

DISTRICT 

AVID

(Advancement Via Individual Determination)

FIFTH GRADE APPLICATION PACKET

Packet Includes:

- AVID Information
- Student Application
 - Essay Prompt
- Teacher Recommendation Form
 - Main Office Form
- Sample Interview Questions

Turn in to your Elementary School Main Office:

- AVID Student Application
- Essay
- Teacher Recommendation Form
- Main Office Form

DUE DATE: April 20, 2010

Is AVID For You?

What is AVID?

AVID stands for *Advancement Via Individual Determination* and is a regularly scheduled *elective* class that prepares students in the middle, with academic potential, for success in advanced high school classes and in college.

What are AVID Student Expectations?

- Maintain at least a "C" average.
- Show great citizenship and attendance.
- Maintain an organized binder.
- Take notes every day, in every class, every year.
- Participate in weekly tutorials.
- Write, Question, Collaborate, Read.
- Take Honors and AP classes.
- Take PSAT, SAT, ACT tests.
- Remain in program.
- Be a well-rounded student.
- Apply to several four-year colleges.

What are AVID Parent Expectations?

AVID parents are expected to encourage their students to achieve academically, to maintain regular contact with the building AVID team member, and to become involved in the activities of the AVID program.

What happens in the AVID Program?

The AVID Elective Program is three-pronged:

1. Students receive academic instruction in writing, note taking, studying, test taking, and organizing.
2. Students receive academic support from college tutors through collaborative tutorial groups, and peer counseling.
3. Students are motivated to pursue academic excellence through goal setting, rigorous classes, cultural and college field trips, classroom guest speakers, and AVID team building.

What are AVID Results?

Over 95% of students who have graduated from AVID programs have enrolled in four-year colleges and universities. Two years later, 89% are still enrolled.

Community Unit School District 300
AVID Student Application

Student Name:	Student ID#:
Base School:	Grade:
Phone Number:	Email:
Address:	City:
	Zip Code:
Parent/Guardian Name:	Work Number:

Please respond to the following:

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| 1. Please check the number of school days you have missed or been tardy in the last four months. | 0-2 (Excellent) |
| | 2-4 (OK) |
| | 5 or more (Needs Improvement) |
| 2. Please check the number of detentions/referrals for behavior you have received in the last year. | 0 (Excellent) |
| | 1-2 (OK) |
| | 3 or more (Needs Improvement) |
| 3. List some extracurricular activities you have been involved in. (Include school, sports, community service, work, etc.) | |

4. What I like most about school is (what) and (why).

5. What I like least about school is (what) and (why).

6. Please obtain **1 recommendation (current or former teacher)** using the attached form.

7. Please **write an essay (minimum one page)** that answers the following prompt.

Life is full of obstacles and problems. Some people run from these conflicts, while others face them head on. Write an essay about an obstacle you have overcome in your life.

It can be a recent event or something that happened a long time ago. Describe the event, specific steps you took to overcome the obstacle, your thoughts, feelings, and the outcome. Please type this essay (if possible) double-spaced; write name.

We understand the information page regarding AVID and that this program is available on a **limited** basis. We also understand that there is a transcript screening process and an interview. Please note that a complete application **does not** guarantee a placement in the AVID elective.

Student Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

1

Community Unit School District 300
AVID Main Office Recommendation Form

*Turn this in to your administrator/secretary.
(Before giving to main office, fill in top portion.)*

Please Print

Date: _____ School: _____

Potential AVID Student Name: _____ Student ID: _____

What AVID is... <ul style="list-style-type: none">• For students with <i>college potential</i>• For students with <i>middle to high test scores</i>• For students who are <i>already motivated</i> to succeed	What AVID is NOT... <ul style="list-style-type: none">• An <i>at-risk</i> program for unmotivated students• A quick fix for student problems• A study hall class• Easy
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Please take a few minutes to answer the following questions.

1. How many absences has the student had this school year?
Reasons: Illness Truant Appointments Other
2. How many **tardies** has the student had this school year?
3. How many **detentions/referrals for behavior** has the student had this school year?
Reasons: defiance fighting language other
4. Are there **special circumstances** that might hinder the student from being successful academically or socially?
5. Please include copy of transcript and appropriate assessment scores (Ex. ISAT, EXPLORE).

The Main Office should NOT return this form to the student. It should be sent to DMS along with the other collected materials.

Community Unit School District 300 AVID Teacher Recommendation Form

Turn in one recommendation from an academic teacher. (First, fill in teacher name and your name.)

Please Print

Date: _____ **Teacher Name:** _____ **School:** _____
Potential AVID Student Name: _____ **Student #:** _____

<p>What AVID is...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For students with <i>college potential</i> • For students with <i>middle to high test</i> scores • For students who are <i>already motivated</i> to succeed 	<p>What AVID is NOT...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An <i>at-risk</i> program for unmotivated students • A quick fix for student problems • A study hall class • Easy
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Please take a few minutes to answer the following questions by checking the appropriate column.

	YES	SOMETIMES	NO
1. Does this student have average to above-average skills in general?			
2. Does this student appear to need assistance with reading strategies to improve comprehension?			
3. Do you believe this student is working up to his/her potential?			
4. Does this student display good classroom work habits?			
5. Does this student practice good citizenship?			
6. Does this student have an acceptable attendance record?			
7. Does this student seem to have college potential if given tutorial support?			
8. The quality of home and class work is very good.			
9. Do you feel this student would be successful in honors and AP courses given appropriate support?			

I recommend this student for placement in the D300 AVID Program. Briefly explain why.

I do not recommend this student for AVID. Briefly explain why.

Please comment on the student's level of motivation and any special circumstances of which the selection committee should be aware (i.e. low income, first to attend college, single-parent, etc.)

Teachers: Please fill this out (use back if necessary) and submit to Main Office to join students' other application materials.

Community Unit School District 300

SAMPLE AVID INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

These are for you to prepare for the interview only. Do not include with application.

What is AVID?

Advancement Via Individual Determination

- ~ You have to want to achieve, not your parents, teachers, friends-YOU
- ~ Class setup
 - Notes every day, in every class, for every year in high school
 - Lectures on organization, study, and communication skills
 - In-depth preparation for college (exams, guest speakers, life...)
 - Weekly tutorial sessions led by college students
- ~ Emphasis on Writing, Questioning, Reading, and Group Collaboration
- ~ Binder checks and progress reports

Please write answers to the following questions.

1. What have you done *in and/or outside* of school that has made you most proud? (Include awards, recognition, community service, etc.)
2. What is your *strongest* subject in school?
3. What is your weakest subject in school? How do you try to improve in this area?
4. When, where, and about how much time do you spend studying at home per night? TV/computer/video games? What do you do in your spare time?
5. Give an example of something you really struggled with over the past year.
6. Give an example of a time you showed great **commitment**.
7. AVID takes consistent work and routine organization. Rate yourself from 1-5 (5 being great) and please explain your answers.
_____ How organized are your binders/materials? _____
_____ How motivated are you to achieve your goals? _____
_____ How well do you stick with tasks you have started? _____
_____ How motivated would your parents say you are? _____
_____ How willing are you to attend summer school? _____
8. How would others describe you?
9. In AVID, you are expected to work very hard. Are you willing to study at least two hours nightly?
10. When things don't go your way, how do you handle it? (i.e., blame others or make excuses). Give examples.
11. When you feel a teacher is treating you unfairly, how do you handle it?
12. Why do you want to go to a 4-year college immediately following high school? Why do your parents want you to go to college? What do you and your parents discuss about college?
13. List the people who live in your house.
14. Of the people who live in your house, who has graduated from a 4-year university in the United States?
15. What do you want to be when you are an adult?
16. Are there any situations in your life that make it difficult to study or do well with school work? Explain.
17. Are you willing to take the AVID elective even if it is in place of your exploratory or elective class?
18. Why would AVID be helpful to you?
19. What skills or characteristics will you bring to the AVID class to make it successful? (The AVID elective is not a program that just "gives to students." It is only as successful as the AVID students make it.)