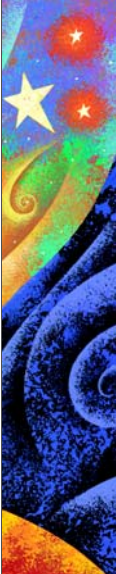



Welcome to Salem Middle School. My name is Alex Bergren, and I am the administrator overseeing the AVID program, which is going on its 5<sup>th</sup> year at Salem. In 2009-2010, Salem High School will continue into its third year of the AVID program, which gives Salem Middle School students the opportunity to continue in the program on their quest for college.



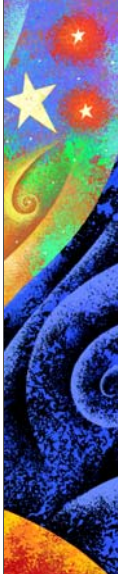
## The Mission of AVID

AVID is designed to increase schoolwide learning and performance. The mission of AVID is to ensure that all students, and most especially students in the middle with academic potential capable of completing a college preparatory path:

- will succeed in rigorous curriculum,
- will enter mainstream activities of the school,
- will increase their enrollment in four-year colleges, and
- will become educated and responsible participants and leaders in a democratic society.




AVID is an international program established in California in 1981. The program now flourishes in over 4000 schools worldwide, and aims its focus on students “in the middle,” who have the potential to succeed in a college preparatory curriculum with the right support.

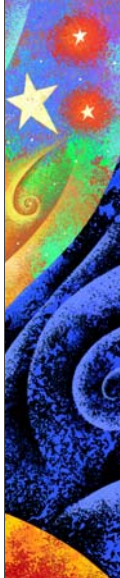


### Commonly Held Misconceptions about AVID

• <b>AT RISK Program</b>	<b>NO!</b>
• <b>Affirmative Action Program</b>	<b>NO!</b>
• <b>School Within A School</b>	<b>NO!</b>
• <b>For All Students</b>	<b>NO!</b>
• <b>A “Silver Bullet”</b>	<b>NO!</b>
• <b>A Quick Fix</b>	<b>NO!</b>
• <b>Free</b>	<b>NO!</b>
• <b>A Categorical Program</b>	<b>NO!</b>
• <b>Only Affects A Few Students</b>	<b>NO!</b>




Let me begin by telling you what AVID is not. It is not an at-risk program intended to save or intervene for failing or unmotivated students. It is not an academy program open to students throughout the city. AVID students are interspersed throughout the school at large. It is not for students already receiving other services, for instance through gifted programs or special education. It is not a cure-all or an instant solution. It requires work and time. It is not free. Significant funds are dedicated by the school system to material and training resources to ensure students are provided powerful opportunities. And it is open to broad and diverse groups of students who share a desire to achieve and a willingness to work.



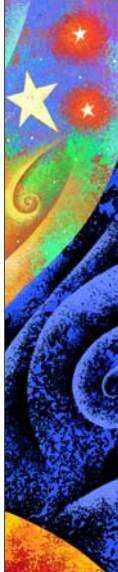
## What is AVID?

**AVID** is an academic, regularly scheduled elective class based on writing as a tool of learning, inquiry method, and collaborative grouping. The three main components of the program are:

- academic instruction,
- tutorial support,
- and motivational activities.



The key element of the program is the AVID elective class, which forms the foundation of support for students in the program. It is there that students learn organizational and study skills, develop higher level and critical thinking skills, receive tutoring, engage in motivational activities, and where students are monitored in their progress daily.




## The AVID Student Profile

**Students with Academic Potential**

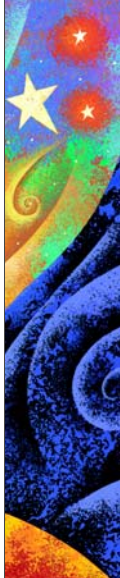
- Average to High Test Scores
- 2.0-3.5 GPA
- College Potential with Support
- Desire and Determination

**Meets One or More of the Following Criteria**

- First to Attend College
- Historically Underserved in 4-year Colleges
- Low Income
- Readiness for increased academic challenge
- Special Circumstances



The AVID student is a student in the middle, typically in core classes, doing well, but capable of higher achievement and rising to a greater challenge.




## College Preparatory Lessons from AVID

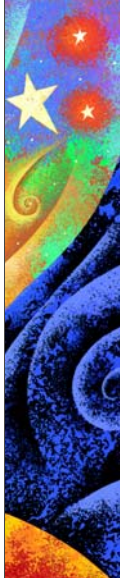
Teachers benefit from...

- Involvement in a systemic and curricular approach
- Initial in-depth staff development and ongoing support in regions and districts
- Focus on results
- Years of work with a team of students
- Accountability
- Site team work
- Increased leadership

From Advanced Placement panel, Feb. 11, 2000



Teachers, counselors, and administrators all undergo extensive training in working with AVID students and implementing AVID strategies.




## College Preparatory Lessons from AVID

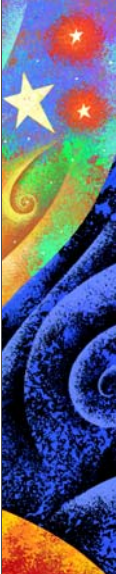
Students benefit academically from...

- Systemic and curricular support
- A District or Regional focus on college prep, grades 6-12
- A support class focused on rigor, using writing, inquiry, collaboration and academic reading (WICR)
- Structured tutorials
- A redefined academic peer group
- Emphasis on study skills, organization, goal setting, time management - connected to academics
- Explicit teaching of the “Hidden Curriculum”
- Increased time to study material more deeply
- Accountability

From Advanced Placement panel, Feb. 11, 2000




Students receive a broad array of research-based support designed to emphasize the path to not only middle and high school achievement, but also ultimately to college success.

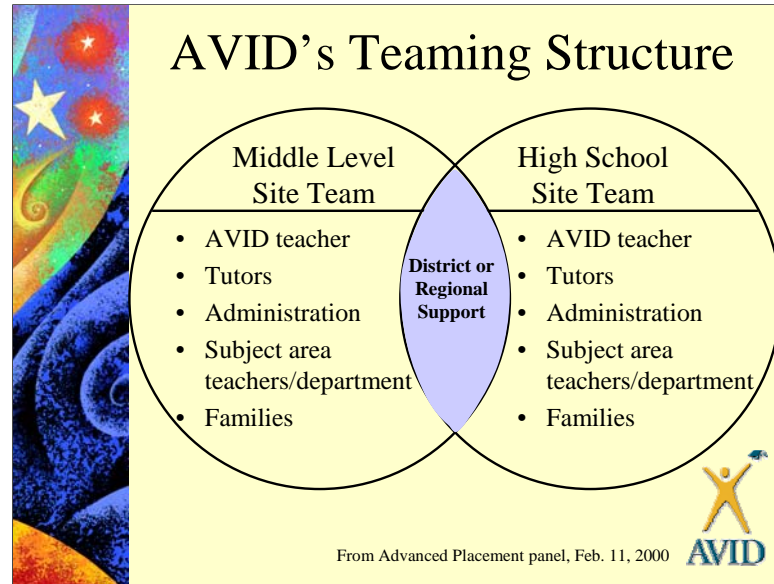


*How does the AVID program contribute to the success of the students*

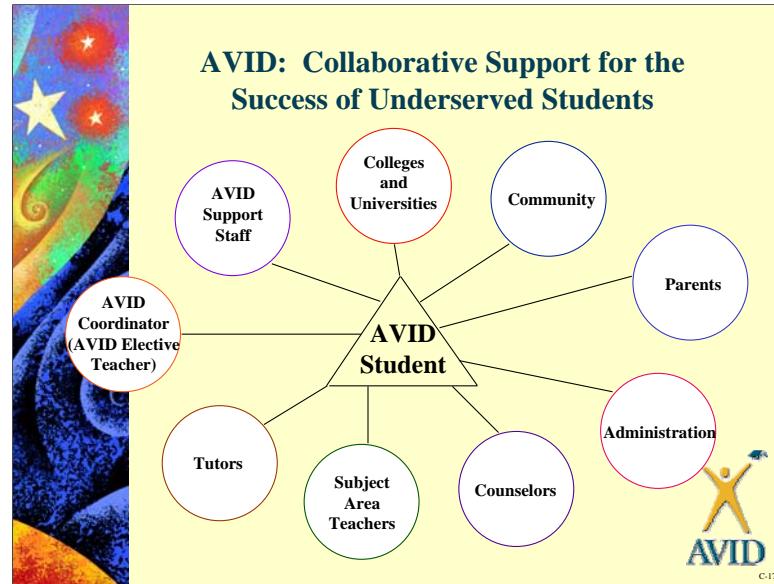
- Teaches study and organizational skills
- Uses English as a writing tool for learning
- Strengthens their writing skills
- Gives tutorial help through college tutors
- Teaches students to work collaboratively to be successful in the most rigorous courses
- Takes students to visit colleges and universities
- Assists students with the application process for four year colleges and universities
- Helps students explore careers through guest speakers



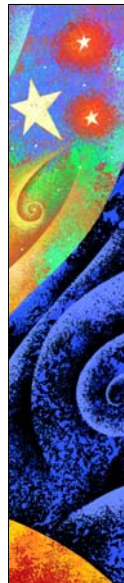
Over the course of grades 6-12, AVID provides the following support and more. We also find that students in the program identify AVID as a source of pride, and benefit from a sense of belonging with a diverse, but like-minded peer group, which eases transitions, and builds social maturity.



The program is designed for students to remain in it from year to year, maintaining support through high school and bridging critical transitions.




The emphasis of the program is a team effort dedicated to the singular purpose of supporting the student as they face the challenges ahead.

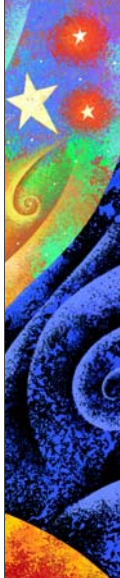


## AVID Graduates

- ♦ 95% are enrolled in a college or university
- ♦ 71.1% are attending a four-year university
- ♦ 23.7% are attending a two-year college
- ♦ 90% of AVID students graduate with completed college entrance requirements vs. 34% of all students nationally.




Above are some national statistics for AVID graduates. In 2006, the entire first graduating class of AVID students in Virginia Beach, who graduated after 4 years of AVID from Landstown High School, attended college, accounting for over \$150,000 of scholarship money.



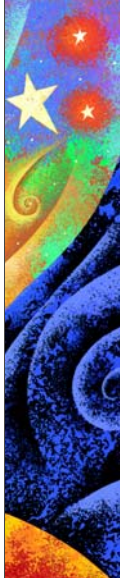
## **Middle School AVID**

Research shows that two years of middle school AVID has a positive impact on students' course-taking patterns and academic performance in high school.

CREATE, Center for Research and Evaluation in Education, 1999, Burlingame, CA




Currently, 120 Salem Middle School students participate in the AVID program. Nearly 70% of those students are on the honor roll, a remarkable achievement in and of itself, especially considering many of them are in advanced classes for the first time.

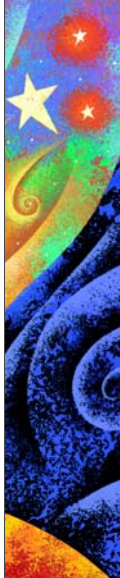


## Middle School AVID

“We found that enrollment in algebra and AVID in middle school was the single most critical predictor of grade point average and college credit accumulation in ninth and tenth grade.”




While AVID is certainly not the only path to college, the program places students on a path to increased competitiveness, and satisfies important pre-requisites for academic success.

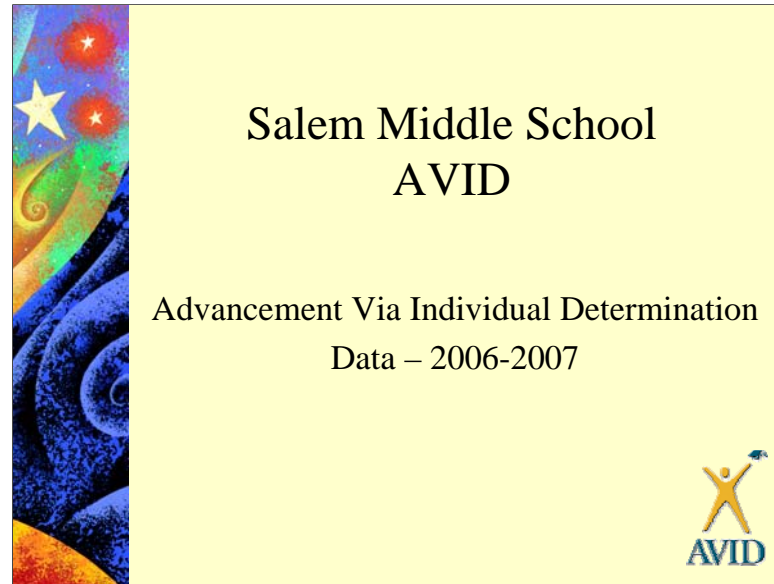


“Ninety percent of AVID graduates said AVID prepared them well for college.”

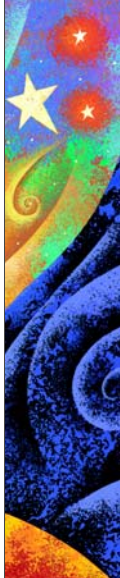
CREATE, Center for Research and Evaluation in Education, 1999, Palo Alto, CA  
(AVID students in California schools)



Beyond high school, AVID students compete for acceptance at the best universities, and do well once they are there.




I would like to share with you some comparative data of AVID student performance at Salem Middle School.

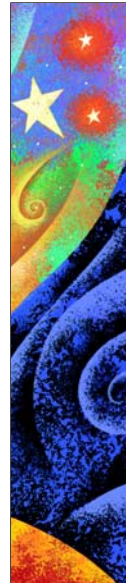


### Comparison of 8<sup>th</sup> Grade AVID Student Performance to 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Core Student Performance

- AVID 8 Reading Pass Rate - 90%
- Core 8 Reading Pass Rate - 78.93%
  
- AVID 8 Writing Pass Rate - 100%
- All 8 Writing Pass Rate - 87.66%



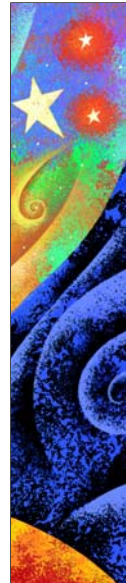
The success of the program is clear, as AVID students, comparing apples to apples, outperform their non-AVID peers both in the classroom and on standardized tests.



### Comparison of 8<sup>th</sup> Grade AVID Student Performance to 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Core Student Performance

- AVID 8 Math Pass Rate - 95%
- Core 8 Math Pass Rate - 84.12%
  
- AVID 8 Civics Pass Rate - 100%
- All 8 Civics Pass Rate - 87.21%
  
- AVID 8 Science Pass Rate - 100%
- Core 8 Science Pass Rate - 95.55%

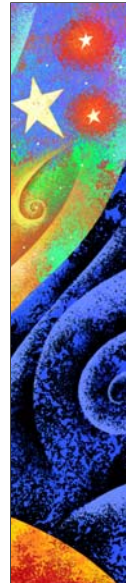




### Comparison of 7<sup>th</sup> Grade AVID Student Performance to 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Core Student Performance

- AVID 7 Reading Pass Rate - 100%
- Core 7 Reading Pass Rate - 91.91%
  
- AVID 7 Math Pass Rate - 100%
- Core 7 Math Pass Rate - 84.12%
  
- AVID 7 History Pass Rate - 100%
- All 7 History Pass Rate - 94.4%

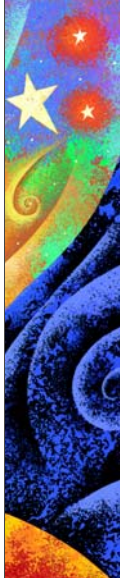





### Comparison of 6<sup>th</sup> Grade AVID Student Performance to 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Core Student Performance

- AVID 6 Reading Pass Rate - 86.96%
- Core 6 Reading Pass Rate - 86.54%
  
- AVID 6 Math Pass Rate - 69.57%
- Core 6 Math Pass Rate - 64.75%
  
- AVID 6 History Pass Rate - 65.22%
- All 6 History Pass Rate - 68.77%






## AVID at Salem

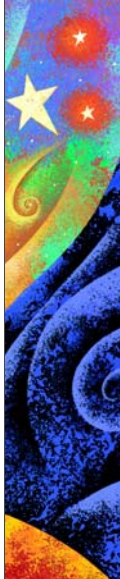


### WHO QUALIFIES?


- Students performing well in core classes, who are not naturally gifted, but who would perform well in advanced classes with the right support.
- Students who have the potential to perform well in rigorous classes, but who lack the study and organizational skills to do so.
- Students performing at an average level for whom academic success is not a priority at home, and who do not receive support outside of school.



Students are accepted into the AVID program through an application process that is designed to find students who have the desire and the capability of achieving academically higher. They are students who are under-challenged, and who for one reason or another are either not living up to their potential, or are ready to see where their potential can take them.




## AVID at Salem

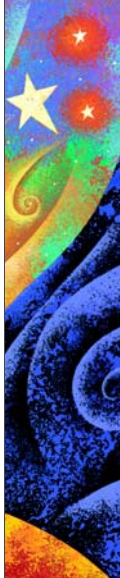


**WHO QUALIFIES?**


- Students performing at an average level who are not aware of the power education will give them, and hence do not prioritize it.
- Students ready to exit special education who have great potential and strong performance, but who could still use extra academic support.
- Students currently taking advanced classes, but struggling with the increased level of work and challenge, who would succeed with greater support.



They are students who want to go to college, but who may have obstacles because they are minorities, are from low income families, are from families where college is not prioritized, are ill-equipped with the skills for success, or are simply ready for a greater challenge where they can flourish with the right support.




**AVID at Salem**


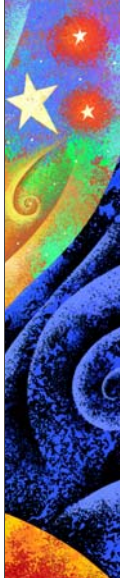


**THE AVID STUDENT**

- Is in the academic middle – Bs, Cs, and even Ds
- Is capable of achieving higher
- Wants to go to college and is willing to work hard
- May have obstacles to attending college
- Has strong attendance and minimal discipline




What all AVID students have in common is a desire to go to college, and a willingness to take charge of their own progress and do what is necessary to make the dream a reality.



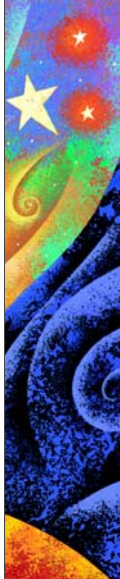
## AVID at Salem

### THE AVID ELECTIVE


- Emphasis on higher order thinking skills
- Development of organizational and study skills
- Collaboration with core teachers
- Daily and weekly monitoring
- The AVID Binder
- Twice weekly college tutors
- Tutorials tailored to students areas of need
- Guest speakers
- Motivational activities
- Home communication



A major key to the program is choice. Students, parents, and teachers choose to participate in a program that places students in a rigorous curriculum of advanced classes where writing, inquiry, collaboration, and reading are emphasized. Students receive support through the AVID elective, where 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. They are guided on their path by the AVID instructor, who makes your student's progress, in all of these ways, her personal mission.




**AVID at Salem**



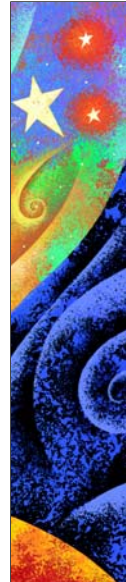
**STUDENTS ENTERING AVID IN 6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE**

- Ideally enroll in Advanced English, Science, and Math
- On track to take Algebra 1 and Earth Science in 8<sup>th</sup> grade (possibly 7<sup>th</sup> grade Algebra 1 leading to Geometry in 8<sup>th</sup> grade)
- AVID Elective replaces non-PE electives



Let me share some logistics with you about what happens once your child is accepted to the program.

We want to ensure that the students are well-prepared for whatever the next level is, while providing students access to the most rigorous curriculum available to them.



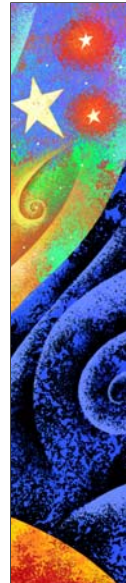
## AVID at Salem



### STUDENTS ENTERING AVID IN 7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

- Ideally enroll in Advanced English, and Math
- May enroll in Advanced Science if completing online Physical Science modules provided by VBCPS
- On track to take Algebra 1 (encouraged to complete summer AlgebraPrep course)
- AVID Elective replaces non-PE electives. Students may take before school PE to make room for electives.





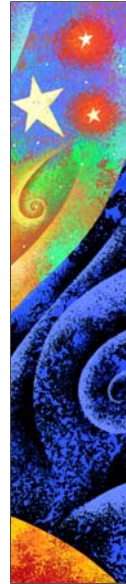
## AVID at Salem



### STUDENTS ENTERING AVID IN 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

- Ideally enroll in Advanced English
- May take Earth Science or Algebra 1 upon completion of pre-requisite summer course or Physical Science modules provided by VBCPS.
- On track to take Algebra 1 and Earth Science in 9<sup>th</sup> grade
- AVID Elective replaces 1 elective. 8<sup>th</sup> grade students are not required to take PE.





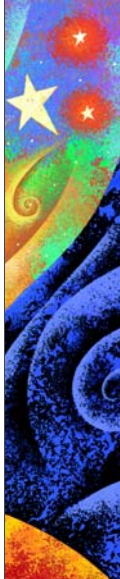
## AVID at Salem




### STUDENTS ENTERING AVID IN 9<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

- Ideally enroll in Advanced English, Algebra 1 and Earth Science, and other courses required for the Advanced Diploma track, including foreign language
- On track to take some AP courses as upperclassmen
- AVID Elective will NOT replace lunch






## AVID at Salem



Students could potentially go to high school with as many as 6 high school credits:

- Algebra 1, Geometry
- Earth Science
- Foreign Language, Levels 1 and 2
- Keyboarding and Keyboarding Applications (business requirement)



The potential for middle school students in AVID is ...

... which paves the way for students to follow a high level academic track through high school, including AP coursework, that will make them that much more attractive to colleges and universities.