

To: Board of Education

From: Anna Stubblefield, Deputy Superintendent

Re: AVID Critical Reading for 2018-2019

Date: October 22, 2018

Associated Board of Education Goals for 2017-2018:

- Develop and align district expectations for curriculum, instruction, and assessment to raise the achievement of all students
- Enhance programming and supports to meet the varied academic, social, emotional and behavioral needs of each student.

Background:

Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) is a college readiness system for elementary through higher education that is designed to increase school wide performance and learning. AVID is focused on addressing equity factors that inhibit various groups of students from being college and career ready.

The AVID curriculum, based on rigorous standards, was developed by middle and senior high school teachers in collaboration with college professors. It is driven by the WICOR method, which stands for writing, inquiry, collaboration, organization and reading. AVID curriculum is used in AVID elective classes and in content-area classes in AVID middle and high schools.

AVID was approved for implementation at both high schools by the Board of Education on April 23, 2012 for up to \$70,000 in funding through the General Operating Fund. The 2013-14 board goal allowed expansion of AVID to the middle schools with a board approved budget of \$150,000 to successfully implement the program. At the end of the 2015-16 school year, the four middle schools completed their second year of AVID and the high schools their fifth year. Enrollment at the high schools has more than tripled since fall 2012.

Rationale:

The Critical Reading 1 strand is designed for experienced AVID Elective teachers and all subject-area teachers. Critical Reading 1 focuses on the explicit teaching of active reading strategies that help students gain a deep understanding of expository texts. Participants will engage in activities that demonstrate the proven effectiveness of WICOR methodologies.

Professional development/professional learning must be conducted in a way that elicits changes in teachers' practices that in turn lead to increases in students' learning.

In order for professional development/professional learning to be effective, it must exhibit certain characteristics such as –

- PL is an ongoing and supported process (teachers are exposed to training and support from district directors)
- PL is interactive and collaborative
- PL content is explained and discussed in contexts of the teachers' respective learning environments (participants are able to apply what they learned at training in their classroom)
- PL is based on instructional practices that are thoroughly researched

AVID professional learning exhibits multiple characteristics of effectiveness and correlates with increases in reported teacher and student engagement, resulting in more effective, dynamic learning experiences for students.

It has been determined that AVID is an instrumental instructional/resource tool for our students. As such, we need to continue to place just as much importance on providing professional development/learning opportunities to our staff in order to continue to increase student outcomes.

Recommendation:

The training fee provides professional learning for AVID's Critical Reading 1 strand for the 2018-19 school year.

Critical Reading 1 (100 participants @ \$430)	\$43,000
Discount (\$20 per person based on total Number of participants > 100)	<u>-2,000</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>41,000</b>

Motion:

"I move the Board of Education approve the purchase of the Critical Reading 1 professional learning for the 2018-19 school year in the amount of \$41,000 to be paid from the 2018-2019 Title IV grant.