

COPY

Resolution No. 2026-41

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JACKSON OPPOSING THE PROPOSED CONVERSION OF ARGONAUT HIGH SCHOOL TO A JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL AND SUPPORTING THE CONTINUED USE OF ARGONAUT HIGH SCHOOL AS THE COUNTYWIDE HIGH SCHOOL FOR AMADOR COUNTY

WHEREAS, the Amador County Unified School District (“ACUSD” or “District”) is considering a consolidation program that includes the consolidation of six schools onto five campuses and the proposed conversion of Argonaut High School into a junior high school; and

WHEREAS, the City of Jackson recognizes the significant operational, financial, enrollment, and facilities challenges facing ACUSD and respects the authority and responsibility of the ACUSD Board of Trustees to evaluate the most efficient and responsible use of District facilities; and

WHEREAS, the City of Jackson nevertheless believes that decisions concerning the long-term use of major public school facilities should consider not only immediate operational needs, but also long-term enrollment, transportation, infrastructure, public safety, community development, and opportunities for future growth; and

WHEREAS, Jackson serves as the county seat of Amador County and functions as an important governmental, civic, and community center for residents throughout the County; and

WHEREAS, the City Council believes that the location of a countywide high school should be evaluated within this broader regional context because such a facility serves students and families from multiple communities throughout Amador County; and

WHEREAS, the City Council believes the Argonaut campus provides opportunities to accommodate future changes in enrollment, educational programming, student services, athletics, parking, transportation, and other long-term community and educational needs; and

WHEREAS, school facilities represent significant long-term public investments, and decisions that permanently alter the function of a school campus should consider the ability of that property to serve future generations of students; and

WHEREAS, the City Council is concerned that converting Argonaut High School to a junior high school may unnecessarily limit the District’s future ability to utilize the campus as a countywide high school and to accommodate future growth or expansion; and

WHEREAS, the City Council further recognizes that existing transportation and roadway conditions surrounding Argonaut High School present challenges that should be addressed through long-term planning, infrastructure improvements, and collaboration between the City and District; and

WHEREAS, potential future transportation improvements may include improvements to existing roadway access, managed or metered access during peak arrival and dismissal periods, traffic circulation and roadway capacity improvements, enhanced pedestrian and bicycle connectivity, and improved school bus and emergency vehicle access; and

WHEREAS, future planning may also evaluate the potential extension of Wicklow Way and Sutter Street as part of a broader effort to improve circulation and connectivity to the Argonaut campus, subject to appropriate planning, engineering, funding, property coordination, environmental review, and approvals; and

WHEREAS, the City does not represent that such roadway extensions are presently approved, funded, or constructed, but believes their potential should be considered as part of the long-term evaluation of the Argonaut campus; and

WHEREAS, the City Council believes that transportation challenges associated with Argonaut High School should be addressed through planning, coordination, and infrastructure improvements rather than treated as a basis for eliminating the campus's use as a countywide high school; and

WHEREAS, Argonaut High School represents a significant public educational asset within the City of Jackson, and the City believes its strategic location, regional accessibility, potential for future expansion, and opportunities for improved transportation connectivity warrant careful consideration before its function is permanently changed;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JACKSON AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. OPPOSITION TO PROPOSED CONVERSION

The City Council of the City of Jackson hereby formally opposes the proposed conversion of Argonaut High School from a high school to a junior high school as contemplated by the current ACUSD consolidation program.

SECTION 2. CITY POLICY POSITION

The City Council hereby establishes the following policy position:

The City of Jackson supports retaining Argonaut High School as the countywide high school for Amador County.

SECTION 3. LONG-TERM EVALUATION OF ARGONAUT

The City Council respectfully requests that ACUSD evaluate Argonaut High School based upon its long-term potential to serve as the countywide high school rather than solely upon the immediate operational requirements of the current consolidation proposal.

Such evaluation should include consideration of:

1. Jackson's role as the county seat of Amador County;
2. Argonaut High School's proximity to State Routes 49 and 88;
3. Regional accessibility for students and families throughout Amador County;
4. The long-term growth and expansion potential of the Argonaut campus;
5. Future enrollment and educational programming needs;
6. Transportation, parking, circulation, and public safety needs;
7. Opportunities to improve existing roadway access and traffic management; and
8. Potential future transportation connections, including the possible extension of Wicklow Way and Sutter Street.

SECTION 4. TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE COLLABORATION

The City of Jackson expresses its willingness to work collaboratively with ACUSD, the Amador County Transportation Commission, Amador County, and other appropriate agencies to evaluate long-term transportation and infrastructure strategies for the Argonaut campus.

Such collaboration may include consideration of roadway improvements, traffic management strategies, managed access during peak school periods, pedestrian and bicycle improvements, emergency access, school bus circulation, roadway capacity improvements, and potential future roadway connections.

SECTION 5. LONG-TERM PUBLIC INVESTMENT

The City Council encourages ACUSD to consider Argonaut High School as a long-term regional public asset and to evaluate the campus in the context of future educational, transportation, infrastructure, and community needs.

The City Council believes that decisions concerning the campus should preserve reasonable flexibility for future generations and should avoid unnecessarily limiting the District's ability to accommodate future countywide high school needs.

SECTION 6. REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

The City Council respectfully requests that the ACUSD Board of Trustees reconsider the portion of the consolidation program that would convert Argonaut High School into a junior high school and evaluate an alternative configuration that preserves Argonaut High School as the countywide high school for Amador County.

SECTION 7. CONTINUED COLLABORATION

The City of Jackson remains committed to working collaboratively with ACUSD to identify solutions that support high-quality educational facilities, responsible long-term planning, transportation connectivity, public safety, infrastructure investment, and future growth.

SECTION 8. TRANSMITTAL

The City Clerk is hereby directed to transmit a certified copy of this Resolution to:

- Amador County Unified School District Board of Trustees;
- ACUSD Superintendent;
- Amador County Board of Supervisors;
- Amador County Transportation Commission; and
- Such other agencies or representatives as determined appropriate by the City Council.

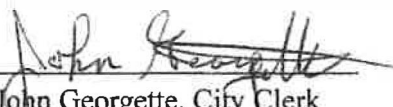
PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Jackson at a regular meeting held on the 28th day of September, 2026, by the following vote:

AYES: **Simmons, Steve McLean, Godde, Gonsalves, Sierra McLean**
NOES: **None**
ABSENT: **None**
ABSTAIN: **None**

CITY OF JACKSON


Chad Simmons, Mayor

ATTEST:


John Georgette, City Clerk