

PONDEROSA HIGH SCHOOL

A.V.I.D.
APPLICATION PACKET



Packet Includes:

- ◆ AVID Information
- ◆ Student Application
- ◆ Essay prompt
- ◆ Sample AVID Interview questions

Application due March 7, 2016
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Interviews TBA
College and Career Center Ponderosa High School
Open interviews TBA

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.

AVID Student Profile:

- GPA Ranging 2.7-3.9
- Student's desire to attend a Four year college/ university and motivation to do the rigorous work necessary in advanced classes.
- Possibly the first person in the family to attend a 4-year college.
- Possibly economically disadvantaged.
- Excellent citizenship
- May have special circumstances in educational advancement(i.e. single parent family, many siblings, non-native English speaker, recent death, illness or divorce in family, shyness, ect.)

What are AVID student expectations?

- Maintain *at least* a "C" average
- Show great citizenship & attendance
- Maintain an organized binder
- Take Cornell 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 Organization.
- 2) Students receive academic support from tutors through collaborative tutorial groups and 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.

PONDEROSA 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 **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.*

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

Student Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

PRACTICE / 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 to 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 do 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**.

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?

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

Turn in 1 recommendation from academic teacher. 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 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 Ponderosa High School 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.)