

SHELDON HIGH SCHOOL

A.V.I.D.

APPLICATION PACKET



Packet Includes:

- ◆ AVID Information
- ◆ Student Application
- ◆ Essay prompt
- ◆ Transcript request
- ◆ Sample Interview Questions
- ◆ Teacher and Counselor
Recommendation forms

Complete application due in Ms. Jennifer
Lawson's box by appropriate deadline:

Priority Admission (current AVID students and
family members)—Wednesday, December 17, 2008

General Admission (student not currently in AVID)—
Wednesday, January 21, 2009

Jennifer Lawson, AVID Coordinator

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Is AVID For You?



What is AVID?

AVID stands for *Advancement Via Individual Determination* and is a regularly scheduled *elective* class that prepares students in the middle, with academic potential, for success in advanced high school classes and in college.

What are AVID student expectations?

- Maintain *at least* a “C” average
- Show great citizenship & attendance
- Maintain an organized binder
- Take notes every day, in every class, every year in high school
- Participate in weekly tutorials
- Write, Question, Collaborate, Read
- Take Honors and AP classes
- Take PSAT, SAT, ACT tests
- Remain in program 4 years
- Be a well-rounded student
- Apply to several four-year colleges

What are AVID parent expectations?

AVID parents are expected to encourage their students to achieve academically, to maintain regular contact with the site AVID coordinator and to become involved in the activities of the AVID program.

What happens in the AVID program?

The AVID Four-Year Elective program is three-pronged:

- 1) Students receive academic instruction in writing note-taking, studying, test-taking, and organizing,
- 2) Students receive academic support from college tutors through collaborative tutorial groups, peer counseling
- 3) Students are motivated to pursue academic excellence through goal setting, rigorous classes, cultural and college field trips, classroom guest speakers, and AVID team building.

How do you recognize an AVID student?

The AVID student carries a notebook, takes notes in all classes, is prepared for class, is a positive role model for others, and is "on track" for college.

What are AVID results?

Over 95% of students who have graduated from AVID programs have enrolled in four-year colleges and universities. Two years later, 89% are still enrolled.

SHELDON HIGH SCHOOL A.V.I.D. STUDENT APPLICATION

STUDENT NAME _____ STUDENT ID # _____

PHONE: _____ E-MAIL _____

ADDRESS: _____ City _____ Zip _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME _____ WORK # _____

Please respond to the following:

1. The math class I am taking this year is _____ ; my most recent grade was _____

2. Please check the # of school days you have missed or been tardy in the last 4 months.
_____ 0 - 2 (Excellent) _____ 2 - 4 (OK) _____ 5 or more (Needs Improvement)

3. Please check the number of detentions for behavior you have gotten in the last year.
_____ 0 (Excellent) _____ 1 - 2 (OK) _____ 3 or more (Needs Improvement)

4. List some extra-curricular activities you have been involved in. Include (school, sports, community service, work, etc.):

5. What I like most about school is _____ and why? _____

6. What I like least about school is and why? _____

7. Please obtain **3 recommendations (2 core class teachers, 1 counselor)** using the attached forms.

8. Please **write an essay** (*minimum one page*) that answers the following prompt. *Life is full of obstacles and problems. Some people run from these conflicts while others face them head on. Write an essay about an obstacle you have overcome in your life. It can be a recent event or something that happened a long time ago. Describe the event, specific steps you took to overcome the obstacle, your thoughts, feelings, and the outcome. Please type this essay (if possible), double space, write name.*

9. *Attach the most recent copy of your **transcript** to this application.

We understand the information page regarding AVID and that this program is available on a *limited* basis. We also understand that there is a transcript screening process and an interview. Please note that a complete application *does not* guarantee a placement in the AVID elective.

Student Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

A.V.I.D. COUNSELOR Recommendation Form

Turn in 1 recommendation from your counselor.
(Before giving to counselor, fill in counselor name, your name and student number.)

Date _____ Counselor Name _____ School _____

Potential AVID Student Name _____ Student # _____

(please print)

What AVID is...

- for students with *college potential*
- for students with *middle to high test scores*
- for students who are *already motivated* to succeed

What AVID is NOT ...

- an *at-risk* program for unmotivated students
- a quick fix for student problems
- a study hall class
- easy

Please take a few minutes to answer the following questions.

1. How many **absences** has the student had this school year? _____

Reasons: ___ illness ___ truant ___ appointments ___ other _____

2. How many **tardies** has the student had this school year? _____

3. How many detentions **for behavior** has the student had this school year? _____

Reasons: ___ defiance ___ fighting ___ language ___ other _____

4. How many detentions for **non-completion of homework** has the student had this year? _____

Subjects: _____

5. Are there **special circumstances** that might hinder the student from being successful academically or socially?

6. Do you feel this student would be **successful in honors and AP courses** given appropriate support?

___ Yes ___ No

7. Do you feel this has **college potential**, if given tutorial support? ___ Yes ___ No

8. Please comment on the student's **level of motivation and any special circumstances** of which the selection committee should be aware (e.g. low income, 1st to attend college, single-parent, recent illness or death in family, etc.)

___ I recommend this student for placement in the Sheldon AVID Program. Briefly explain why.

___ I do not recommend this student for AVID. Briefly explain why.

Please return this form in a sealed envelope to Jennifer Lawson at Sheldon or to the student by the student's appropriate deadline (current AVID student: December 17, 2008; non-AVID students: January 21, 2009)

Sheldon High School A.V.I.D. TEACHER Recommendation Form

Turn in 2 recommendations from academic teachers. First, fill in teacher name and your name.)

Date _____ Teacher Name _____ School _____

Potential AVID Student Name _____ Student # _____
(please print)

What AVID is...

- for students with *college potential*
- for students with *middle to high CAT 6 test scores*
- for students who are *already motivated* to succeed

What AVID is NOT ...

- an *at-risk* program for unmotivated students
- a quick fix for student problems
- a study hall class
- easy

Please take a few minutes to answer the following questions by checking the appropriate column.

	Yes	Sometimes	No
1. Does this student have average to above-average skills in general?	_____	_____	_____
2. Does this student appear to need assistance with reading strategies to improve comprehension?	_____	_____	_____
3. Do you believe this student is working up to his/her potential?	_____	_____	_____
4. Does this student display good classroom work habits?	_____	_____	_____
5. Does this student practice good citizenship?	_____	_____	_____
6. Does this student have an acceptable attendance record?	_____	_____	_____
7. Does this student seem to have college potential, if given tutorial support?	_____	_____	_____
8. The quality of home and class work is very good.	_____	_____	_____
9. Do you feel this student would be Successful in honors and AP courses Given appropriate support?	_____	_____	_____

___ I recommend this student for placement in the Sheldon AVID Program. Briefly explain why.

___ I do not recommend this student for AVID. Briefly explain why.

Please comment on the student's level of motivation and any special circumstances of which the selection committee should be aware (i.e. low income, 1st to attend college, single-parent, etc.)

Please return this form in a sealed envelope to Jennifer Lawson at Sheldon or to the student by the student's appropriate deadline (current AVID student: December 17, 2008; non-AVID students: January 21, 2009)

Sheldon High School A.V.I.D. TEACHER Recommendation Form

Turn in 2 recommendations from academic teachers. First, fill in teacher name and your name.)

Date _____ Teacher Name _____ School _____

Potential AVID Student Name _____ Student # _____

(please print)

What AVID is...

- for students with *college potential*
- for students with *middle to high CAT 6 test scores*
- for students who are *already motivated* to succeed

What AVID is NOT ...

- an *at-risk* program for unmotivated students
- a quick fix for student problems
- a study hall class
- easy

Please take a few minutes to answer the following questions by checking the appropriate column.

	Yes	Sometimes	No
1. Does this student have average to above-average skills in general?	_____	_____	_____
2. Does this student appear to need assistance with reading strategies to improve comprehension?	_____	_____	_____
3. Do you believe this student is working up to his/her potential?	_____	_____	_____
4. Does this student display good classroom work habits?	_____	_____	_____
5. Does this student practice good citizenship?	_____	_____	_____
6. Does this student have an acceptable attendance record?	_____	_____	_____
7. Does this student seem to have college potential, if given tutorial support?	_____	_____	_____
8. The quality of home and class work is very good.	_____	_____	_____
9. Do you feel this student would be Successful in honors and AP courses Given appropriate support?	_____	_____	_____

___ I recommend this student for placement in the Sheldon AVID Program. Briefly explain why.

___ I do not recommend this student for AVID. Briefly explain why.

Please comment on the student's level of motivation and any special circumstances of which the selection committee should be aware (i.e. low income, 1st to attend college, single-parent, etc.)

Please return this form in a sealed envelope to Jennifer Lawson at Sheldon or to the student by the student's appropriate deadline (current AVID student: December 17, 2008; non-AVID students: January 21, 2009)

SAMPLE AVID INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

These are for you to prepare for the interview only. Do not include with application

What is **AVID**?

Advancement Via Individual Determination

- **You** have to want to achieve, not your parents, teachers, friends – YOU!
- Class setup
 - ⇒ notes *everyday*, in *every class* for *every year* in high school
 - ⇒ lectures on organization, study, and communication skills
 - ⇒ In-depth preparation for college (exams, guest speakers, life...)
 - ⇒ Weekly tutorial sessions led by college students
- Emphasis on Writing, Questioning, Reading and Group Collaboration
- Binder checks and progress reports

Please write answers the following questions.

1. What have you done *in and/or outside of* school that has made you most proud? (Include awards, recognition, community service, etc.)
2. What is your strongest subject in school?
3. What is your *weakest* subject in school? How do you try to improve in this area?
4. When, where and about how much time to you spend studying at home per night? TV/computer/video games? What do you do in your spare time?
5. Give an example of something you really struggled with over the past year.
6. Give an example of a time you showed great **commitment** to.
7. AVID takes consistent work and routine organization.
Rate yourself from **1-5** (5 being great) and please explain your answers.
_____ How organized are your binders/materials? _____
_____ How motivated are you to achieve your goals? _____
_____ How well do you stick with tasks you have started? _____
_____ How motivated would your parents say you are? _____
_____ How willing are you to attend summer school? _____
8. How would people describe you? Your parents? Friends? Strangers?
9. In AVID, you are expected to work very hard. Are you willing to study at least two hours nightly? _____
10. When things don't go your way, how do you handle it? (i.e. blame others or make excuses). Give examples.
11. When you feel a teacher is treating you unfairly, how do you handle it?
12. Why do you want to go to a 4-year college immediately following high school? Why do your parents want you to go to college? What do you and your parents discuss about college?
13. List the people who live in your house.
14. Of the people who live in your house, who has graduated from a 4-year university in the United States?
15. What do you want to be when you're an adult?
16. Are there any situations in your life that make it difficult to study or do well with school work? Explain.
17. Are you willing to take the AVID elective for 1 period per day for 4 years?
18. Why would AVID be helpful to you?
19. What skills or characteristics will you bring to the AVID class to make it successful? (The AVID four-year elective is not a program that just "gives to students". It is only as successful as the AVID students make it.

The AVID Student Profile

Look for these qualities:

1. Ability
 - Average to high test scores in math
 - Average to high test scores in language arts (ELL will be lower)
2. Academic Performance - G.P.A. ranging from 2.5 - 3.5
3. Student's strong desire to attend college and motivation to do the work necessary in advanced classes.
4. College potential if placed in advanced classes and given tutorial support.
5. Possibly the first person in the family to attend a 4-year college.
6. Possibly economically disadvantaged.
7. Excellent citizenship.
8. May have special circumstances such as... single family, many siblings, non-native English speaker, recent death, illness or divorce in family, shyness, etc.

