

## AVID Curriculum Cues from Kathy Josephson



### Middle Level Writing

*Units of Study*, pages 123-176

**Purpose:** *To provide the elective teacher, who wishes to have his/her students work through a writing process that culminates in a final paper, with three possible writing units*

Each unit begins with the inquiry of analyzing what real writers do when they write to one of the provided genres of writing. The units included are *Memoir* for those who can benefit from practice in writing narratives; *Writing to Inform* for those who are ready to write expository; and *Persuasive Commentary/Editorial* for those students who are ready to understand the techniques of persuasion used by many writers today. I highly recommend the elective teachers horizontally articulate with the English teachers in deciding which unit to complete at what grade level. Supporting the English Department's standards would be appreciated. As well as articulating with the English department, the AVID elective teachers should begin vertically articulating the writing-to-learn activities in the AVID elective classes.

### High School Writing

*Writing Lessons*, pages 195-376

**Purpose:** *Similar to the Middle Level Writing Units of Study, the High School Writing Curriculum includes three writing units; Exploring Reflective Writing, Exploring Expository Writing, and Exploring Persuasive Writing*

Within each unit, the teacher has three or four writing choices. The *Reflective Writing* unit is focused on helping students to write more expressively and reflectively through a *mandala* autobiography, autobiographical incident, biography, and college admission essay. The *Expository Writing* unit teaches the students to report the facts while excluding the writer's opinion or judgment. The writing types include explanations of life goals, career research, description of place, and explanation of a process. The *Persuasive Writing* unit teaches students to convince readers that the writer's opinion is valid while using factual information through a character analysis, problem-solution analysis, and argument essay. With eleven possible writing units, vertically articulating the lessons amongst the AVID elective classes is important so lessons are not repeated. As with the middle level, be sure to horizontally articulate with the English Department to ensure choices match grade level writing standards.

