

## The 10 Expectations of an AHS AVID Student



As an AVID Scholar, you should:

- Want to go to a four year university
- Want to achieve the best grades possible for you
- Be willing to study, read, and write EVERY night
- Be willing to enroll in the AVID elective course and take AP, IB, D/C, or other honors classes
- Be willing to come to school every day and maintain 95% attendance rates
- Achieve and maintain at least a 2.0 GPA
- Be willing to change bad habits and create new good behaviors
- Be willing to carry all supplies for all classes with you every day
- See the value in tutoring without being given the answer every week and participating willingly and enthusiastically
- Be passionate about learning, goal setting, and becoming more than you are now!



## AVID Timeline



Wednesday, January 31 <sup>st</sup>	Course Fair at Anderson
Wednesday, February 28 <sup>th</sup>	Full Application Due <input type="checkbox"/> Application <input type="checkbox"/> AVID Essay <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Teacher Recommendations
February-March	AVID Interviews at Murchison
April-May	AVID Interviews at Anderson
End of May	Acceptance Letters Sent

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Sarah Wheeler, AVID Coordinator, at [sarah.wheeler@austinisd.org](mailto:sarah.wheeler@austinisd.org)







# Teacher Recommendation for Prospective AVID Scholar

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

AVID - Advancement Via Individual Determination - is a four year college prep program offered at Anderson High School. This program is designed to help prepare students for the rigors of college by providing study, organizational, reading, writing, inquiry, and collaboration skills. The AVID program is looking for students who meet the national standard for "in the middle" and are highly motivated to attend a 4-year university.

We greatly value your opinion in the determining of who will be awarded the spots by the completion of the rubric below. This recommendation form should be returned to Sarah Wheeler, AVID Coordinator, not the student. AVID truly appreciates your support of the program

	Above Average	Average	Below Average	Score
Individual Motivation	3	2	1	
Willingness to collaborate	3	2	1	
Attendance	3	2	1	
Preparedness	3	2	1	
Seeks help when needed	3	2	1	
Leadership qualities	3	2	1	
Classroom behavior	3	2	1	
Ability and drive to take AP/IB/DC classes	3	2	1	
Overall recommendation	I highly recommend	I recommend	I recommend with reservations	I do not recommend
Total Score				

Teacher Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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# What is AVID?

The following information is from the national AVID website. You can find it and plenty more valuable information at [www.avidonline.org](http://www.avidonline.org)

**“While others talk about what should be done to prepare students for college, AVID is doing it. For more than 30 years, the AVID College Readiness System has helped thousands of students, many of whom are overlooked and underserved, rise above the obstacles they face to achieve academic success.”**

## ***History***

AVID began in 1980 by Mary Catherine Swanson, then-head of the English department at San Diego's Clairemont High School. The federal courts issued an order to desegregate the city's schools, bringing large numbers of inner city students to suburban schools. While applauding the decision, Swanson wondered how these underserved students would survive at academically acclaimed Clairemont High. Her answer was AVID, an academic elective. But it's more than a program - it's a philosophy: Hold students accountable to the highest standards, provide academic and social support, and they will rise to the challenge.

## ***Today***

Beginning with one high school and 32 students, AVID now impacts more than 700,000 students in more than 4,900 schools and 28 postsecondary institutions in 46 states, the District of Columbia and across 16 other countries/territories. The AVID College Readiness System spans elementary through higher education. Although AVID serves all students, the AVID elective focuses on the least served students in the academic middle. The formula is simple - raise expectations of students and, with the AVID support system in place, they will rise to the challenge. What distinguishes AVID from other educational reform programs is its continuous success rate. Of the 33,204 AVID seniors in 2012 who reported their demographics, academic achievement data and future plans, just over 98 percent indicated they would be graduating from high school, with 90 percent planning to attend a postsecondary institution: 58 percent to a four-year college and 32 percent to a two-year institution. Seventy-three percent reported taking at least one rigorous course, such as AP®, IB® or Cambridge®, with 61 percent taking the corresponding exam. Additionally, Hispanic/Latino and African American/Black AVID students take AP tests at rates that exceed their peers (AVID Hispanic/Latino - 57 percent, U.S. overall Hispanic/Latino - 14 percent; AVID African American/Black - 14 percent, U.S. overall African American/Black - 8 percent) Policymakers and school administrators now consider AVID an essential strategy for closing the achievement gap and making the college dream accessible to all students.

## ***The AVID Student***

AVID targets students in the academic middle — B, C, and even D students — who have the desire to go to college and the willingness to work hard. These are students who are capable of completing rigorous curriculum but are falling short of their potential. Typically, they will be the first in their families to attend college, and many are from low-income or minority families. AVID pulls these students out of their unchallenging courses and puts them on the college track: acceleration instead of remediation.

## ***The AVID Elective***

Not only are students enrolled in their school's toughest classes, such as honors and Advanced Placement, but also in the AVID elective. For one period a day, they learn organizational and study skills, work on critical thinking and asking probing questions, get

academic help from peers and college tutors, and participate in enrichment and motivational activities that make college seem attainable. Their self-images improve, and they become academically successful leaders and role models for other students.

### ***The AVID Curriculum***

The AVID curriculum, based on rigorous standards, was developed by middle and senior high school teachers in collaboration with college professors. It is driven by the **WICOR** method, which stands for writing, inquiry, collaboration, and reading. AVID curriculum is used in AVID elective classes, in content-area classes in AVID schools, and even in schools where the AVID elective is not offered.

### ***The AVID Faculty***

One key to a successful AVID program is a site coordinator/teacher who is a respected site instructional leader who works well with secondary school personnel and college students and faculty, who can organize curriculum as well as activities, and who is committed to serving the needs of target students. The coordinator also works with colleagues to implement AVID methodologies schoolwide, to place students in college preparatory curriculum, and to work with counselors to guide students through the college application process.

### ***The AVID Tutor***

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. AVID students who continue their education in college often return to the program as tutors.

### ***The AVID Parent***

AVID parents encourage their students to achieve academically, participate on an advisory board and in AVID parent and site team meetings, and maintain regular contact with the AVID coordinator. Many parents and students participate in AVID Family Workshops.

### ***What AVID is...***

- AVID is an acronym that stands for Advancement Via Individual Determination.
- AVID is an in-school academic support program for grades 4-12 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 schoolwide and districtwide.
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### ***What AVID isn't...***

- AVID isn't a remedial program.
- AVID isn't a free ride.
- AVID isn't a niche program.
- AVID isn't a college outreach program