

Rancho Cotate High School
5450 Snyder Lane
Rohnert Park, CA 94928

Amie Carter RCHS Principal
Angela Scardina AVID Administrator
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Dear Prospective AVID student and parent/guardian,

Thank you for your interest in Rancho Cotate High School's AVID Program. If you would like to be part of this exciting and successful program fill out the application and gather the necessary information needed to turn in with the application. Bring your completed application to your counselor or to the high school office where it can be placed in Ms. Tranfaglia's mailbox. Be sure to attach the most recent copy of your transcript.

AVID stands for Advancement Via Individual Determination. AVID is a program dedicated to helping students achieve their goals of going to college. AVID is targeted to serve the students in the middle or are the first generation college bound. AVID is **an elective course** that is part of the regular school day schedule. It is considered an academic elective. The AVID class provides support, academic monitoring, and tutoring so students can be successful in their other classes and be ready to apply to a four-year university during their senior year. Other core strategies of AVID include refining a student's writing process, Socratic questioning, collaborative learning, and reading. Students also get the opportunity to explore career options and learn about college and the application process. Twice a year, the AVID program participates in field trips where we visit a Bay Area college campus or visit a cultural locale.

You are welcome to apply to our program. Typically, students that are fit for AVID:

- The student is in the middle and would not succeed in a rigorous curriculum without the support of the AVID class
- The student has a 2.0+ GPA
- The student has appropriate classroom behavior.
- The student has excellent attendance.
- The student will be dedicated to fulfill A-G requirements in order to apply to a four-year college as a senior. Refer to Cougar Tracks for specific information.
- The parents and the student have the motivation and desire to prepare for entrance to a four-year college or university.

What is required of an AVID student?

Although AVID is an elective class, it is an academic elective course and the student has certain responsibilities to ensure his/her success. It may seem like a lot work at first, but AVID students can attest that the extra work is worth it. Each AVID student carries a binder in which he or she is required to keep materials from all academic classes. Students keep track of assignments and are required to take notes in all academic classes. Led by tutors, students participate in tutorial groups in the AVID classroom. The student must be prepared with tutorial questions and have their materials for each tutorial. Students will also be asked to keep track of their grades and ask their content teachers to fill out periodic progress reports; in addition to routine school ones, for monitoring by the AVID teacher/coordinator. Students engage in lessons that will help them figure out their college and career choices. Students also are offered lessons that will help them do well in college classes. All of these activities help the AVID student be successful in school and get ready for college.

If the AVID program appeals to you and you wish to attend a four-year college, please take the time to fill out the attached application. We encourage you to apply. Please return your application as soon as possible. We may hold interviews either in person or on the phone. We will let you know if you have been accepted as soon as possible.

Thank you!

RCHS AVID Program

READING

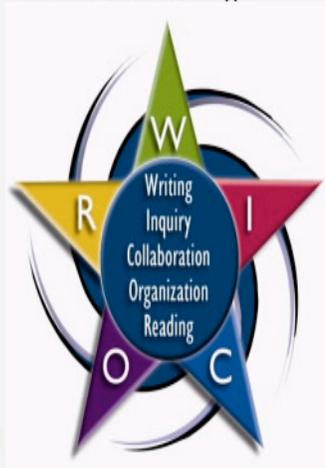
- Deep Reading Strategies
- Note-Taking
- Graphic Organizers
- Vocabulary Building
- Summarizing
- Reciprocal Teaching

ORGANIZATION

- Binders and organizational tools
- Calendars, planners, and agendas
- Graphic organizers
- A focused note-taking system
- Tutorials and study groups
- Project planning and SMART goals

WRITING

- Cornell Note-Taking
- Learning Logs
- Quickwrites and Reflections
- Process Writing
- Peer Evaluation
- Authentic Writing



INQUIRY

- Skilled Questioning Techniques
- Costa's Levels of Thinking
- Socratic Seminars
- Tutorials
- Investigations
- Questions that Guide Research

COLLABORATION

- Socratic Seminars
- Tutorials
- Philosophical Chairs
- Group Activities and Projects
- Peer Editing Groups
- Service Learning Projects

AVID Student Contact Information & AVID Agreement

Name _____ Current GPA (overall) _____
Current school _____ Current Grade _____
Student's Birthdate _____
Parent's/Guardian's names _____
Address: _____
Phone Number: (include Parent/Guardian and student Cell phone) _____

Email of parent/student _____

Name of two teachers who would recommend you to the AVID program. Please write down their first and last name clearly. Please let them know, you wrote down his/her name as a reference.

Please read and sign the terms of agreement for enrollment in AVID and submit this with application.

I agree to enroll in the AVID class for the entire academic year
I agree to take notes in all my core classes as required by AVID.
I agree to keep my binder organized as required by AVID.
I agree to maintain good attendance and be punctual for all my classes.
I agree to participate fully in tutorials as required by AVID.
I agree to participate in field trips, college visitation, and other AVID activities.
I agree to keep my parents fully informed of AVID program activities.
I agree to complete all my assignments in all classes including AVID.
I agree to ask for help, talk to my AVID teacher or counselor if necessary.
I agree to keep a positive attitude and be enthusiastic about preparing for college.

(Student signature) (Date)

(Parent/guardian signature) (Date) _____ (Parent/Guardian signature) (Date)

Questions/Concerns/Comments:



Decades of College Dreams

Answer the following prompts in **paragraph** format. For each prompt write a separate paragraph. Do not type your response, handwriting in **pen** is fine. Attach your responses to this application. Remember, this is our first introduction to you, so show your best work.

Answer the following questions about yourself

1. Describe yourself (personality, learning style, activities) and your dreams and goals (education, college, and career). In other words, what do you want to be when you grow up and why? Where do you want to go to college? What do you want to study?
2. As a student interested in college, it is important to reflect on your work habits concerning school. Honestly, describe your work habits in and out of school (classwork, participation, asking for help, homework, taking tests/quizzes/attendance). Discuss your learning strengths or weaknesses. Be honest.

Answer the following questions about AVID.

Be sure you have read the cover letter and the WICOR strategies AVID that are attached to this application before answering.

3. What do you already know about AVID? What kind of help do you think you will need in the program (for example, note-taking, tutorials, college pathways, career exploration)?
4. What interests you most about the AVID program? What worries you the most about the AVID class?

AVID Application

Name

GPA (cumulative)

Student ID#

Attach most current transcript