

# Memo



**To:** Dr. Karla Guseman  
**From:** Dianne McDonald  
**Date:** January 4, 2024  
**Re:** Course Addition – AVID Elective 9

I respectfully recommend the course addition of AVID Elective 9 for the 2024-2025 school year. This 1 credit course would be offered as a year-long unweighted elective to 9<sup>th</sup> grade students.

The rationale for the course addition is aligned to Strategy 1.4: *Establish the instructional and academic identity of the school district to increase the focus on holistic student development and preparation for post-secondary success in a variety of career pathways.*

AVID, Advancement Via Individual Determination, is a research-based program that prepares students for four-year college eligibility. This AVID Elective 9 yearlong course will support students' transition to high school and prepare them for a career or enrollment into a four-year college. Students will learn AVID basics of WICOR (writing, inquiry, collaboration, organization, and reading), time management, tutorials, Socratic seminars, academic goal setting and motivation. The AVID course uses writing as a tool of learning, the inquiry method, organizational tools, collaboration with peers and academic reading in a rigorous and relevant curriculum designed to get students ready for college. Two days each week are devoted to tutorials and one day focuses on team building and motivational activities.

This course addition was discussed and approved by the Curriculum Coordinating Council.

Thank you and please let me know if you have further questions.