

## **Collecting Information**

### **1. Test Scores**

*The AVID student should have average to high standardized test scores in reading and math. You need to decide what range you want in each area. The math scores should indicate a strong ability in that area. Math skills are essential for college admittance.*

Most schools and/or districts can generate one list that has both math and reading test scores even if your percentages are different for each. Lists can be sorted in a variety of ways. Sorting alphabetically will help you when you start matching the grade point averages. Check with your site for other ways to organize the information that might benefit you.

It's best to ask for a broader band of scores than you think you will use. This will make additional information available to you if you need to make your list of candidates larger.

Discuss with your site administration the best way to obtain these scores. High schools will need to contact the head counselor and/or the AVID teacher at the feeder middle school(s).

### **2. Grade Point Averages**

*A grade point average of 2.0 to 3.5 is an AVID essential. You can work within this range. New schools will often use 2.5 to 3.5 to help provide a positive first year experience.*

### **3. Combining Test Scores and Grade Point Averages**

*The next step is to find the matches between the two lists. Your goal is to see if students with qualifying test scores have appropriate grade point averages to make them eligible for AVID. One method is to write the grade point averages next to their test scores. Highlight the students who qualify; cross off the ones who don't.*

It's best to make the list longer than you feel you will need. If you don't have enough names, consider the following:

- widening the band of percentages used on the tests
- widening the band of grade point averages if you didn't use the full 2.0 to 3.5
- researching students with incomplete test scores; consider looking at the previous year's scores

### **4. Attendance/Behavior Problems**

*Using this list of students you have created, gather information regarding attendance and behavior problems. Attendance and discipline records are generally available on the computer. The behavior problems will need to be discussed with the designated person at your site. We encourage you to look into what the reason is for the problem. Is it in one class or more than one? Is the student tardy between a certain set of classes? Is the tardiness usually in the morning? Consider the reasons before eliminating the student from your list.*

**Please note:**

*AVID students with grade point averages above a 3.5 are allowed to stay in the program. The range in the essential is 2.0-3.5 for recruitment. However, the support provided to current AVID students often helps them to excel beyond a 3.5.*

*Previous AVID students should have priority consideration for placement in AVID programs. This is not an automatic acceptance. We recommend that the students go through the application process the same as non-AVID students. If they have met their AVID contract regarding grades, attendance, behavior, etc. and they successfully complete the application process, they should be placed in the AVID program.*

*Generally speaking, schools should not start students after the tenth grade. If the site feels you need to add new eleventh grade students, you must contact your regional consultant. Students should never start AVID in the twelfth grade.*

*Class size should be the same as similar academic electives.*

*Students can be added during the school year. Use the same guidelines for student selection.*

*“I have seen the light.” Listed below are some things AVID coordinators have said they would NEVER do again.*

- Accept students with attendance/behavior issues (rescue)
- Accept students who have the ability but are not motivated to use it (rescue)
- Accept students because parents want them in AVID

*Please remember the following:*

- AVID students can successfully complete the “A-G” requirements with support.
- AVID students can succeed in the most rigorous courses with support (including Honors and AP courses).
- Potential and determination are critical factors.
- The AVID elective is a CHOICE.