

Robert F. Kennedy High School

AVID Newsletter

Students hard at work in Mrs. Monteiano's AVID III Elective class



Greetings from AVID!

Congratulations! Wow! We have made it to another year at RFK! The first year at RFK and of AVID was very successful, and our second year will only be more so.

This year we are proud to have four AVID classes (two AVID I classes, one AVID II class, and one AVID III class), and we are proud to have Mr. Garza and Mrs. Monteiano join our RFK AVID team!

AVID Elective Teacher Bio: Mr. Aaron D. Garza

My name is Aaron D. Garza and I grew up in a small town located 30 miles south of Chicago. I attended a private school until I reached high school and then it was back to the wild for me. While I attended high school I participated in wrestling, baseball and football. After high school I was given a scholarship to attend William Penn University in Oskaloosa Iowa. I then graduated with a degree in education and moved to the beautiful state of California.

AVID Elective Teacher Bio: Mrs. Sara Cipriano

My name is Sara Cipriano and I teach an AVID I elective class. I was first introduced to AVID two

For this first newsletter, we've included introductions to each our AVID elective teachers. Future editions of this newsletter will have articles written by AVID students about AVID activities. We look forward to sharing our AVID activities and successes with you each month!

-AVID elective teachers

AVID Club

AVID club is open to all AVID students and friends of AVID students. We meet every Thursday at both lunches.

- 1st lunch meets in Room 103
- 2nd lunch meets in Room 204

years ago at Delano High School and instantly grew to love what the AVID program offered – support for students with the dream to go to college. Having grown up in an economically disadvantaged single parent home, I am greatly aware of the struggles facing many of our students as they strive to reach their goals of going to college. I enjoy helping students see how they can overcome those challenges and head down the track for a college education.

Up Coming AVID Events:

- AVID Parent Workshops on October 1st, at RFK in the cafeteria, from 5:30 – 7:00 pm.
- AVID tutor trainings begin October 7th and 8th, at RFK in Room 213, from 3:00 – 5:00 pm

AVID is
Advancement
Via
Individual
Determination



Mr. Arthur working with AVID II elective student
Erik Garcia

AVID I elective students working in Mrs. Cipriano's class



AVID Elective Teacher Bio: Mr. Steven Michael Arthur

I was born and raised in the small community of Porterville, CA. My father was a college graduate that had always encouraged me to stretch beyond high school, but it was my mother who spent countless hours assisting me with my homework. After graduating high school, I wasn't sure what to do. Many of my friends went off for college and I followed along thinking that's what I was [supposed] to do. While in junior college I learned that I had a learning disability that inhibited my learning; I always wondered why school was tough for me. After adjusting to my disability I later transferred to CSU, Fresno. While I changed majors often because there was so much to learn, I finally landed in Kinesiology. Later [I] graduated with a degree in kinesiology

and I had the drive to become a teacher. I student taught in Fresno, CA at Roosevelt High and in Sanger, CA at several of the communities elementary school. My first job offer was in Delano, CA after leaving my honeymoon to attend an interview with the principal of Delano High school. Over the past six years I have made Delano my home away from home.

AVID Elective Teacher Bio: Mrs. Lori Montejano

My name is Lori Montejano and I am the AVID Coordinator/Elective Teacher for the junior class here at RFK. I became involved with the AVID program approximately 6 years ago when I was part of the team that initiated the program at Cecil Avenue Middle School under the direction of Mr. Jason Kashwer. My interest in AVID grew from my experience as a long term substitute teacher at a middle school in Tulare.

and my passion flourishes still today as I continue my training as an AVID teacher here in Delano. This passion for AVID stems from the great peer support, rigorous instructional strategies, and critical thinking methodologies the program offers students and the teachers who support it. I can honestly promote this program to students, who like me, fit the AVID profile. I did not have grandparents or parents who were college graduates, I came from a low income family, I was a student who was an average student, and I knew I wanted to someday go to college. What I didn't know was how I was going to get there. I don't want my students to feel the desire to go to college and not have the knowledge to fulfill that dream. I believe that I have been blessed with this opportunity to show students that there are teachers who have very similar backgrounds to their own and they do want them to be successful in life.



AVID Recruitment

Know a student that student that is interested in AVID? Know a student that would benefit from AVID? Contact either Mrs. Montejano, AVID Coordinator, lmontejano@djuhsd.org, or one of the AVID elective teachers – Mrs. Cipriano, AVID I Elective teacher, scipriano@djuhsd.org; Mr. Garza, agarza@djuhsd.org; or Mr. Arthur, AVID II Elective teacher, sarthur@djuhsd.org

Support RFK AVID Students!

Want to be a guest speaker for? Or know someone who would be a good guest speaker? What to help out in an AVID class as a tutor? Or know someone who would like to be a tutor? Please let us know! Contact Mrs. Montejano, AVID Coordinator, at 661-720 - 4718 or email at lmonteiano@djuhsd.org.