

The Dalles High School



Educate - Motivate - Graduate

Oregon House Education Committee
900 Court Street NE, Room 453
Salem, OR 97301

Re: HB 2412, -1 Amendments

3/17/2021

We are writing to request your support in funding AVID for our District, our students, and our community. Our region of Oregon has a large population of low-income, culturally diverse, historically underserved students. We struggle for access to education past grade 12. This is why it is so critical to adopt the -1 amendments to HB 2412. This amendment will greatly impact our students. AVID is the program that gives students the tools (academically and socially emotionally) to not only achieve the goal of College/University/Trade School, etc. but to succeed once they get there as well!

We are in our fourth year of implementing AVID. There are many college preparation programs, but **AVID gets results.** It is proven in the data and accountability, the constant support from our AVID Program Manager. Below please find highlights from our AVID program at TDHS.

- 4 AVID Elective classes 9-12
- AVID Elective Students have higher attendance and GPAs than their peers
- AVID Elective Students take more rigorous courses than their peers
- Increasingly high rates of students taking Honors/AP/College Credit Classes taught by bi-lingual teachers
- Our AVID team and ASPIRE team work together to build a college and career readiness culture
- 3/4 of our staff have been AVID Trained and practice AVID strategies regularly

The Training the educators receive inspires them and “lights a fire!” See comment below:

“I recently went into a local store and was helped by a student that I had had in my Math class a couple of times through his High School career. He smiled, said hello, and then said that I had really "saved his bacon". I said why is that? He responded that what I had taught him about the organization and those Cornell Note Taking Strategies had really helped him in college. He said he would not have been successful without them. He is currently enrolled in our local community college and is wanting to be an engineer. I realize that the organizational skills and the repetition within the curriculum

had made all the difference for this student. He even acknowledged that at the time, he didn't realize how valuable it was, but now he did. AVID strategies have been firmly embedded in my curriculum and I believe it has made a huge difference for my students.”

Kendra Curtis
Geometry, Math Applications, Algebra.

Student Responses from our FINAL Reflection in March 2021:

Please tell me ONE thing you learned in AVID this year that will stick with you!

WICOR
Put your best in your work
To remain calm and understand that I have people there to support me.
Timers are amazing at getting us to work better and timed writes are way more successful.
I learned about the levels of questioning that I can apply to basically anything and I learned about Locus control.
levels of questioning
I know this is simple but it changed my homework skills forever! I realized that if i put a timer i get all my work done
I got to understand more about motivation and how it affects others!
I learned how to stay on more motivated in this pandemic
One thing that will stick with me is critical thinking to make good decisions for myself.
One thing that will stick with me is critical thinking to make good decisions for myself.
the definition of WICOR
One thing I learned in AVID was the COSTAS levels of questioning.

AVID inspires and motivates all of us. It gives us hope. AVID will help many students be first-generation college graduates. It will change futures and families and ensure education is there for anyone willing to work for it.

Please feel free to come to visit our school anytime. Thank you for your time and consideration,

Susan Raffensperger

Susan Raffensperger
The Dalles High School
AVID Elective Teacher