RUSD
Innovation in Education

AVID
Decades of College Dreams

Elementary

Riverside Unified School District
Academic English Learners and Student Support
3380 14th Street, Riverside, California 92401
(951) 788-7135, Extension 56043

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

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Academic English Learners and Student Support
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AVID Elementary RUSD Sites

Fremont Elementary
Shani Dahl, principal
1925 Orange St., Riverside CA
http://www.rusdlink.org/Domain/15

Hawthorne Elementary
Ellen Parker, principal
2700 Irving St., Riverside CA
http://www.rusdlink.org/Domain/17

Highland Elementary
Donna Dorsey, principal
700 Highland Ave, Riverside
http://www.rusdlink.org/Domain/19

Jackson Elementary
Lynne Ennis, principal
4585 Jackson St., Riverside CA
http://www.rusdlink.org/Domain/21

Jefferson Elementary
Maria Ortega, principal
4285 Jefferson St., Riverside CA
http://www.rusdlink.org/Domain/22

Liberty Elementary
Esther Garcia, principal
9631 Hayes St., Riverside CA
http://www.rusdlink.org/Domain/25

Longfellow Elementary
Geri Castro, principal
3610 Eucalyptus, Riverside CA
http://www.rusdlink.org/Domain/26

Mountain View Elementary
Paula Allbeck, principal
6180 Streeter Ave., Riverside CA
http://www.rusdlink.org/Domain/31

Patricia Beatty Elementary
Jacqueline Hall, principal
3161 Latham St., Riverside CA
http://www.rusdlink.org/Domain/10

Pachappa Elementary
Vivian Lee, principal
6200 Riverside Ave., Riverside CA
http://www.rusdlink.org/Domain/32

Taft Elementary
Rebecca Brown, principal
959 Mission Grove, Riverside CA
http://www.rusdlink.org/Domain/34

Washington Elementary
Kiersten Reno-Frausto
2760 Jane Street, Riverside CA
http://www.rusdlink.org/Domain/36

AVID Elementary School-Wide System Overview

AVID Elementary is a foundational component of the AVID College Readiness System and supports AVID's mission *to close the achievement gap by preparing all students for college readiness and success in a global society*, from elementary through post secondary.

Using the same learning foundation as AVID Secondary, AVID Elementary routines and methodologies are embedded into daily instruction in all elementary classrooms, across entire grade levels, for every AVID Elementary student. Like AVID Secondary, AVID Elementary Domains focus on four important areas to ensure that all students are prepared for academic success: Instruction, Culture, Leadership, and Systems.

AVID Elementary resources, trainings, and philosophy all support the idea that the growth mindset can be taught to students, and that with a growth mindset, AVID students can succeed in following their dreams and fulfilling their goals.

AVID Elementary Roles

AVID Elementary District Director: The AVID Elementary District Director attends AVID Summer Institute with AVID Elementary participants and completes a two-year training cycle in Leadership Training; oversees, coaches, provides professional development, and guides implementing school sites according to the AVID Elementary Domains; and monitors and approves data and site certification from elementary sites to submit to AVID Center.

AVID Elementary Principal: The AVID Elementary Principal attends AVID Summer Institute with the site team and is the instructional leader for AVID Elementary curriculum implementation, leading the Site Team throughout the certification process, and submitting data and certification document to the AVID Elementary District Director. The Principal may also attend AVID Elementary Leadership Training with the AVID Elementary District Director.

AVID Elementary Teacher: The AVID Elementary Teacher is required to attend the appropriate elementary strand (Foundations, or Bridges) at AVID Summer Institute and is an active member of the AVID Elementary Site Team. The teacher is responsible for implementing AVID Elementary strategies and methodologies and for creating the AVID college and career environment in the classroom.

AVID Elementary Goals*

AVID Elementary methodologies and strategies ensure that all students will:

- Experience the lesson framework of Writing to Learn, Inquiry, Collaboration, Organization, and Reading to Learn skills (WICOR) in Foundations and Bridges classrooms and Learning to Write, Learning to Inquire, Learning to Collaborate, Learning to Organize, and Learning to Read (L-WICOR) in Beginnings classrooms.
- Utilize organizational skills both inside and outside the classroom
- Develop Student Success Skills for lifelong learning
- Successfully make the transition to middle school and courses of high school

AVID Elementary sites work collaboratively to:

- Cultivate intrinsic motivation by creating a vision of academic success
- Promote a belief that academic rigor is expected, possible, and attainable
- Generate stronger students and teachers through the development of a consistent way to think and process information
- Establish equal access to AVID Elementary methodologies for all students
- Strengthen the bridge between elementary and middle school
- Improve accurate identification of future AVID Elective students

AVID Elementary classrooms encourage:

- Organizational tool accountability and responsibility
- Use of agenda/planner to foster a “plan-ahead” mentality
- SMART goal-setting skills
- Time-management skills
- Note-taking strategies (STAR)
- Inquiry method
- Collaborative learning
- Effective reading strategies for comprehension
- Building community with open communication

**Foundations Implementation Resource 2013*

AVID Elementary and Common Core

AVID has aligned with state educational standards and is seen as an important strategy for closing the achievement gap and opening up the possibility of college attendance and success for all students. California Common Core State Standards (CCSS) focus on helping students refine their Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening, and Language skills across the curriculum while at the same time increasing in rigor and complexity as they move from one grade level to the next. AVID Elementary has this same focus on Writing, Inquiry, Collaboration, Organization, and Reading (WICOR).

AVID Elementary curriculum provides support with professional development and resources such as texts and manuals, written to provide effective strategies and present lessons that help students as they navigate their way through reading, writing, speaking, and critical thinking activities across the content areas. The Common Core Standards clearly delineate all that students must be able to achieve, and the AVID Elementary curriculum materials provide the support necessary for student success.

The AVID Elementary system is inquiry-based, and supports the tenets that are woven throughout the Common Core Standards; AVID Elementary methodologies promote critical thinking as students solve problems and rise to educational challenges, and the Common Core Standards help educators recognize which goals and achievements students should master.

Common Core Standards map out a “common” set of educational goals and objectives for all students across the nation, just as the AVID Elementary system is consistent in K-12 across the nation. Common Core Standards lay down a path for students to follow; AVID supports students as they follow that path to educational success.

AVID ELEMENTARY CROSSWALK TOOL

AVID Elementary, the Common Core State Standards, and the Framework for 21st Century Learning from the Partnership for 21st Century Skills initiatives are each focused on fostering inquiry and thoughtful collaboration. The goal of the Crosswalk Tool is to highlight the areas of alignment between these three important initiatives and to serve as a resource for planning activities, lessons, assessments, and curriculum units that build on that alignment. (*www.avid.org*)

AVID Elementary Stages

AVID Elementary (AE) in Riverside Unified School District spans K—6 in three stages: Beginnings, Foundations, and Bridges. Each stage is designed to meet the needs of students within specific ranges of development.

AVID Elementary Beginnings addresses the early years of education, when students are emerging as learners: learning to read, learning to write, and learning to learn. AE Beginnings classrooms are designed to promote L-WICOR (Writing, Inquiry, Collaboration, Organization, and Reading) throughout the academic day.

AVID Elementary Foundations addresses the foundational years of education, when students are becoming independent learners: reading to learn, writing to learn, and learning to reflect on their own learning. AE Foundations classrooms are designed to promote WICOR throughout the academic day.

AVID Elementary Bridges addresses the transitional years of education, when students are becoming independent thinkers: thinking about thinking and learning about their own learning. AE Bridges classrooms are designed to promote WICOR throughout the academic day. *(www.avid.org)*

AVID Elementary Components

Each stage of AVID Elementary includes components of:

Student Success Skills – encompassing communication skills (e.g. listening, speaking, writing), self-advocacy skills, and study skills.

Organizational Skills – both mental and physical; students are given organizational tools, as well as time management, goal-setting, and note-taking strategies.

WICOR Lessons and L-WICOR Lessons – emphasize instruction on writing to learn, inquiry, collaboration, organization and reading to learn in all content areas.

Partnerships – among students, classrooms, grade levels, schools, feeder patterns, families and communities.

AVID Elementary Domains

As a foundational component of the AVID College Readiness System, AVID Elementary focuses on specific AVID Essentials to ensure quality and consistency.

Domain One: Instruction

WICOR strategies set the framework for AVID instruction, with L-WICOR (Learning to WICOR) laying the foundation of instruction in AVID Elementary classrooms.

Domain Two: Culture

AVID Elementary sites incorporate a culture of rigorous, relevant, differentiated opportunities for all students in an environment that promotes college readiness.

Domain Three: Leadership

AVID Elementary leadership supports, guides, and facilitates AVID Elementary implementation for all students.

Domain Four: Systems

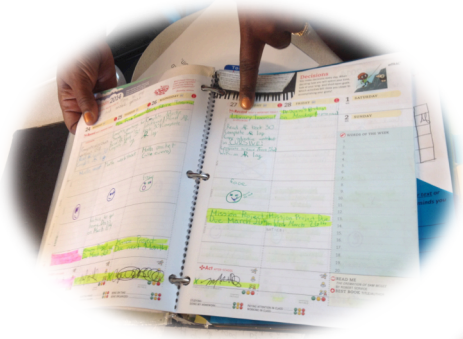
AVID Elementary sites align their systems through the use of the Four Pillars of Excellence (accountability, articulation, assessment, and calibration) to ensure the fidelity of AVID Elementary implementation across all grades. *(www.avid.org)*

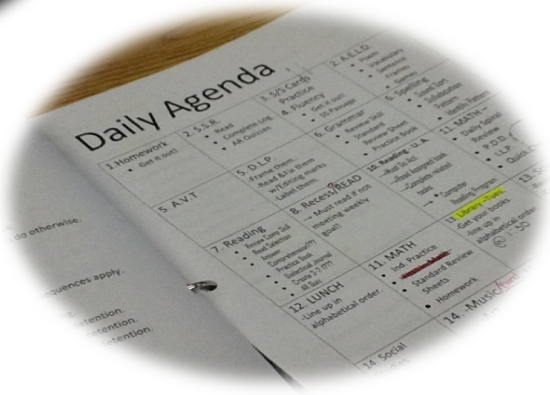
AVID Elementary and *Growth Mindset*

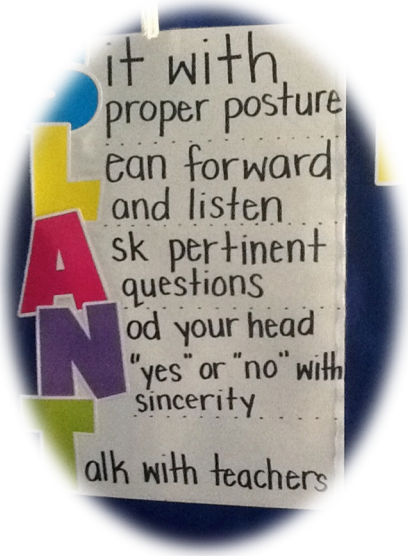
Resources, trainings, and philosophy of AVID Elementary reflect the research of Dr. Carol Dweck, one of the world's leading researchers in the field of motivation, student achievement, and influence. Dr. Dweck is a professor of psychology at Stanford University and states that growth mindset can be taught to students and that it is through the growth mindset that AVID students succeed in following their dreams and fulfilling their college and career aspirations.

"In the growth mindset, people believe that their talents and abilities can be developed through passion, education, and persistence. For them, it's not about looking smart or grooming their image. It's about a commitment to learning—taking informed risks and learning from the results, surrounding yourself with people who will challenge you to grow, looking frankly at your deficiencies and seeking to remedy them." Dr. Carol Dweck

Inside AVID Elementary Classrooms



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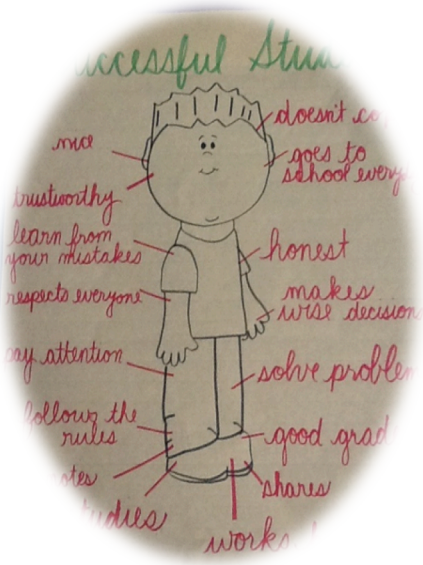
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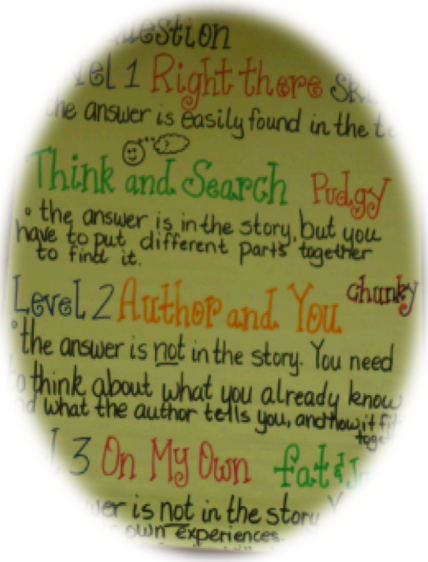
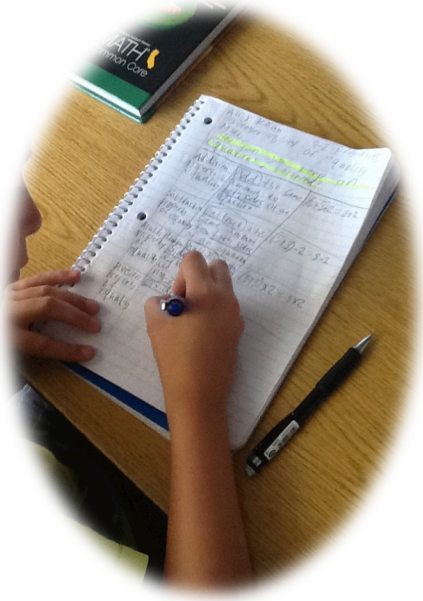

Level 1 Right there
Think and Search
Level 2 Author and You
Level 3 On My Own



AVID

AVID Elementary Implementation and Certification

The AVID District Director of AVID Elementary provides ongoing system information to all interested parties. Once a site administrator and faculty make the commitment to implement AVID Elementary, the District Director of AVID Elementary is contacted; RIMS (Riverside, Inyo, Mono, San Bernardino) AVID is then notified and an annual contract is prepared. The contract is processed through RUSD Business Services and forwarded to the department of Academic English Learners and Student Support for further follow-up.

AVID Elementary Annual membership includes: *

~AVID Elementary Weekly privileges (an online resource of informational text and images with accompanying lessons)
~AVID Elementary Implementation Library and resources for the first year
~Access to professional learning opportunities
~Technology-based support (MyAVID)

*In addition to the above, the AVID District Director of AVID Elementary collaborates with sites to provide ongoing professional development and classroom walkthroughs with feedback.

The next step in site implementation is administrator and faculty attendance at AVID Professional Learning sessions. AVID Institute provides foundational training, as well as materials. Implementing sites attend strands according to the implementation stage of AVID Elementary (*Beginnings, Foundations*, or *Bridges*). Attendance is required the first year of implementation, with a minimum team of four members per implementing site, which may include Special Education teachers, and instructional coaches and specialists. After the first year, AVID recommends four-person teams attend with each new implementation stage.

In the first years of AVID Elementary implementation, entire grade levels focus on the foundational pieces of communication skills (writing, listening, speaking) and self-advocacy skills, while incorporating strategies for organizing thoughts as they relate to learning styles and study skills through the metacognitive lens of L-WICOR (Learning to Write, Learning to Inquire, Learning to Collaborate, Learning to Organize, Learning to Read) and/or WICOR (Writing to Learn, Inquiry, Collaboration, Organization, Reading to Learn).

The key elements that strengthen student skills for critical thinking and questioning in rigorous coursework also prepare students for success in life. In order for students to work independently, they must first have the necessary skills of physical and mental organization in place. With this goal in mind, sites are uniquely tailored to the needs of their learning community. AVID Center recognizes this and, therefore, provides a two-year process to begin implementation in order to be eligible for certification at the conclusion of the second academic year.

Certification is a continual cycle of improvement, as certified sites maintain the Student Success Skills, while strengthening Partnerships and promoting lesson planning with an emphasis on L-WICOR/WICOR lessons. *(www.avid.org)*

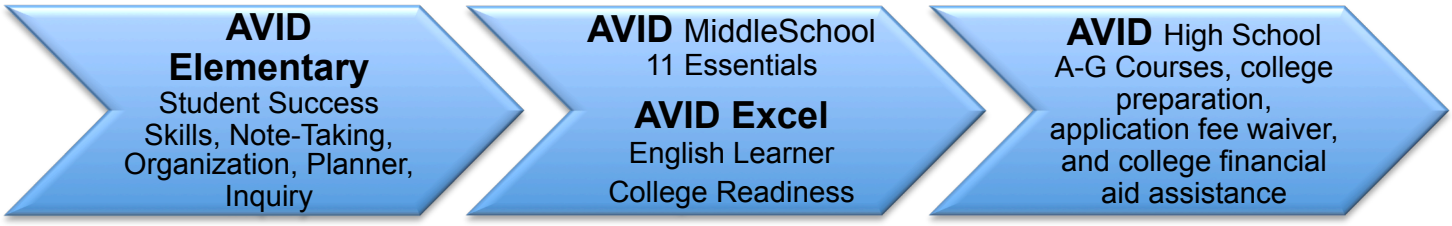
AVID Elementary Transition to Secondary

AVID (Advancement via Individual Determination) is an elementary through post-secondary college preparedness system designed to increase school-wide learning and performance. Though there are components of AVID strategies and routines school-wide in RUSD secondary, AVID is an elective course; therefore, students wishing to continue with AVID from elementary must apply when they register for middle school. Secondary counselors visit elementary sites in the spring to provide information on enrolling in middle school courses.

Students transitioning from AVID Elementary to secondary education are already familiar with using an organizational tool, personal student planner, they have been taking focused notes throughout all content areas, and using levels of inquiry. AVID Elementary students come from a college preparedness culture and enter secondary ready to collaborate and continue their path toward post secondary success.

The benefits of AVID in secondary are:

- Ongoing Mentoring—The AVID teacher serves as a college advisor tracking the progress of each student towards college.
- The AVID Counselor—All AVID students are monitored and supported by an AVID counselor.
- Academic Support—College tutors work with AVID students, helping them to become independent learners.
- "College Going" Environment—The atmosphere in the class is motivating and students encourage each other to strive for their goals.
- College Visits—All students are exposed directly to the colleges via campus visits, including the high school multiple day college trips.
- College and Financial Aid Process—Starting the Junior Year, but primarily during senior year, students are given direct support in applying for scholarships and completing the financial aid process. Also, the students are monitored and supported in the college application process. Application fees are waived for RUSD AVID students.
- Guest Speakers—Students are exposed to various careers and the college life through the participation of guest speakers from various colleges and professional fields.
- Reading and Writing—Writing, Inquiry, Collaboration, Organization, and Reading (WICOR) are an integral part of the AVID class in order to enhance the student's skills.
- Test Prep—Students are given fee waivers and direct support with critical exams; SAT, ACT, College Placement Test



AVID Elementary Partnerships and Parent Involvement

The AVID Elementary System supports keeping communication lines open and clear, essential for creating an environment for collaboration between home and school. Workshop support materials are designed and provided to build strong partnerships between teachers, families, and community members.

Workshop 1	**The AVID College Readiness System**	• AVID College Readiness System Overview • AVID Elementary Overview
Workshop 2	**The Hidden Curriculum**	• Study Skills • Learning Styles
Workshop 3	**The Foundation of Success**	• Mental and Physical Organization • Agenda/Planner • Organizational Tool
Workshop 4	**STAR Students: Note-Taking Strategies for Success**	• 2-Column Notes • 3-Column Notes • Cornell Notes
Workshop 5	**Keys to Success**	• Time Management • Goal-Setting
Workshop 6	**Transitions**	• Preparation and Planning • The AVID Elective
Workshop 7	**Celebrating Our Success**	• Open House • Celebration Ideas

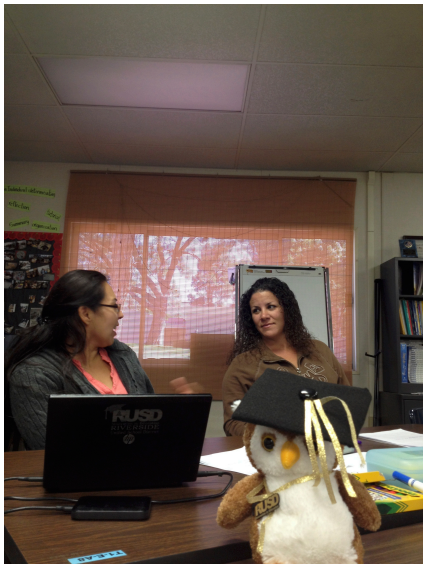
(www.avid.org)

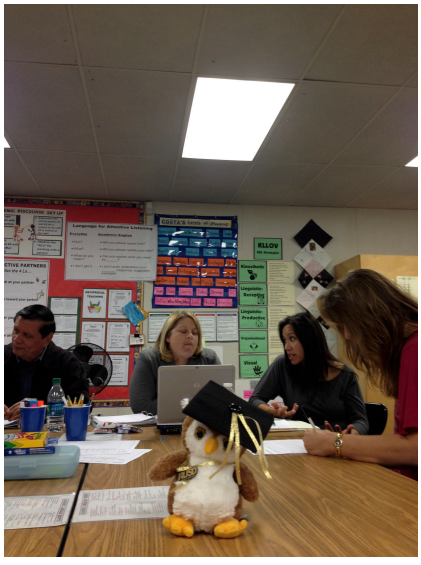
AVID Elementary Professional Development

In cooperation with AVID Center, the District Director of AVID Elementary in RUSD conducts frequent classroom walkthroughs and uses the information to inform professional development to be offered in the district. Teachers new to AVID Elementary attend a New Teacher AVID Foundations Implementation session early in the academic year. Thereafter, professional development offered by the district is arranged by grade level and AVID Elementary site staff/department focus sessions in collaboration with the site administrator.

Professional Development opportunities from AVID Center include:

- AVID Summer Institute
  - Strands aligned to stage of implementation
- District Director of AVID Elementary Leadership Training
  - Two year course revolving around AVID Elementary Essential, quality indicators, research specific to AVID Elementary implementation
- RIMS Write Path Trainings
  - Trainings aligned to stage of implementation
- E-Learning:
  - Online Interactions/AVID Community
  - MyAVID Share Folders and Forums
  - Online Webinars and Live Chats
  - AVID Elementary Weekly
  - Institute Launches and Boosts for new and experienced participants
- National Conference
  - Best practices for rigorous curriculum





AVID Elementary Awards and Recognitions

On October 15, 2014 at the 12th Annual RCOE Educational Summit in Palm Springs, California, Riverside County Office of Education awarded a *Models of Excellence* to RUSD AVID Elementary.

RIVERSIDE COUNTY
OFFICE OF EDUCATION
Kenneth M. Young
Riverside County Superintendent of Schools

Because of the exemplary work and commitment to preparing all students for college and career utilizing school-wide system strategies and methodologies, RUSD AVID Elementary was invited to AVID Center in San Diego to present to directors and administrators from across the United States. A Riverside Unified School District elementary administrator, students, parents, and teachers spent the morning sharing successes and experiences with AVID Elementary.

AVID Elementary Research Base

"AE incorporates the "best teaching practices" and research findings of Marzano, Gaddy, and Dean, which have become critical to the entire AVID College Readiness System. This research identified nine instructional strategies with the highest probability of enhancing student achievement for all students, in all subjects, at all grade levels:

• Identifying similarities and differences	• Summarizing and note-taking
• Reinforcing effort and providing recognition	• Homework and practice
• Nonlinguistic representations	• Cooperative learning
• Setting goals and providing feedback	• Generating and testing
• Activating prior knowledge	

AE's Certification process is based around the work of Albert Bandura's social cognitive theory, which focuses on the power of individuals to influence and educate one another through imitation and reciprocal determinism. Through this lens, the academic environment, the educator's perspective, and the student's perspective merge together within grade levels, and ultimately, across the entire school."

(www.avid.org)

AVID Elementary Frequently Asked Questions

1. Who do I contact if I am interested in implementing AVID Elementary for my site?

If you are an elementary site in RUSD, your first contact will be the AVID District Director of AVID Elementary, Marie Coover (mcoover@rusd.k12.ca.us). If you are not a Riverside Unified School District site, but you are in RIMS (Riverside/Inyo/Mono/San Bernardino county), contact Miceal Kelly, Program Manager of RIMS AVID (miceal_kelly@sbcss.12.ca.us). If you are outside of RIMS, contact www.avid.org.

2. Are AVID Elementary students automatically enrolled in middle school AVID when transitioning to secondary?

AVID Elementary is school-wide; however, middle and high school AVID is an elective course. Students transitioning to middle school are not automatically enrolled in the AVID elective; they must apply as they do for any other course. All middle schools and high schools in RUSD are AVID sites and therefore, AVID strategies and methodologies are utilized school-wide.

AVID Elementary Additional Resources and Information

www.avid.org
Home site for K-16 AVID Center

http://www.avid.org/dl/starting/ae_whatisae.pdf
Article: *"What is AVID Elementary?"*

www.avidelementaryweekly.org
Online resource of WICOR lessons using informational text and images. New articles/images are published monthly; available free to AVID Elementary sites.

http://www.dodea.edu/Curriculum/AVID/
Article from United States Department of Defense

http://www.avid.org/dl/abo_access/access_15-3.pdf
AVID Education Journal

www.rimsavid.org
RIMS (Riverside/Inyo/Mono/San Bernardino) County AVID Region 10 support