



VIRGINIA BEACH CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
A H E A D O F T H E C U R V E

AVID

Advancement Via Individual Determination



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AVID

Advancement Via Individual Determination **Program Description**

AVID is a college preparatory program in which students become the facilitator of their own academic success. AVID provides daily study groups directed by **professional tutors**, a structure of note-taking and organization aimed at refining skills necessary for success in middle school, high school and college, and an arena for expanding the college-level entry skills of students underrepresented in higher education. Success in AVID is measured by students' success in high school and college academics.

Students are selected to apply for AVID based on a discrepancy between average to high math scores on standardized tests and average to low English scores, as well as school records which show a lower-than-expected grade point average and/or programming into classes that do not maximize their potential. When selected for the program, students are programmed into college preparatory classes designed to fulfill the requirements needed for entry into college.

The AVID curriculum includes seminars on lecture and textbook note taking, time management, test-taking strategies with particular emphasis on the PSAT and SAT tests, and writing development through various modes of discourse. AVID students receive **individualized assistance from tutors**, instructors and fellow students, and are provided with individualized academic counseling. Through AVID, students are assisted with the preparation of college applications and financial aid forms.

Guest speakers, field trips, and interaction in community and cultural activities enhance the AVID program. The support and involvement of parents is critical to students' success in the program, although the true motivation to succeed in AVID, as well as in all classes, comes from students themselves.

AVID comes from the Latin word *avidus*, meaning "eager for knowledge." Since its beginning in California, the success of the program has been reflected in increases in students' grade point averages, SAT scores, college placements and self-esteem. As a member of the AVID team, you can become a part in developing the academic and personal strength of students who have made a commitment to become actively involved in their own education.



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The following are requirements for AVID students:

1. Maintain enrollment in college preparatory classes.
2. Maintain a notebook (3-ring binder provided) with class and text notes for each academic course, assignment sheets, and tutorial forms.
3. Take at least one page of notes in every class each day.
4. Spend two hours per night on homework and study.
5. Maintain satisfactory citizenship and attendance in all classes.
6. Complete AVID assignments including writing and speaking tasks.
7. Participate in AVID tutorials.
8. Take the PSAT/SAT at least once. (High School Students)
9. Attend the AVID field trips, during school and after school.

Who Can Participate?

Middle and high school students who have...

1. at least average grades,
2. average to above-average test scores,
3. a good citizenship records,
4. a good attendance record, and
5. positive teacher recommendations.

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What is AVID?

AVID, Advancement Via Individual Determination, is a college-preparatory program for middle and high school students. The mission of AVID is to prepare students most underrepresented in post-secondary education for eligibility to and success in four-year colleges and universities.

AVID is a regularly scheduled class in middle and high schools. The three main components of AVID are academic instruction, tutorial support, and motivational activities.

What does AVID provide?

AVID provides:

- academic preparation for college,
- organizational and study skills,
- on-going writing curriculum,
- cultural and recreational enrichment activities,
- motivational and personal development activities,
- awareness of career possibilities, and
- encouragement in setting and reaching goals.

Teachers and tutors are trained to help students learn by employing these three methodologies, known as WIC:

Writing to learn,
Inquiry methods, and
Collaborative grouping.



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