



*A College and Career
Readiness System*



In 1980, bussing **low-income students** to San Diego's Clairemont High School created disruption at this suburban, middle class school. **Expectations were low** for these students. Many assumed **they lacked** parental support, **motivation** and study habits to qualify for college. Most teachers at the school thought such students would need a watered-down curriculum to graduate. English department head and teacher **Mary Catherine Swanson** thought differently. She believed that if the students were **willing to work hard**, she could teach them the skills needed to successfully complete the **rigorous courses** that would prepare them for four-year universities.

She was right. Despite resistance from her colleagues, AVID, **Advancement Via Individual Determination**, was born. Protests from her AVID students, complaining about the tedious work in keeping organized binders and taking copious notes, gave way to **increased confidence** in their abilities as they proved to the naysayers that they were indeed capable of academic success that would lead to **college admission**.

What began in that first class of **32 students** now impacts nearly **one million students** from elementary through higher education. Today, AVID is the **largest, most comprehensive college-readiness system** used by schools to improve the academic preparation and performance of all students, especially those who are underrepresented in higher education institutions.

explore **www.avid.org** to learn more



What is AVID?

AVID, Advancement Via Individual Determination, is a **schoolwide transformation** effort focused on leadership, systems, instruction, and culture, and is designed to increase the number of students who **enroll and succeed in higher education** and in their lives beyond high school. The AVID College Readiness System is the only elementary through higher education instructional system (K–16), which allows for regional alignment that strengthens student potential for completion.

AVID-trained educators teach students academic and social skills to help them develop the habits and behaviors needed to succeed in **rigorous curriculum**. The AVID College Readiness System is a catalyst for developing a school culture that closes the achievement, expectation, and opportunity gaps many students face, and it prepares all students for success in a global society.

AVID membership can be funded through various federal, state and local sources. Visit www.avid.org for resources about available funding.

How AVID Works

AVID training and resources help teachers improve student performance by embedding best teaching practices, encouraging self-advocacy, providing support, and building relationships that encourage student engagement.

AVID is a leader in professional learning, training more than 25,000 educators each year. Opportunities include:

- Summer Institutes
- Leadership trainings
- National Conference
- Path (core content) trainings

Across all content areas, AVID's research-based strategies and curriculum develops students' **academic skills**, like reading, writing, and critical thinking, and **academic behaviors**, including organization, time management and goal setting.

AVID Impacts:

Leadership

- Provides meaningful and motivational professional learning opportunities
- Develops campus-based leadership through the AVID Site Team
- Supports campus leadership in opening access
- Develops family and community outreach

Systems

- Addresses issues of access and equity
- Increases vertical articulation
- Increases enrollment in advanced academic courses
- Provides data collection and analysis

Instruction

- Supports Common Core and other state standards
- Develops students as readers and writers
- Teaches specific strategies for critical and higher-level thinking
- Utilizes WICOR (Writing, Inquiry, Collaboration, Organization, and Reading) as a foundation for learning
- Employs Socratic methodologies
- Cultivates time management and goal-setting behaviors

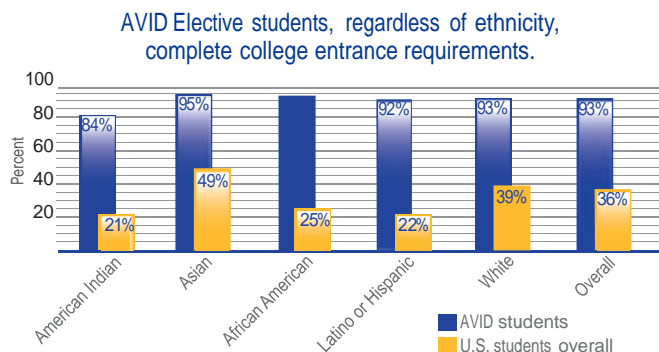
Culture

- Acts as a catalyst to improve the belief system, culture, and instructional strategies for all students
- Provides support so students can meet high expectations
- Empowers students with academic, career, and life skills

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AVID Closes the Achievement Gap

AVID's mission is to close the achievement gap by preparing all students for college readiness and success in a global society.



“AVID will help us realize the American Dream—that through persistence, effort, and self-determination, all of our dreams can, in fact, become a reality.”

Jesus Medrano
AVID graduate, Southwest High, 2002
MIT graduate, 2006

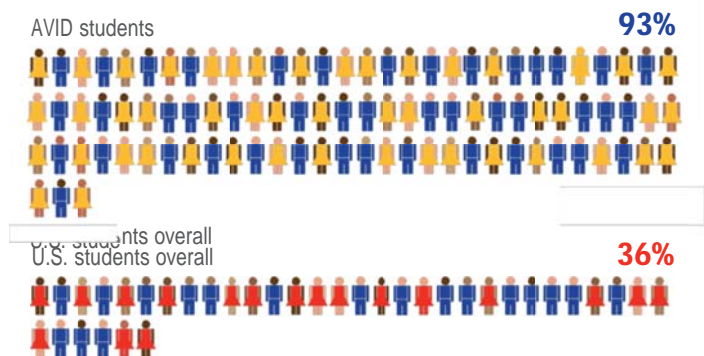
The AVID College Readiness System

AVID Elementary is a foundational component designed to be embedded into the daily instruction of all elementary classrooms. AVID Elementary spans K–8 in three stages: Beginnings, Foundations, and Bridges. Each stage is designed to meet the needs of students within a specific range of development. AVID's strategies and philosophy of educational opportunities for all students are threaded and embedded throughout the instructional day, across grade levels, and ultimately across sites.

AVID Secondary helps schools develop a culture of college readiness for all students across the campus. In the AVID Elective class, students receive daily instruction and support to prepare them for college from a trained AVID Elective teacher. AVID impacts students schoolwide as academic strategies like writing to learn, inquiry, collaboration, organizational skills, and critical reading (WICOR) are taught in all classes by teachers who have been trained to use AVID strategies in their specific content area.

AVID for Higher Education works with postsecondary institutions to support students with the goal of increasing academic success, persistence, and completion rates in the Student Success Initiative. Colleges of education use the AVID Teacher Preparation Initiative to provide teacher candidates with AVID frameworks, methodologies, and strategies so that they enter the teaching field able to meet a broad spectrum of students' needs.

AVID students complete college entrance requirements at a rate of 2.5 times greater than U.S. students overall.



AVID Center – AVID Senior Data Collection, study of 33,204 AVID seniors (2011–2012) Greene, J. P., & Forster, G. (September, 2003). Education working paper no. 3: Public high school graduation and college readiness rates in the United States [White paper]. New York, NY: Manhattan Institute for Policy Research. Retrieved from http://www.manhattan-institute.org/html/ewp_03.htm. (Most recent national data available)



At its heart,

AVID is a philosophy:

*Hold students accountable
to the highest standards,
provide academic and social
support, and they will
rise to the challenge.*



“ *The wealth of professional development opportunities,
along with the routine use of the AVID curriculum
library at each school, has had a positive impact
on our districtwide culture.* ”

Betty Bagley
Superintendent
Anderson School District Five
Anderson, South Carolina



Call 858.380.4800 or
info@avidcenter.org

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