



## AVID Schools

Actis JHS  
 Almond Tree MS  
 Arvin HS  
 Bakersfield HS  
 Burroughs HS  
 Cecil Avenue MS  
 Centennial HS  
 Cesar Chavez HS  
 Delano HS  
 East Bakersfield HS  
 El Tejon School  
 Foothill HS  
 Golden Valley HS  
 Haven Drive MS  
 Highland HS  
 Independence HS  
 La Viña MS  
 Lakeside School  
 Lincoln JHS  
 Maricopa HS  
 McFarland HS  
 McFarland MS  
 Mira Monte HS  
 Monroe MS  
 Mountain View MS  
 Murray MS  
 North HS  
 Richland JHS  
 Rio Bravo-Greeley  
 School  
 Robert F. Kennedy HS  
 Shafter HS  
 Sierra MS  
 South HS  
 Stonecreek JHS  
 Sunset MS  
 Taft Union HS  
 Tevis JHS  
 Thompson JHS  
 Walter Stiern MS  
 Warren JHS  
 Washington MS

# Kern County Chronicle

## The Weekly AVID Newsletter

WEEK 5

21 SEPTEMBER 2009

### Administrators' Breakfast 2009

Kern County AVID administrators from two-thirds of the AVID schools in the county attended the annual event to share their experience and expertise in order to kick off the school year on a very positive and productive note. The main theme of the morning was college preparedness/readiness focusing on what AVID Site Team Members can do for their students at all levels to prepare them for the rigors of college/university life and assure that they are ready for the next step in their educational lives. The Socratic seminar produced some very insightful comments from all attendees, and as has been the case for the past few years, the panel discussion elicited some excellent comments from panel members and equally powerful comments from all in attendance. Special thanks go out to the panel members whose names are listed below.

- Kelly Bellue Asst. Principal — Thompson JHS
- Marciano Flores Act. Dir. — East Bakersfield HS
- Darryl Johnson Principal — Stonecreek JHS
- Dr. Terri Nuckols Principal — Delano HS
- Dr. Kathy Orrin Principal — Lincoln JHS

All materials from the breakfast are now posted on the homepage of KCSOS AVID website.

**THANK YOU, AVID ADMINISTRATORS!**

### Quote of the Week

“Education is what survives when what has been learned has been forgotten.”

*B. F. Skinner (1904-1990)  
American behavioral psychologist, author, educator*



### Important Dates

**Tue. 22 Sep. 2009**

**Tutor Training I**  
8:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.  
**KCSOS University Square US1**

**Tue. 6 Oct. 2009**

**Coordinators' Workshop I**  
8:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.  
**East Bakersfield HS**

**Tue. 20 Oct. 2009**

**Tutor Training II**  
8:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.  
**KCSOS University Square Second Floor—Tehachapi Room**

**Tue. 27 Oct. 2009**

**Taking AVID Schoolwide**  
8:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.  
**North HS**

**Sat. 21 Nov. 2009**

**Write Path Workshop**  
8:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.  
**Stonecreek JHS**

**Tue. 2 Feb. 2010**

**Taking AVID Scholwide**  
8:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.  
**Thompson JHS**



### Coordinator's Corner



What should you bring to the October 6<sup>th</sup> Coordinators' Workshop?

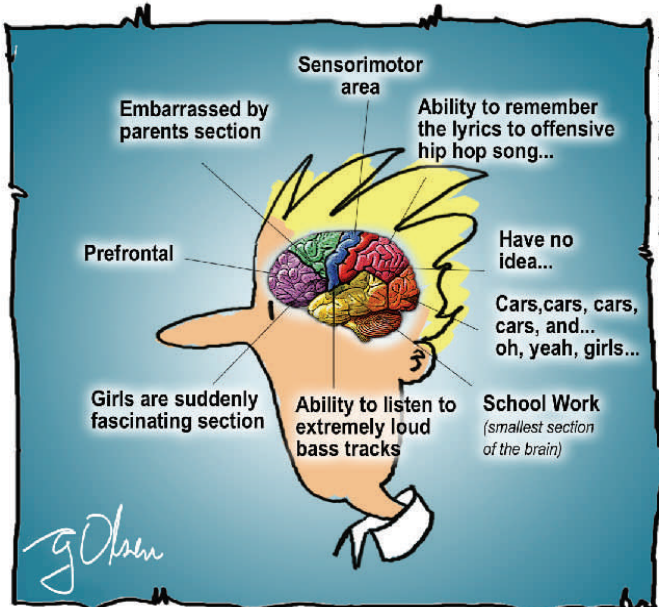
To prevent the frantic collection of evidence just prior to the Certification Meeting in the spring, Brad and I ask you to collect as much evidence as possible for Essentials 1, 2, and 3 NOW, and BRING it to the first Coordinators' workshop. Coordinators will be grouped for the purpose of trading evidence and ultimately confirming their speculated levels. Please organize the evidence by Essential, Indicator, and Level.

I cannot emphasize enough the importance of the request. This will save all of us time, effort, and the money that I spend on hair color. Use the checklist below to help you collect the appropriate evidence.

### Coordinators' Corner Checklist

- Compile evidence for Essentials 1, 2, and 3 to be checked at Coordinators' Workshop I.
- Create an evidence collection system.
- Post the Site Team goals in each AVID elective classroom.
- Register Site Team Members for the appropriate AVID Professional Development Series workshops.
- Complete and send your completed AVID Site Plan to Brad or Kathy. Many sites completed this task at Summer Institute.

**Thank  
you!**



### Anatomy of a Teenager's Brain

Gary Olsen, Higher Education  
[www.dubuque.k12.ia.us/cartoons](http://www.dubuque.k12.ia.us/cartoons)

### EBHS Principal, Lee Vasquez, Subject of Californian Article

The September 14th edition of the *Californian* featured an article on page 6 of the "Local" section written by contributing columnist Andrae Gonzales. The gist of the article was that school principals have profound effects on students. Mr. Vasquez obviously made quite an impression on the columnist and continues to make a difference in the lives of his students. We are very happy that Lee Vasquez is an AVID principal and know that his efforts will help all students succeed. Check the [www.bakersfield.com](http://www.bakersfield.com) archives; the article should be posted soon! **Great job, Lee!**

**Kathy Josephson**

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**Brad Ruff**

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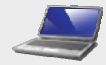
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The Weekly AVID Newsletter



## Taft Union High School AVID Students Receive Netbooks



A group of seniors and some juniors in the AVID elective classes at Taft Union High School will be carrying laptop computers to their classes along with their textbooks and notebooks during the current school year. These *Netbooks* are the result of a grant the school wrote and will become one more tool in the AVID students' learning repertoire along with all of the useful strategies they are already using in their AVID classes and across the curriculum at TUHS. More than a few schools across the country are conducting similar pilot programs with their students to determine if laptops/*Netbooks* can be viable alternatives to textbooks and perhaps become a more cost-effective approach to disseminating materials. Leave it to an AVID school to be on the cutting edge of such a development! We look forward to reports from the AVID students on the successes and challenges the computers produce in their daily lives at TUHS.



**Keep up the good work, TUHS AVID!**

**Good luck with the *Netbooks*!**



## Materials Posted on the KCSOS AVID Website

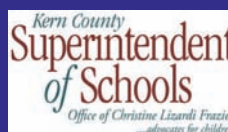
With so many AVID resources available in various locations, it can become overwhelming to keep track of all that is out there! Become familiar with the AVID texts/materials that you have at your school, and make sure they are easily accessible to all Site Team Members. We also post materials on the KCSOS AVID website, and we want to make it easier for you to keep track of these posted materials. Below is an inventory that you might want to keep handy for future reference. Also remember that new materials are regularly posted.

Link	Posted Materials
Home	Kern County AVID Schools (Site Information Forms for all Kern Co. AVID schools), Administrators' Breakfast Materials, Region 8 and AVID Center links, Cardboard Confessional (from Summer Institute)
Weekly Message	<i>Kern County Chronicle</i> (including past issues from 2009-2010)
Best Practices	Items sent during the current school year and all items from 2008-2009
Useful Websites	AVID News, CDE, Colleges & Universities, College & Career Preparation, Academic Preparation, Classroom Materials
Curriculum Cues	Items posted in <i>Kern County Chronicle</i> during 2008-2009 school year
Site Coordinators	Quick Reference Help Information for Site Coordinators, Coordinator's Corner postings from 2008-2009, Schoolwide Rubric, Site Plan, Workshop Series, Online Registration instructions, Payment Form, Write-Off Materials
AVID Elective Teachers	Write-Off Materials, Curriculum Continuum, Tutorial Pacing Chart, Classroom Observation Tools, "Weeks at a Glance", Teaching Materials, Classroom posters, Photo Release Forms
Data Collection	CSS Evidence Document, Class/School Data Collection forms

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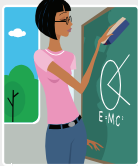
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## The Weekly AVID Newsletter



### AVID Elective Teacher's Corner

I visited Mandy Howland, AVID elective teacher, at Stonecreek Middle School last week. Her 7<sup>th</sup> grade class practiced creating tutorial questions. They struggled with using Costa's list of words appropriately and creating a question for tutorials when they understood all of the information in all of their classes . . . very typical struggles for new students to tutorials. What impressed me was then Mandy had been patient not to start tutorials immediately. She is now beginning her 5<sup>th</sup> week of school and has not had a graded tutorial with her students. I strongly believe that students must spend 6-8 weeks learning about Cornell notes, levels of questioning, familiarizing themselves with the 10 steps to the tutorial process, and observing and practicing tutorials before they ever attempt a graded tutorial. Mandy and I chatted after class, and she said at Summer Institute someone told her that she must *go slowly to go fast*. I love that statement! That is exactly what I'm talking about! If an elective teacher "races" through the process, he/she will become frustrated because students do not bring in good questions or tell other students the answers. AVID elective teachers who proceed slowly will find they build quality tutorials throughout the year. **Thanks Mandy!**



### Newsletter Articles Needed!

Kathy and I would like to make this newsletter more than just a report from *us* each week and try to transform it into more of a collaborative effort from all of *you* out at the AVID schools. To that end, we have decided to open up each edition to articles written by you: AVID elective teachers, college tutors, counselors, and administrators. We could even add a section for articles/letters from students, so put out the word.

We would like to begin this whole process by simply asking that you contact us to sign up for a specific week/edition of the newsletter to which you would like to contribute your article. You may write on anything AVID: lessons, strategies, activities, anecdotes, challenges, successes, etc. We will begin with next week's edition: Week 6. Simply e-mail Kathy or me with the number of the week/edition to which you wish to contribute! Thanks!

**We hope to hear  
from you  
soon!**



### Note from AVID Center

This year's Summer Institute theme was "For Our Students, For Our Future." Having trained more than 17,000 educators over the course of eight weeks, we know there is a bright future in store for AVID and the 400,000 students we now serve.

In addition to our normal Summer Institute strands, this summer we focused on some of AVID's initiatives, including Schoolwide, Equity (African American Male Initiative and English-language Learners), Leadership and Postsecondary. More information about our initiatives can be found on our [website](http://www.avidonline.org).

We wanted to give you a few updates as we begin the school year. 2010 marks AVID's 30th anniversary. To ensure another successful 30 years, AVID Center will focus on quality, growth and culture to guide our work. We want to make sure we continue to provide quality curriculum, professional development and customer service. Rather than looking at growing AVID in numbers of schools, we want to look at how we can deepen the program within schools and districts to reach more students. Finally, we are looking at our culture within AVID Center, so that it is one that reflects the AVID classroom—one that is open for learning, relationship-building, and success. Be sure to check our website, [www.avidonline.org](http://www.avidonline.org), for more information, updates, and additional events.

Have a wonderful year, and thank you for all that you do for our students.

*Jim Nelson*  
Executive Director  
AVID Center



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