



# **AVID III Syllabus 2020-2021**

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## **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

Boca Ciega High School has the distinction of being an AVID National Demonstration Site. AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) is an academic system that prepares students for college readiness and success. The program enrolls students who desire structured support for college preparation and admissions. Students must be determined to succeed in a rigorous high school curriculum that meets or exceeds college entrance requirements.

## **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

AVID 11 prepares students for the rigor of college success. The course builds skills by emphasizing reading, analytical writing, academic research, collaborative discussion, and inquiry. Students research colleges and collegemajors, sources of financial aid, and the importance of targeted learning as it relates to their future studies and career. Students prepare for, and take the SAT and/or ACT. AVID scholars also complete a resume, prepare to obtain recommendation letters, and write college admissions essays.

## **COURSE EXPECTATIONS**

1. Maintain satisfactory citizenship and attendance in all classes.
2. Come to AVID class ready to learn every day.
3. Complete all homework assignments on time.
4. Participate as an active learner in all classes.
5. Use techniques learned in the AVID class in all academic classes.
6. Maintain enrollment in college preparatory courses.
7. Maintain a "C" or better in all classes and participate in AVID academic support programs as needed.
8. Participate in Community Service Programs to total 30 hours for the year (15 hours/semester)
9. Abide by Boca Ciega High School Student Code of Conduct, including Academic and Electronic Integrity.

## **OUR WAY OF WORK**

- ✓ We commit to creating a functional group dynamic over the course of the semester. In making this commitment, we understand that our regular presence is crucial to this dynamic, and that our unexplained absence may impair it.
- ✓ We value each member's experiences and the presence of multiple viewpoints in pursuit of productivity, personal goals, dignity and self-respect.
- ✓ We respect people's ideas and positions even when we disagree with them.
- ✓ We will critique ideas, but not the person who expresses them.



- ✓ We hold space in our conversations for times of privacy and stillness.
- ✓ We commit to asking questions about and working through a group process that may, at times, seem difficult to us. We commit to remaining active in the group through difficult moments and consulting the instructor when we can't work through something by ourselves or in the class.
- ✓ We have compassion for each and meet each other as best we can.
- ✓ We consider some of our conversations as confidential. Our classroom is safe space and information from the discussion should not be used elsewhere.
- ✓ We add to the discussion and not just repeat what has already been said. We refer to concrete examples from readings, experiences, and media.
- ✓ We are aware when we are taking too much or too little space in the conversation and adjust accordingly.
- ✓ We explore new ideas, take risks, are constructive, flexible, and open to new learning.

**AVID** stands for **Advancement Via Individual Determination**. While each word in the acronym is important, the words "individual" and "determination" stand out. Your success in this class (and in school) depends on YOU. You, the individual, take control of your future with the support of AVID. Here's what I believe about each of you:

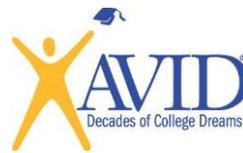
- You can and *will* succeed in honors, pre-AP, and AP classes.
- You can and *will* work harder than you've ever worked before.
- You can and *will* become an active member of the "AVID Family" by academically and socially supporting one another.
- You can and *will* become involved in extracurricular activities within the Boca Ciega High School community.
- You can and *will* become a leader in this school.
- All of these things will eventually lead you to our number one goal: you can and *will* enroll in a four year college or university upon graduation from Boca Ciega High School.

**The AVID Binder:** Here's a simple formula: ORGANIZATION + DETERMINATION = ACADEMIC SUCCESS. You will maintain one binder that will have sections for each of your classes. Have your binder with you at all times. The AVID class will support you in learning organizational skills that will lead to academic success. We will have a binder check every other week to ensure that you are staying on top of your organization.

**Agenda:** You are expected to maintain your agenda by writing assignments on a daily basis and including major tests, quizzes, and projects in the monthly calendar section. The agenda will make up a portion of your homework grades.

**Tutorials:** During a week, you will have tutorials two times. You will get into tutorial groups, led by college or cross-age tutors, and engage in an inquiry process to address your questions. This is NOT homework time; this is a collaborative opportunity to improve your performance in core academic subjects.

**Focused Notes and Learning Logs:** At BCHS, students are expected to take Focused Notes in each class and grades from these notes will comprise a portion of the binder check grade. Learning logs are required.



**W.I.C.O.R.:** This stands for Writing, Inquiry, Collaboration, Organization, and Reading. Every lesson in AVID will incorporate one or more of these elements.

**A.S.F.I:** This stands for Analyze a Prompt, Selective and Purpose Driven Reading, Focus Note Taking and Integrating Sources into Texts.

**Projects:** Each quarter we'll do special projects and activities that will help prepare you for our ultimate goal: success in a four year college! Most of the work will be done in class and will include writing, research, collaboration, and a solid effort on everyone's part.

**Parent/Guardian Grade Check: If students grades fall below 70%,** students may be requested to bring home a grade check form every 2 weeks. Parents/Guardians are expected to engage in conversations with their students and note steps that are being taken to improve grades below a 70%.

**Goal Setting and Monitoring:** This is a vital component of student success and attaining their dreams of attending a 4-year university. All students will set goals during the first two weeks of school and monitor them throughout the year with teacher support.

### ATTENDANCE AND TARDIES

It's simple: please try to be here every day. Make school your number one priority! Unexcused absences can result in a failing grade and impede your progress. You are also expected to be on time every class.

### GRADING POLICY

Your quarter grade will be calculated based on the following breakdown:

**Classwork + Projects = 35%**

**Tutorials = 40%**

**Focused Notes + Binder = 15%**

**Homework = 10%**

The AVID class will adhere to the Pinellas County Public Schools grading scale:

A (90-100) = 4.0

B (80-89) = 3.0

C (70-79) = 2.0

D (60-69) = 1.0

### MAKE UP/LATE WORK

- When a student is absent, the teacher will record a "Missing" (M) for the assignments missed due to the absence. Assignments missed due to an unexcused absence and not turned in by the end of the week will receive a grade of zero (0) and the student will not have the opportunity to make-up these missed assignments.
- Assignments missed when students are present will receive a grade of a zero (0). Students may turn in a major assignment that is late by the next class period for up to 50% credit. **This is a form of grace offered at the teacher's discretion and will only be given after an appropriate conversation offering an explanation.**

### AVID RESOURCES

- Tutorials/Collaborative Study Groups: Students will participate in Tutorials or Collaborative Study Groups twice weekly.
- Boca Ciega HS offers several other resources geared toward student success. Please check with your AVID teacher.



## Advancement Via Individual Determination Agreement 2020-21

Name of Student: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

- I have read and agree to abide by the AVID course syllabus and BCHS student handbook.
- I understand that my parents and I should initiate conversations with my AVID teacher if you want to set up conferences, discuss absences and missed assignments, or to discuss other issues/concerns as they arise.
- I understand that my AVID teacher will also initiate conversations with my parents whenever appropriate and necessary to ensure that I am successful.
- I understand that the AVID system is rigorous and valuable and I am willing to put forth the effort to ensure that I am successful.

### Student Agreement:

I agree to accept enrollment into the AVID elective class, which will offer me academic support to succeed in challenging courses and gain acceptance to college. I want to succeed and I understand that I must take individual responsibility for my own success. I understand that in order to gain appropriate support from the AVID program, I will be allowed to remain in the program only if I meet the student responsibilities outlined above.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Student Signature*

### Support Agreement:

We agree to support the efforts of this student in meeting goals outlined above

\_\_\_\_\_  
*AVID Coordinator Signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Parent/Guardian Signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*AVID Teacher Signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*



## Advancement Via Individual Determination Agreement 2020-21

Nombre de estudiante: \_\_\_\_\_ Fecha: \_\_\_\_\_

- He leído y acepto cumplir con el plan de estudios AVID y el manual del estudiante de BCHS.
- Entiendo que mis padres y yo debemos iniciar conversaciones con mi maestro de AVID si necesito una conferencia, hablar de ausencias y tareas perdidas, o para hablar de otros problemas / inquietudes a medida que surjan.
- Entiendo que mi maestro de AVID también iniciará conversaciones con mis padres cuando sea apropiado y necesario para garantizar que tenga éxito escolar.
- Entiendo que el sistema AVID es riguroso y requiere mucho tiempo y estoy dispuesto a esforzarme para asegurar que tenga éxito.

### Acuerdo del Estudiante:

Yo estoy de acuerdo con aceptar mi inscripción en la clase electiva AVID, la cual me ofrece apoyo académico para tener éxito en cursos retadores y ganar la aceptación en la Universidad. Yo quiero ser exitoso y entiendo que debo tomar responsabilidad individual para que eso suceda. Yo entiendo que para lograr el apoyo apropiado del programa AVID, debo estar determinado a permanecer en el programa al menos un año, y que podré continuar en el programa sólo si cumpla con las responsabilidades mencionadas anteriormente.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Firma del estudiante*

### Acuerdo de Apoyo:

Estamos de acuerdo en apoyar el esfuerzo de este estudiante en cumplir las metas señaladas en este contrato.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Firma del Coordinador de AVID*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Firma del Padre/Guardián*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Firma del maestro de AVID*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*