybe a telephone random sampling? This is a tough problem. There's really nothing wrong with the Adams curriculum. The problem is that choice has concentrated the hardest to teach kids and parents making the school a difficult choice. Strong managing choice or curtailing it would be the best solution. Short of that, 4J could actively seek to make the school more alternative by concentrating its best teachers and principal there and by spending a lot more to guarantee low class sizes and extra programs at the school. This should be a top priority. Thanks again.

I appreciate that Adams is doing this. I am a strong advocate for giving Adams and all other neighborhood schools the autonomy with funding/curriculum that alternative schools have had. The unfortunate truth is that even in alternative schools there are always some parents for whom convenient location/after school care/ etc. are higher priority than excellence, unique programs suited to the child, parental community. The key to changing that balance is not to close competing schools to try to force us to attend, but to find your niche and attract us! I believe a language immersion program with transportation provided and open choice would accomplish much!

Where Adams is concerned, the district dithered for far too long, blaming enrollment declines on everything except its own lack of a distinctive plan program at Adams. The charters aren't to blame. When I toured Adams, the parent guide told me that he felt his child would have advanced more, academically, at another school but that Adams was a short walk from his home and that was most important to him. That helped me decide to send my child elsewhere.

We really liked the kindergarten, but really wanted all-day kindergarten. We also wanted some men teachers as we have a son (although this would've been important for a girl child also). We also liked the (specific) teacher. "No peanuts" at all in school was prohibitive for us as that (peanut butter & jelly) was ALL our son ate!