

UNION MINE HIGH SCHOOL

Home of the "Diamondbacks"

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(530) 621-4003

Dear Parent:

Your child may be eligible for AVID, Advancement Via Individual Determination, a program dedicated to helping students achieve their goals of going to college. Students typically considered for AVID are bright students who might be underserved in the college system or first generation university students. Next year your child is eligible for Advanced Placement classes and the AVID class will provide support, academic monitoring, and tutoring to help them through their challenging courses. Standardized test preparation (PSAT and SAT), college field trips, guest speakers, note taking skills, and study strategies are key components of the AVID program.

What is required of an AVID student?

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 on assignment sheets and are required to take DAILY notes in all academic classes. The notebooks are graded weekly for content and organization by college and high school tutors. Led by tutors, students participate in tutorial groups in the AVID classroom. In addition, students are taught study skills, test preparation, time management, and the writing process. Teachers fill out periodic progress reports, in addition to routine school ones, for monitoring by the AVID teacher/coordinator.

Who are AVID tutors, and what do they do?

AVID tutors are college or high school students who receive training in methodologies used in AVID: writing process, Socratic questioning, collaborative learning, and reading. They are in the classroom weekly to serve as models and to help students achieve success in rigorous classes. They are trained not to give students answers but rather to guide them toward answers.

What can parents do to support AVID students?

At home, parents can see to it that students are doing their homework in a quiet place with few interruptions. By asking your student about his/her day, and inquiring about homework and the events of school, you will bridge what could be a great gap between his/her school life and home life. When the two are connected, successes increase. In addition, stressing your belief that your student can succeed in high school and attend college will also motivate him/her to work harder and achieve more.

Thank you very much for all of your support!

Sincerely,

AVID Site Team
Union Mine High School