

# What is AVID?

AVID is a fourth- through twelfth-grade system to prepare students in the academic middle for four-year college eligibility. The program exists at all high schools in the Antelope Valley Union High School District and often times involves low-income students who are capable of completing a college-prep curriculum but are falling short of their potential. The core component is the AVID elective, which supports students as they tackle the most rigorous classes. AVID's teaching strategies, curriculum, and trainings are used not only in the



## Students

AVID students may be enrolled in Highland's toughest classes, such as Advanced Placement, and attend an academic elective class—called AVID—taught within the school day by a trained AVID teacher. The three main components of the program are academic instruction, tutorial support, and motivational activities. Their self-images improve and they become academically successful leaders and role models for other students. They are proud to be in the program.

## Results

State-funded independent research, together with AVID Center's own data, validate that the AVID college-readiness systems works. Consider:

\*AVID students are more likely to take AP classes, complete their college eligibility requirements, and get into four-year colleges than students who don't take AVID.

\*Almost all AVID students who participate for at least three years are accepted to college, with roughly three quarters getting into four-year universities.

AVID also helps ensure students, once accepted to college, possess the higher-level skills they need for college success.

## Curriculum

The AVID curriculum, based on rigorous standards, was developed by middle and high school teachers in collaboration with college professors. AVID is based on writing as a tool of learning, the inquiry method, collaborative grouping, and academic reading.

## Site Team

Highland's core AVID site team consists of the following members:

- Jesse Herrera- AVID Coordinator/AVID Senior Seminar/AVID Club advisor
- Erica Deam- AVID juniors
- Jeff Smith- AVID sophomores
- Stuart Young- AVID sophomores
- Erin Gonzales- AVID freshman
- Makeba Hale- AVID counselor
- Dean Miller- AVID Administrator
- John Woolwine- AVID Club advisor
- Denise Kane, Israel Arauz, Sherri Prosser, Jonathan Baker-Ortiz- AVID Site Team members

## Tutors

Tutors are essential to the success of the AVID elective class, where they facilitate student access to rigorous curriculum. As students from colleges and universities, tutors receive formal training and also serve as role models.

## Parents

Parents encourage their students to achieve academically, participate on an advisory board and in AVID parent and site team meetings, volunteer in the AVID classroom and on fieldtrips to college campuses, and maintain regular contact with the AVID coordinator.

## Community

Colleges demonstrate their support of AVID programs in many ways. They may provide class speakers, offer college credit courses to AVID high school students, include AVID students in academically oriented summer bridge programs, and follow the support and progress of AVID students during their college careers. The community supports AVID by providing speakers and summer apprenticeships for AVID students. Highland currently is vertical teaming with both Juniper and Hillview Middle Schools which serve as our feeder sites.

## What AVID Is

- AVID is an acronym standing for Advancement Via Individual Determination.
- AVID levels the playing field for minority, rural, low-income, and other students without a college-going tradition in their family.
- AVID is for all students, but targets those in the academic middle.
- AVID places academically average students in advanced classes.
- AVID is an in-school academic support program for grades 4-12 that prepares students for college eligibility and success.

## What AVID Is Not

- AVID is not a remedial program.
- AVID is not a free ride.
- AVID is not a college outreach program.

## Want More Information?

See Mrs. Herrera in room 115, email her at [jherrera@avhsd.org](mailto:jherrera@avhsd.org), or call her at 661-538-0304.