The 2017-2018 school year is the third year of AVID Implementation for MVCSD. Currently, nine schools are implementing this systematic approach to thinking and learning. Each July, teachers, administrators and district leaders travel to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania for a three-day Summer Institute. This intensive training prepares our educators to create a culture of learning that is embedded with AVID strategies and methodologies that engage students and prepare them for success both inside and outside of the classroom.

AVID = the HOW  
Content/Subject Area = the WHAT

WICOR is AVID’s framework. The acronym stands for Writing, Inquiry, Collaboration, Organization and Reading. This rigorous framework provides all students and educators with a common language and best practices for success.
AVID Strategy of the Month – December – Marking the Text

Why do we Mark the Text?

Teachers use AVID strategies to help students learn how to read with a purpose. The Marking the Text strategy allows students to fully immerse themselves in the text to achieve deeper understanding.

What does Marking the Text look like?

AVID’s system for marking the text is strategic. Students begin by previewing the text and numbering each paragraph. As students read each paragraph, they are prompted to identify the author’s claim and underline it. To increase rigor, students can write the claim in their own words in the margin next to the paragraph. Lastly, as students are reading, they identify key vocabulary words by circling them.

What resources are available?

Visit avid.org
Speak with an AVID site team member in your building.
Our vision is to inspire students, staff, parents and community to achieve a high level of self-respect and academic success through perseverance. Our students will see school, hard work and determination as a means for advancement in college, careers and global society.

Site Team Coordinator: Ms. Erica Naughton - Contributors: Mr. Bryan Browne, Ms. Tanganyika Lindner-Brown, Ms. Erica Naughton & Mr. Brian Squillace

"Just Do It"
This has been the motto of MVHS regarding AVID. We are challenging ourselves to be organized with binder checks. To the tune of “Shake it Like a Polaroid Picture” students were tasked to shake their binders to demonstrate their organizational skills. Not a single page fell out! There is nothing to it except to “Just Do it!”

We are assessing ourselves to evaluate the richness and level of participation in Socratic Seminars.

We are making plans to go on more college visits. This year the 11th grade AVID students visited Fordham University. We had an impromptu visit with a MVHS alum during visit.

The year kicked off with a family Meet and Greet. We plan to connect again with families in the spring.
Avid 9 is off to an amazing start! Their high school journey started off with much uncertainty. They were swarmed with binder-checks, study buddies, assignment logs, and a host of other Avid “benefits”. They are beginning to realize that the pathway to college will take hard work, collaboration, and organization. AVID 9 freshmen recently took a sneak peek into the future by creating their college roadmaps. Students were reminded of where they are now, where they are going, and potential pitfalls.

As part of Mrs. Dempsey’s AVID 10 Elective, students took some time to dig deeper in to Career Clusters. Students collaborated to develop posters outlining jobs titles, salary ranges and education required for the 16 career clusters as defined by the U.S. Department of Labor. Students used web resources to research careers before developing their eye catching and informative posters. The poster pictured was designed by Jahsiem Arthurs and Yarely Tlatlepa.

On October 5th, our five AVID teams were invited to stay after school for an AVID Meet and Greet. The 10th and 11th graders were paired up with 9th graders to discuss AVID and their experiences with the program. The students enjoyed light refreshments and participated in some team building activities, such as the Two-line Shuffle and the Beach Ball Toss, from AVID’s Critical Thinking and Engagement series. The event ended with one of the 11th graders, Markez Ellis, showing off his animation expertise with a video he created.
In pursuit of a National Blue Ribbon, our responsibility is to continually improve the social, emotional, and academic growth of our students.

Site Team Coordinator: Ms. Donna Smith - Contributor: Ms. Doris Dapaah

Avid Mix and Mingle - October 2017

Students participated in icebreaker activities and getting to know you games. Students had a great time meeting and mingling with one another across the grades, while enjoying some light refreshments.

Lincoln University Trip – November 2017

The students visited Lincoln University in Pennsylvania, the first Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU), founded in 1854. They participated in a scavenger hunt, learned the history of the school and what it means to be a HBCU. The students also learned a cheer, toured the campus, gained entry into some of the buildings, and had lunch in the main cafeteria with current college students. The experience was one they will never forget.
Our mission is to prepare our middle school students to become productive members of the community: To think critically, embrace diversity, and work collaboratively. To hold students to a high standard of accountability for their behavior and academic success, along with developing a respect for self and others that will allow them to make positive contributions to society. To provide a safe, productive, supportive, and structured school environment that will enable students to meet and exceed New York State Standards. To encourage parental involvement in order to ensure the academic and extracurricular success of our children. To enhance effective communication by connecting parents, students, and teachers with available services in school/district/community.

Site Team Coordinator: Mr. Nikolaos Katsaris- Contributor: Ms. Janelle Ferreira

The 7th grade AVID team is having fun with collaboration! The students participated in two different activities from the Critical Thinking and Engagement Series. Both activities support the collaboration component of WICOR. Students worked together to complete these tasks using communication, collaboration and trial and error. These team building activities are a vital part of the AVID 7 Elective curriculum.

“Keep it Up” Balloon Team Building Activity
In addition to keeping the balloon up, students had to hold hands through the duration of the activity.

Team Building Activity
The object of this activity is to turn the blanket over without touching the floor.
My name is Gema Moreno-Larios and this is my third year in the AVID Elective with Ms. Rhodes at Thornton High School. AVID has helped me achieve greater things both in and out of the classroom. AVID has provided me with a constant support system, including college tutors, effective strategies for taking notes and studying for assessments and a learning environment that is supportive.

AVID is the family I can count on and thanks to this family I am succeeding and achieving my goals. Currently, I am taking two challenging AP courses, AP American History and AP English Language and Composition. My course load this year has made AVID even more important, as I have taken full advantage of the resources that AVID provides. The Cornell Way has improved the way I study and how I keep organized. The tutorials have improved the way I approach a problem and more importantly how to solve a problem. The tutors help to reinforce my skills and learning through the tutorial sessions.

When you’re in AVID, the AVID Elective teacher becomes your personal advisor. Ms. Rhodes continues to help me and guide me as I prepare for life after high school. One of the most advantageous things about AVID is that I am getting a head start with the college process, opposed to those who aren’t in AVID. This year we have spent a great deal of time on the college portfolio, the college application process and have even looked at financial aid and scholarship information. I have learned so much about the college process, that I wouldn’t have otherwise if it wasn’t for AVID. AVID has opened up a whole new world of opportunities for a better future for my family and I.

AVID Trivia

True or False:

AVID is a remedial program.