

History of AVID

Mary Catherine Swanson developed AVID to serve the academic needs of students who were affected by the desegregation of San Diego's Schools. AVID, an academic elective, was more than a program—it was a philosophy: Hold students accountable to the highest standards, provide academic and social support, and they will rise to the challenge.

Policymakers and school administrators now consider AVID an essential strategy for closing the achievement gap and making the college dream accessible to all students.

Beginning with one high school and 32 students, the program now serves over 92,000 students in more than 1,650 middle and high schools in 24 states and 16 countries. More than 30,000 student have graduated from AVID programs and matriculated to college at a rate of 95 percent.

AVID Site Team Members

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SOUTHWEST MIDDLE SCHOOL

A
ADVANCEMENT
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INDIVIDUAL
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DETERMINATION



AVID prepares students for college eligibility and makes college preparatory curricula accessible to all students.

AVID IS...

AVID is an in-school academic support program for grades 5-12 that prepares students for college eligibility and success.

AVID places academically average students in advanced classes.

AVID levels the playing field for minority, rural, low-income and other students without a college-going tradition in their families.

AVID is for all students, but it targets those in the academic middle.

AVID is implemented school wide and district wide.

AVID Objectives

- To provide academic instruction and other support to students and to prepare them for eligibility to four-year colleges and universities.
- To give students college level entry skills
- To increase the “coping skills” of program participants
- To motivate program students to seek a college education
- To increase the participants’ levels of career awareness

AVID Activities

- Learning with college tutors
- Writing for all classes
- Developing success strategies
- Applying for college
- Preparing for a professional career
- Visiting college campuses
- Interacting with Guest speakers
- Participating in extracurricular and community activities

Who May Participate?

Students who have the potential and desire to attend a four-year college and ...

... have appropriate classroom behavior

...have between a 2.5 and 3.5 grade point average

...have a good attendance record

...have good work habits

...are willing to commit to enrollment in a rigorous college preparatory sequence of courses

Parent Awareness Night

Selected students based upon the above stated criteria will be invited to attend the AVID Parent Informational Meeting at Southwest Middle School in May. During this meeting additional information on our AVID program will be provided as well as the Student Applications and Teacher Recommendation forms.

For additional information about
AVID visit their website at
www.avidonline.org