

Auburn SD AVID: High School Prep for the 2019 AVID National Convention

Q: What is AVID?

A: AVID stands for *Advancement via Individual Determination*. AVID supports closing opportunity, expectation, and achievement gaps and increasing successful outcomes for students in college and career pursuits.

Q: How does AVID support schools to increase successful outcomes for students?

A: AVID helps schools to engage in in the [Continuous Improvement Cycle](#) as they use AVID tools and resources to study, act, plan, and do with the intent of positively impacting their instruction, systems, leadership, and culture.

Q: Does our district's stated mission align with AVID's mission?

A: Both organizations state that the reason why they exist is to prepare students for what comes after high school graduation:

- AVID's mission is to close the achievement gap by **preparing all students for college readiness and success in a global society**.
- In a culture of equity and excellence, we engaged, educate, and empower each student for success **beyond graduation** (ASD mission).

This mission alignment motivated the superintendent and his cabinet to initiate AVID implementation starting at the middle school level in 2018-19.

Q: How does AVID support a culture of excellence?

A: AVID Schoolwide emphasizes use of intentional instructional strategies in all disciplines. These strategies incorporate writing, inquiry, collaboration, organization, and reading in order to support success with rigorous curriculum in all school subjects. This is reinforced through high quality AVID professional development.

Q: How does AVID ensure an equitable approach?

A: AVID has built the AVID Elective for students who need and want more intensive support in order to achieve their post-secondary aspirations. This elective reinforces academic skills and supports development of time management, study-skills, self-awareness, and relational capacity.

The AVID Elective generates a peer-support cohort for students who have expressed a desire to be successful in post-secondary learning but who do not have the same level of family support in achieving that goal as traditionally successful students. AVID Elective students are those in the academic middle and who belong to demographic groups traditionally underrepresented in post-secondary enrollment, namely students of color and/or students from families served by free and reduced lunch programs.

Q: How does AVID define the academic middle?

A: AVID acknowledges that the academic middle can look different from school to school, but generally, it includes students who earn between a 2.0 and 3.5 GPA.

Q: Do students have to apply to be in the AVID Elective?

A: Yes. Students must apply and be supported by their parents in requesting the AVID Elective.

Q: Have schools that have implemented AVID seen impactful outcome for students?

A: AVID students consistently enroll & persist into their second year of post-secondary enrollment and earn degrees at a high rate than the U.S. overall. These higher rates are consistent across demographic subgroups. [Please click here to review detailed information on the National Outcomes.](#)

[Additional data on how AVID impacts outcomes for students can be found here.](#)

Q: Do we have a source of information on what Auburn students do and how successful they are after high school graduation? Can the information be disaggregated by race and socio-economic status?

A: The Road Map Project has developed data dashboards that supply this information. After [clicking this link](#), use the drop down menus to select from nine college success measures. You can select from multiple graduation years and choose to view the data across both the district and your schools. This data is disaggregated. [Background on the Road Map Project's Data & Research.](#)

[The Education Research and Data Center](#) (ERDC) also provides data on graduate outcomes that can be drilled down to the district and school level. For background on ERDC's data & research, click the FAQ and Data Definition buttons.

Q: What questions should we be asking as we look at this data?

A: Because AVID is intended to help close opportunity and achievement gaps, examining the data to see if/where gaps in post-secondary enrollment and college persistence exist for your students is recommended. The Auburn School District's [Racial Equity Protocol](#) provides some questions that can help when looking at the data.

Q: Why is preparing students to be successful in post-secondary learning opportunities important in our current context?

A: According to The Center on Education and The Workforce, [70% of jobs in Washington State will require evidence of post-secondary education by 2020](#). The United States is expected to [fall short in filling needed jobs by 5 million workers by 2020](#). Nine out of ten [new jobs being created in the United States require a post-secondary education](#).