

## AVID in Texas

- **AVID students score a 3 (out of 4) or higher on AP science exams** at a rate 1½ times their classmates.
- On TAKS, **AVID students score 2 to 12 percentage points higher** than non-AVID students in Math and Science
- In 2004, **99 percent of AVID students enrolled in college**; 83 percent of AVID students attended 4-year colleges, and 16% attended a 2-year college.
- 63% of AVID students are Hispanic
- AVID started in the San Antonio School District in 1997. In 1999, there were 40 AVID schools in Texas; in 2005, there are 235 schools in 62 districts.
- AVID is currently implemented in the 15 largest districts in Texas

## AVID in Richardson ISD

- Started in RISD during the 2003-2004 school year with 4 junior high schools. In 2005-06 ALL RISD secondary schools, 8 junior highs and 4 high schools, have implemented AVID.
- Today, the program includes 1,190 students, 39 teachers, and 55 tutors and has been implemented in grades 7-11. (Will grow next year to grade 12.)
- RISD is on target to be a nationally recognized AVID district.
- A critical component of AVID is developing relationships between adults and students in school. Typically, middle school/high school age students are often the hardest to “love,” yet that is the time when they need it the most. AVID provides that adult connection for students that is often the only adult supportive of students’ educational success.
- Benefits we see in RISD:
  - **Implementation of the AVID program, especially in schools where it has been in place for more than one year, is touching ALL kids in the school.** AVID teachers complete extensive training (a weeklong summer institute and imbedded staff development sessions during the year), which they bring back to their school. (Often, time is scheduled during a staff meeting to give teachers information on AVID strategies. Teachers are then asked to practice the strategies they have learned as they continue the meeting.) As a result, AVID strategies are incorporated into instruction by non-AVID teachers thus impacting all students. **AVID is transforming the way teachers teach.**
  - **AVID classes create a positive peer group for students.** AVID classes provide an opportunity for students to receive positive feedback for their

academic ambitions from other students. As a result, AVID kids become close, supporting and encouraging each other in pursuit of their educational goals.

- **AVID classes cut through all clicks and across all groups.** As they work together, and because AVID students share common goals, the hardships placed on students by certain “clicks” are diminished. Students learn to form opinions about one another based on individual qualities and not on stereotypical assumptions. This results in strong bonds formed with students in AVID classes.
- **AVID teaches skills not targeted in other classes.** AVID students become more confident. They learn to become advocates for themselves and become more comfortable speaking in public.
- **AVID students become more engaged in their other classes.** The note-taking skills (Cornell notes) that are required of AVID students have resulted in their increased participation in class discussions, work groups, and team projects.
- **GPA's for AVID kids are increasing,** even though they have harder classes (with at least 1 AP, Pre-AP class). We have seen attendance improve and behavior referrals go down.