

"Although I have faced many obstacles, through AVID and its wonderful teachers, who did whatever it took to see me succeed, I learned that people really love and care about me. I have confidence in myself. My dreams won't always be just dreams forever."

- Fredrick Crawford, AVID class of 2005, Bryan High School in Texas

AVID 101

The AVID Student

AVID targets students in the academic middle - B, C, and even D students - who have the desire to go to college and the willingness to work hard. These are students who are capable of completing rigorous curriculum but are falling short of their potential. Typically, they will be the first in their families to attend college, and many are from low-income or minority families. AVID pulls these students out of their unchallenging courses and puts them on the college track: acceleration instead of remediation.

The AVID Elective

Not only are students enrolled in their school's toughest classes, such as honors and Advanced Placement, but also in the AVID elective. For one period a day, they learn organizational and study skills, work on critical thinking and asking probing questions, get academic help from peers and college tutors, and participate in enrichment and motivational activities that make college seem attainable. Their self-images improve, and they become academically successful leaders and role models for other students.

The AVID Curriculum

The AVID curriculum, based on rigorous standards, was developed by middle and senior high school teachers in collaboration with college professors. It is driven by the WICR method, which stands for writing, inquiry, collaboration, and reading. AVID curriculum is used in AVID elective classes, in content-area classes in AVID schools, and even in schools where the AVID elective is not offered.

The AVID Parent

AVID parents encourage their students to achieve academically, participate on an advisory board and in AVID parent and site team meetings, and maintain regular contact with the AVID coordinator. Many parents and students participate in AVID Family Workshops.

Where is AVID?

AVID is at work in over 4,000 schools in 45 states and 15 countries [Fall 2008]. Large urban schools, tiny rural schools, resource-rich suburban schools, struggling schools — they all find that AVID meets the needs of their students in the middle.

Who Pays for AVID?

School districts enter into agreements with AVID Center for materials, membership, and professional development. Districts provide public school teachers and tutors. Additional money for college trips is raised through fundraisers.