GILBERT HIGH SCHOOL



APPLICATION PACKET

Christopher Mack, AVID Coordinator

Packet Includes:

♦ AVID Information

♦ Student Application

♦ Essay prompt

♦ Transcript request

♦ Sample Interview Questions

♦ Teacher and Counselor Recommendation forms

Complete application due in Mr. Mack’s box by appropriate deadline:

Priority Admission (current AVID students and family members)—Wednesday, December 17, 2008

General Admission (student not currently in AVID)—Wednesday, January 21, 2009

[Christoper.mack@gilbertschools.net](mailto:Christoper.mack@gilbertschools.net)

Is AVID For You?

**What is AVID?**

AVID stands for Advancement Via

Individual Determination and is a regularly scheduled elective class that prepares students in the middle, with academic potential, for success in advanced high school classes and in college.

**What are AVID student expectations?**

Maintain at least a “C” average

Show great citizenship & attendance

Maintain an organized binder

Take notes every day, in every class, every year in high school

Participate in weekly tutorials

Write, Question, Collaborate, Read

Take Honors and AP classes

Take PSAT, SAT, ACT tests

Remain in program 4 years

Be a well-rounded student

Apply to several four-year colleges

**What are AVID parent expectations?**

AVID parents are expected to encourage their students to achieve academically, to maintain regular contact with the site AVID coordinator and to become involved in the activities of the AVID program.

**What happens in the AVID program?**

The AVID Four-Year Elective program is three-pronged:

1) Students receive academic instruction in writing note-taking, studying, test-taking, and organizing,

2) Students receive academic support from college tutors through collaborative tutorial groups, peer counseling

3) Students are motivated to pursue academic excellence through goal setting, rigorous classes, cultural and college field trips, classroom guest speakers, and AVID team building.

**How do you recognize an AVID student?**

The AVID student carries a notebook, takes notes in all classes, is prepared for class, is a positive role model for others, and is "on track" for college.

**What are AVID results?**

Over 95% of students who have graduated from AVID programs have enrolled in four-year colleges and universities. Two years later, 89% are still enrolled.

**GILBERT HIGH SCHOOL A.V.I.D. STUDENT APPLICATION**

STUDENT NAME \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ STUDENT ID # \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ WORK # \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please respond to the following:

1. The math class I am taking this year is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_; my most recent grade was\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2. Please check the # of school days you have missed or been tardy in the last 4 months.

\_\_\_\_ 0 – 2 (Excellent) \_\_\_\_ 2 – 4 (OK) \_\_\_\_ 5 or more (Needs Improvement)

3. Please check the number of detentions for behavior you have gotten in the last year.

\_\_\_\_ 0 (Excellent) \_\_\_\_ 1 – 2 (OK) \_\_\_\_ 3 or more (Needs Improvement)

4. List some extra-curricular activities you have been involved in. Include (school, sports, community service, work, etc.):

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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5. What I like most about school is \_\_\_\_\_ and why? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

6. What I like least about school is and why? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

7. Please obtain 3 recommendations (2 core class teachers, 1 counselor) using the attached forms.

8. Please write an essay (minimum one page) that answers the following prompt. Life is full of obstacles and problems. Some people run from these conflicts while others face them head on. Write an essay about an obstacle you have overcome in your life.

It can be a recent event or something that happened a long time ago. Describe the event, specific steps you took to overcome the obstacle, your thoughts, feelings, and the outcome. Please type this essay (if possible), double space, write name.

9. \*Attach the most recent copy of your transcript to this application.

We understand the information page regarding AVID and that this program is available on a limited basis. We also understand that there is a transcript screening process and an interview. Please note that a complete application does not guarantee a placement in the AVID elective.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature Date

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature Date

**A.V.I.D. COUNSELOR Recommendation Form**

Turn in 1 recommendation from your counselor.

(Before giving to counselor, fill in counselor name, your name and student number.)

Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Counselor Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Potential AVID Student Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Student #\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(Please print)

What AVID is NOT …

An at-risk program for unmotivated students

A quick fix for student problems

A study hall class

Easy

What AVID is…

For students with college potential

For students with middle to high test scores

For students who are already motivated to succeed

**Please take a few minutes to answer the following questions.**

1. How many absences has the student had this school year? \_\_\_\_\_\_

Reasons: \_\_\_ illness \_\_\_ truant \_\_\_ appointments \_\_\_ other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2. How many tardies has the student had this school year? \_\_\_\_\_\_

3. How many detentions for behavior has the student had this school year? \_\_\_\_

Reasons: \_\_\_ defiance \_\_\_ fighting \_\_\_ language \_\_\_ other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

4. How many detentions for non-completion of homework has the student had this year? \_\_\_\_

Subjects: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

5. Are there special circumstances that might hinder the student from being successful academically or socially?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

6. Do you feel this student would be successful in honors and AP courses given appropriate support?

\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No

7. Do you feel this has college potential, if given tutorial support? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No

8. Please comment on the student’s level of motivation and any special circumstances of which the selection committee should be aware (e.g. low income, 1st to attend college, single-parent, recent illness or death in family, etc.)

\_\_\_I recommend this student for placement in the Sheldon AVID Program. Briefly explain why.

\_\_\_I do not recommend this student for AVID. Briefly explain why.

**Gilbert High School A.V.I.D. TEACHER Recommendation Form**

Turn in 2 recommendations from academic teachers. First, fill in teacher name and your name.)

Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Teacher Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Potential AVID Student Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Student #\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Please print)

What AVID is NOT …

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A quick fix for student problems

A study hall class

Easy

What AVID is…

For students with college potential

For students with middle to high CAT 6 test scores

For students who are already motivated to succeed

Please take a few minutes to answer the following questions by checking the appropriate column.

Yes Sometimes No

1. Does this student have average \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_

to above-average skills in general?

2. Does this student appear to need \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_

assistance with reading strategies to

improve comprehension?

3. Do you believe this student \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_

is working up to his/her potential?

4. Does this student display \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_

good classroom work habits?

5. Does this student practice \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_

good citizenship?

6. Does this student have a \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_

acceptable attendance record?

7. Does this student seem to have \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_

college potential, if given tutorial support?

8. The quality of home and class work is \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_

very good.

9. Do you feel this student would be \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_

successful in honors and AP courses given

appropriate support?

\_\_\_I recommend this student for placement in the Sheldon AVID Program. Briefly explain why.

\_\_\_I do not recommend this student for AVID. Briefly explain why.

Please comment on the student’s level of motivation and any special circumstances of which the selection committee should be aware (i.e. low income, 1st to attend college, single-parent, etc.)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form in a sealed envelope to Christopher Mack at Gilbert or to the student by the student’s appropriate deadline (current AVID student: December 17, 2008; non-AVID students: January 21, 2009)

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**SAMPLE AVID INTERVIEW QUESTIONS**

These are for you to prepare for the interview only. Do not include with application

What is AVID? Advancement via Individual Determination

• You have to want to achieve, not your parents, teachers, friends – YOU!

• Class setup

* notes every day, in every class for every year in high school
* lectures on organization, study, and communication skills
* In-depth preparation for college (exams, guest speakers, life…)
* Weekly tutorial sessions led by college students

• Emphasis on Writing, Questioning, Reading and Group Collaboration

• Binder checks and progress reports

Please write answers the following questions.

1. What have you done in and/or outside of school that has made you most proud? (Include awards, recognition, community service, etc.)

2. What is your strongest subject in school?

3. What is your weakest subject in school? How do you try to improve in this area?

4. When, where and about how much time to you spend studying at home per night? TV/computer/video games?

What do you do in your spare time?

5. Give an example of something you really struggled with over the past year.

6. Give an example of a time you showed great commitment to.

7. AVID takes consistent work and routine organization.

Rate yourself from 1-5 (5 being great) and please explain your answers.

\_\_\_\_\_ How organized are your binders/materials? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ How motivated are you to achieve your goals? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ How well do you stick with tasks you have started? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ How motivated would your parents say you are? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ How willing are you to attend summer school? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

8. How would people describe you? Your parents? Friends? Strangers?

9. In AVID, you are expected to work very hard. Are you willing to study at least two hours nightly? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

10. When things don’t go your way, how do you handle it? (i.e. blame others or make excuses). Give examples.

11. When you feel a teacher is treating you unfairly, how do you handle it?

12. Why do you want to go to a 4-year college immediately following high school? Why do your parents want you to go to college? What do you and your parents discuss about college?

13. List the people who live in your house.

14. Of the people who live in your house, who has graduated from a 4-year university in the United States?

15. What do you want to be when you’re an adult?

16. Are there any situations in your life that make it difficult to study or do well with school work? Explain.

17. Are you willing to take the AVID elective for 1 period per day for 4 years?

18. Why would AVID be helpful to you?

19. What skills or characteristics will you bring to the AVID class to make it successful? (The AVID four-year elective is not a program that just “gives to students”. It is only as successful as the AVID students make it.

**The AVID Student Profile**

Look for these qualities:

1. Ability

•Average to high test scores in math

•Average to high test scores in language arts (ELL will be lower)

2. Academic Performance - G.P.A. ranging from 2.5 – 3.5

3. Student’s strong desire to attend college and motivation to do the work necessary in advanced classes.

4. College potential if placed in advanced classes and given tutorial support.

5. Possibly the first person in the family to attend a 4-year college.

6. Possibly economically disadvantaged.

7. Excellent citizenship.

8. May have special circumstances such as… single family, many siblings, non-native English speaker, recent death, illness or divorce in family, shyness, etc.

