



## A MESSAGE FROM MS. CRANE

Welcome to the first edition of “AVID News”. AVID (Advancement via Individual Determination) is a fourth through twelfth-grade system to prepare students for four-year college eligibility. It has a proven track record of bringing the best out of our students. AVID’s mission is to close the achievement gap by preparing all students for college readiness and success in a global society. This publication will include various pieces of information concerning the components of the Fort Bend ISD AVID System: AVID Elective in Middle School, AVID Tutorial System, and curriculum and professional development.



*“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.”*

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## WHAT DO AVID STUDENTS HAVE TO SAY?

“AVID helps you in life! I enjoy AVID because it helps me pass my classes and earn good grades. Since I became an AVID Student, I have improved in everything. It’s hard to describe, but AVID helps me be me and myself.”

“AVID has made me a strong student and person. It has also made me feel like I belong somewhere. My grades have improved immensely. I have never been a confident person, but AVID has helped me change my view of myself. AVID is now a big part of my life because of the people, the things I learn, and the support I receive. I am glad to say I have the best AVID teacher who will

**STEPS TO SUCCESS**

“AVID put me into some of the most rigorous classes offered at school and gave me the resources I needed to succeed: time management, Cornell notes, study skills, and higher-level thinking skills. AVID also challenged me to be involved and lead. AVID has become my support system. Not having strong support outside of school was tough, but my AVID family rallied behind me and gave me the push I needed to succeed. I love AVID and I know I will do well because AVID was in my life.”

## WHAT IS AVID?

AVID is a program dedicated to helping students achieve their goal of going to college. Know that students considered for AVID are bright students who might be under-achieving, underserved in the college system, or first-generation college students. The AVID class, held within the regular school day, provides support, academic monitoring, and tutoring. The writing process, Socratic questioning, collaborative learning, and reading are the core strategies of the program.

## WHAT IS REQUIRED OF AN AVID STUDENT?

Each AVID student carries a binder in which he or she is required to keep materials from all academic classes. Students keep track of assignments on assignment sheets and are required to take DAILY notes in all academic classes. The notebooks are graded weekly for content and organization by college tutors. Led by tutors, students participate in tutorial groups in the AVID classroom. In addition, students are taught study skills, test preparation, time management, and the writing process. Teachers fill out periodic progress reports, in addition to routine school ones, for monitoring by the AVID teacher.

## WHAT IS AN AVID TEACHER, AND WHAT DO THEY DO?

The AVID teacher is crucial to the process. The AVID class is where students learn organization, study skills, test preparation, time management, the writing process, take college field trips, explore careers, look at post secondary education choices, etc. Communication with the AVID teacher and parents is essential. The AVID teacher will contact you to share your student's progress and to check in about any of your

*"The AVID class is where students learn organization, study skills, test preparation, time management, the writing process, take college field trips, explore careers, look at post secondary education choices, etc".*

concerns. Throughout the year, the AVID teacher will house several Family Workshops to address topics of concern relating to student success in middle school and preparation for high school and college.

## WHO ARE AVID TUTORS, AND WHAT DO THEY DO?

AVID tutors are college students who receive training in methodologies used in AVID: writing process, Socratic questioning, collaborative learning, and reading. They are in the classroom weekly to serve as models and to help students achieve success in rigorous classes. They are trained not to give students answers but rather to guide them toward answers. They may even ask permission to "shadow" students in their classes to help them learn how to take notes more effectively.

## WHAT IS THE APPLICATION PROCESS FOR AVID?

Presentations about AVID will occur in Advisory throughout the school year. Applications will be made available for students and their families to complete after we return from Christmas break. Parents should take a few moments to help their student fill out the application. In addition to the application, they will need two recommendations from teachers. Students who meet the criteria for AVID, and turn in a completed application with the necessary teacher recommendations will then be given an interview with the AVID team.

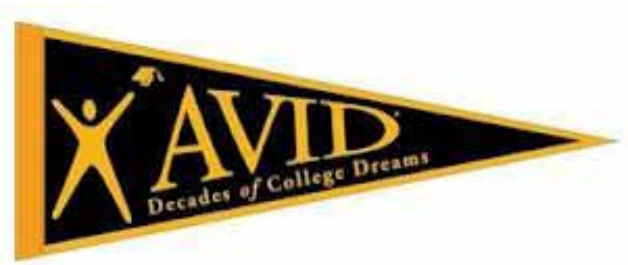
Since AVID is a nationally recognized program, we have specific criteria we must follow in determining student candidates for our AVID program. Please understand that not all students or parents that want acceptance into AVID will gain it this first year.

There is always another chance with the AVID program at Missouri City School.

# CHARACTERISTICS OF AN AVID STUDENT

## ANY STUDENT CAN BENEFIT FROM AVID

- Must be a hard worker, have a positive attitude, and be collaborative in nature
- Must have the determination and will to succeed
- Have a desire to attend college
- Be willing to take high rigor, advanced placement courses



## PARENT AND TEACHER WEBSITE RESOURCES



[www.avidonline.org](http://www.avidonline.org)

Official AVID Site

[avidpanam.edu](http://avidpanam.edu)

AVID Research

[www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)

AP and SAT

[www.knowhow2go.com](http://www.knowhow2go.com)

College Research

[www.princetonreview.com](http://www.princetonreview.com)

SAT and ACT Prep

[www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)

Federal Student Aid

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## WHAT DO WE PREPARE FOR THIS SEMESTER?

Public Speaking

Cornell Notes

Organizational Skills

Time Management Skills

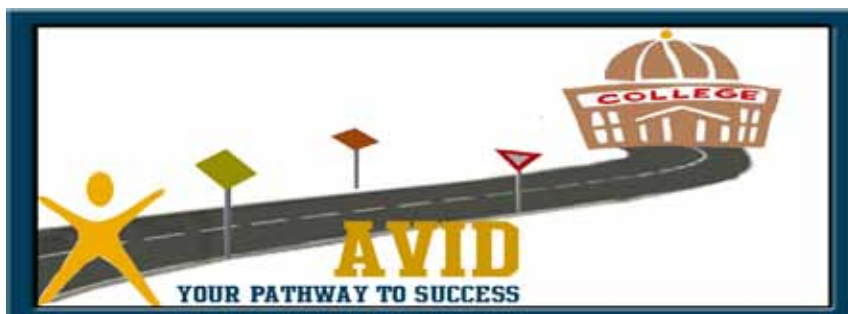
Character Development

Communication and Writing

Reading

Inquiry and Collaboration

College Readiness



## NEXT ISSUE:

Counselor's Corner from Ms. Sly

Field Trip Schedule for Fall 2013

Time Management and Organizational Techniques at School and at Home