

Representing the following counties:

- Alameda
- Contra Costa
- Marin
- Napa
- San Francisco
- San Mateo
- Solano

May - June 2005



Senior Celebration

The Senior Celebration held at St. Mary's College on April 15th was a big success. Students enjoyed lunch followed by a panel presentation by St. Mary's students. The college students answered questions about adjusting to college as a freshman. They dealt with issues such as using Cornell notes for studying, juggling work and school as a first year college student, living with a roommate, and getting involved in student activities on campus.

Summer Institute

If you are going to attend Summer Institute, please get your registrations in as soon as possible. If you don't know the names of all the attendees reserve a space with a "TBD" in the slots. AVID Center needs a count as soon as possible. That's how strands are staffed and materials are determined. Last year over one hundred people were turned away from Summer Institute because they didn't sign up in time. Strands were full.

If you have questions, give us a call at 925-942-5349 or e-mail me at erusk@cccoc.k12.ca.us.

Touchstones Training

Region IV held its first Touchstones Training on April 23rd. Those who attended will be receiving Touchstones materials to use in their AVID classrooms. Region IV will hold additional Touchstones Trainings in the fall in both San Mateo County and Contra Costa County. Watch for the flyers in the fall.

Senior Data

It is important that ALL seniors participate in Senior data collection. This data helps to determine the success of AVID. AVID is a success if the seniors are getting into colleges and attending in the fall. Senior teachers received hard copies of the senior data collection forms. Seniors should fill out the hard copies prior to going online.

Some seniors also completed the data prior to making a decision about which college they will attend. Please make sure that after May 1, the seniors go back into their data to ensure that they have checked the college they will attend.

If there are problems with the data, the region will be sending it back.

If all seniors complete the data, this information will be "pre-slugged" on the data collection sheets in the fall. Data collection will be easier in the fall.

Eighth Grade Data

Eighth grade teachers are being asked to fill out data on their students prior to their leaving the middle school. Once that data sheet has been filled out please fax it to the regional office. Next fall when you are asked to complete the AVID data you will already have these questions completed.



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For this newsletter incentive, e-mail Gail Schroeder at gschroeder@cccoc.k12.ca.us requesting your incentive by May 25, 2005, and we will mail you a dozen 5" x 8" white writing pads. Please remember to put "writing pads" in the subject line.

Important Notes...



School Broadcast

AVID students at Rodriguez have been helping get the word out about college to all Rodriguez students. An AVID segment has been added to the weekly school broadcast, and AVID students have been sharing information about A-G requirements, financial aid, scholarships, and test taking tips for finals. Rodriguez AVID students are ensuring that college information is accessible to all students.

Student of the Year



Congratulations to AVID student Maggier Razzouq for winning the prestigious Student of the Year Honor at Rodriguez High School. Maggie has been in AVID for four years, has maintained a 3.5 GPA, has been in Leadership for four years, has played three years of Varsity Tennis and Badminton, and has served the community in many ways. Way to go Maggie!



Westmoor High School

The Senior AVID class at Westmoor High School participated in “Mock Manages” created by Alexandra Mullin. Students were randomly given a spouse and a job. Students are required to buy a house, a car and create a monthly budget for their household with their salaries. Students must use critical thinking and collaborative skills for this assignment.

St. Helena High School

St. Helena High School has been “adopted” by Trinchero Family Estates (Sutter Home Winery). They will be giving money for AVID materials, testing and application fees, and more field trips. We have a team working on a site plan to best use the funds coming to us. I encourage other AVID teams to seek funding from your local business community. You never know what’s there until you ask. The process took some time but was relatively painless.

In addition, the SHHS AVID program has struck gold with Tim and Teresa Coon, two parent volunteers, who are working with 3 sections of AVID students on low-ropes course challenge activities here on our campus. We are grateful for their support and the students have really enjoyed the activities and learned team building skills at the same time.



Fairfield High School

AVID freshman, Norah LeDoux, has been accepted into SMASH, Summer Math and Science Honors Institute at UC Berkeley. Competition was tough. Only 44 applicants were invited for interviews and the interview process included collaborative and individual activities and presentation in which students were asked to experiment and hypothesize regarding their results.



Twenty-four students will attend 6 weeks of Science and Math while living at UC Berkeley each summer throughout high school. At the end of each summer, participants each receive a \$500 scholarship to ensure that they don’t have to quit the program in order to work.

Oak Grove Middle School



Oak Grove Middle School AVID students pose with their posters created for AVID’s 25th Anniversary poster contest.



Dates to Remember...

Regional Events

AVID Senior Celebration

at Notre Dame de Namur University
Tuesday May 24, 2005 11am - 1 pm

Summer Institute

July 18-22, 2005 *Sacramento*
August 1-5, 2005 *San Diego*
August 8-12, 2005 *Los Angeles*

