

## **A VISION...A DREAM...**

In 1980, Mary Catherine Swanson created the AVID program in San Diego as an answer to the problem enrolling under-served students in post-secondary education and reaching students in the middle. Beginning with one high school and 32 students, the program now serves over 250, 000 students in more than 3500 schools in 45 states and 15 countries. The AVID Program has graduated more than 35,000 students and matriculated them to college at over a 95 percent rate. Nationally, over 89 percent of AVID graduates go directly to a four-year college, which is significant compared to the 34 percent for non-AVID students.

## **WHAT IS AVID?**

AVID, or Advancement Via Individual Determination is an academic program designed to increase school-wide learning and performance. The target AVID student is a student who has a strong desire to attend a four-year university and may or may not have an engraved foundation for success. AVID students are bright students who may be underachieving, or are first generation college students who could benefit from additional guidance and support. The AVID elective is a class that provides social and academic support as well as academic monitoring and tutoring. The class focuses on reading, writing skills, organizational skills, Socratic questioning skills and collaborative learning skills. Students work with college-age tutors and take part in test preparation lessons to increase their performance in rigorous classes as well as standardized exams, such as the SAT and ACT.

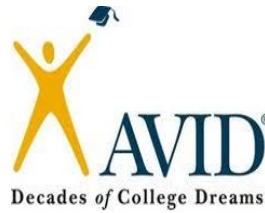
## **AVID CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES**

- Weekly tutorial sessions with college tutors
- Writing Cornell notes
- Researching and applying to colleges
- Applying for financial aid and scholarships
- Researching professional careers
- Visiting college campuses
- Interacting with guest speakers
- Standardized test preparation
- WICOR (Writing, Inquiry, Collaboration, Organization and Reading) based lessons
- Parent Information Sessions

## **STUDENT EXPECTATIONS**

Students will:

- Bring a strong work ethic to AVID
- Complete their assignments and do their best in all of their classes
- Maintain positive attendance and classroom behavior
- Commit to enrollment in a rigorous college preparatory sequence of courses, including “possible” advanced or AP courses based on academic ability
- Maintain a minimum 2.5 GPA/progressing each year
- Participate in the AVID program
- Demonstrate integrity on campus and in the community



This form will be used by Downey High School. Please complete the following personal information as well as all the requested information from the “Application Checklist” below. **Please return all information to your counselor by April 13, 2018.**

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ ID# \_\_\_\_\_ Student Email \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Cell # \_\_\_\_\_

Current CUMULATIVE GPA \_\_\_\_\_

Post-high school educational  
plan \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**I am interested in participating in the AVID College Preparatory program and would like to complete the application process.**

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**I, the parent or guardian of the above student, support my child in his/her interest in the AVID Program.**

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**APPLICATION CHECKLIST (Complete and attach all information)**

- ❖ Current School Schedule
- ❖ Current Report Card

- ✓ **THREE Teacher Recommendation Forms** from a current core class teacher (Language Arts, Math, Science). NOTE: Recommendation forms should be give to teachers and returned BY teachers to the counselor.

**AVID Contacts**

AVID Counselor  
Terri Curiel  
[tcuriel@dusd.net](mailto:tcuriel@dusd.net)

AVID Coordinator  
Andra Macomber  
[amacomber@dusd.net](mailto:amacomber@dusd.net)

AVID Coordinator  
Teresa Baca  
[tbaca@dusd.net](mailto:tbaca@dusd.net)



**Teacher Recommendation Subject Area:** \_\_\_\_\_  
English, Math, Science

AVID, Achievement Via Individual Determination is an elective course at the high school. This course will prepare students for the rigors of college prep classes by providing study and organization skills as well as tutorial help from college mentors.

**Profile of an AVID student:**

- 2.0-3.5 GPA
- First generation college bound student
- Highly motivated

As we prepare to interview candidates, we are gathering as much information as possible about perspective students. Please rate the student based on your perception of the student's ability to be successful in the AVID program. **Please return this form to student's counselor by April 13, 2018.**

**Student's Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Recommending Teacher** \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Demonstrates Motivation and tenacity</b>	<b>Never</b>	<b>Sometimes</b>	<b>Often</b>	<b>Always</b>
<b>Willingness to work with others</b>				
<b>Acceptable attendance and on time to class</b>				
<b>Brings materials to class</b>				
<b>Seeks help when needed</b>				
<b>Actively participates in class and completes homework</b>				
<b>Practices good citizenship and classroom behavior</b>				

\*\*\*Not all of the nominated students can participate in AVID next year because only a limited number of spaces are available. If you feel that this candidate should **definitely** be in AVID next year, please explain what makes this candidate exemplary. Accordingly, please let us know of any reservations you may have for a candidate.

Teacher Recommendation: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ With Reservation \_\_\_\_\_