



August 8th, 2011

Dear 6th -10th Grade John Adams Academy Family,

Over the last year there was much discussion and deliberation regarding the use of E-Reader technologies for grades 6-10. After student, parent, teacher and administrative input, we have come to the decision to utilize the Amazon Kindle to enhance the learning experience for students. As such, **we are asking each family for a donation of an Amazon Kindle E-Reader for each of their 6<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> grade students (approximate cost \$114 plus Tax & S/H).** We believe this will benefit your student in the following ways:

1. **Build a Classical Library** - Any work written before 1920 is free to download on the Kindle for example Shakespeare, Newton, Kipling, Plato, etc. Students will build a library of classics to discuss with Mentors that they can use whenever and wherever they go.
2. **Increased Respect** - Respect for equipment increases if it is a family possession versus school property. Ultimately a student becomes responsible for any book, supplies or equipment issued to them from any school.
3. **Better Organization/Less Waste** - Kindles support PDF format. Teachers can send to the student's Kindle any information, assignment sheet, or handout, saving thousands of photocopies. Textbooks are also available at little or no cost to download to the Kindle.
4. **Better Prepared in a 21st Century world** - As technology changes the world we live in, our students should be prepared to face those new challenges.

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

***What do I look for when buying a Kindle?*** Kindle 3 wi-fi 6 inch. The "Special Offers" model sold for \$114 will work perfectly.

***Does it have to be new?*** We encourage every family to research a refurbished or used Third generation Kindle. First and second generation Kindles will not meet our student's needs.

***Why can't they use a Nook, Kobo or other e-reader?*** The uniformity allows teachers to focus instruction based on one technology and not spend time trouble-shooting a variety of technologies.

***Why can't I send an iPad or a laptop with my student?*** The John Adams Academy would like to use technology to our benefit and not as a distraction. Kindle has the features to support learning without being a distraction to students with music, internet, messaging, etc.

***What if we can't afford this?*** Please know that this is a contribution to your student's success and is not a requirement of attendance. If you cannot provide a Kindle for the first day of school, one will be issued to your family. Please contact the school ASAP so we may offer assistance.

The week before school starts we will ask parents to attend a class about the Kindle and sign one out as they would a library book. The family is responsible for any loss or damage.

A classical leadership education should also include the latest advances in communication and information systems. We appreciate your help in providing our students with the tools necessary to succeed in today's world.

Sincerely,  
John Adams Academy Board, Administration and Teachers

*Nathan E Rose*

Nathan Rose,  
Principal  
johnadamsacademy@gmail.com