

Got AVID?

Scheduling for the 2008-2009 is underway for MHS and will soon begin at both middle school campuses. While there will be many important courses for students to consider, one of the most valuable courses now offered within MISD is AVID. "AVID has made me feel that people do care about my grades and what I do with my life. It makes me feel wanted."-Freshman, Brittany Toner.

AVID stands for Advancement Via Individual Determination. The course was initially created by a classroom teacher to better meet the needs of students with college potential but underperforming in daily class work and college entrance exams. AVID has grown into a nation-wide offering, providing a solid foundation for students in the middle to create a solid pathway to college acceptance and success. The course supports students as they step into advanced coursework and college readiness initiatives. "AVID is recognized nationally and it is a program that helps students learn how to become better learners through teaching students how to take notes during class, how to organize their work, how to prioritize time, and how to set goals for their future. Whenever possible, we have to teach students how to be students!" –Interim Superintendent, Andrew Kim. Classroom instruction focuses on writing, inquiry, collaboration, and reading. Students practice strategies for organization, participate in study groups supported and modeled by students and recent graduates of surrounding universities. Students support one another as they team for success and strive for more.

AVID exposes students to college campuses and the college culture. Manor Middle School students enrolled in AVID have visited Texas A&M, Texas Tech, The University of Texas, and Huston Tillotson. Manor High School AVID students have visited The University of Texas, Texas State University, and Baylor University. Taking students to see colleges is a great thing, but the goal of AVID is to actually leave them there someday soon. AVID students not only work toward GPA's and resumes that allow acceptance at universities, they are academically prepared to remain enrolled as successful college students.

AVID currently serves students in grades seven, eight, and nine within the district, but will expand to grades six and ten in 2008-2009. Now is the time to apply. Information is available at Manor High School through Celia Irizarry, and at Manor Middle School through Davin Vogler. AVID will be offered at Decker Middle School, Manor Middle School, and Manor High School. Student applications and additional information can be found on the Manor ISD website or by phoning District AVID Director, Lisa Barrett Johnson at 278-4815.