

SOUTHWOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL

Anderson, South Carolina



A Title 1 School that Beat the Odds!

School Profile (2005-2006)

Southwood Middle School

Free/Reduced Lunch Population	78%
Special Education Population	26%
Report Card Improvement Rating	Average
Teacher Retention from Previous Year	86%
Students Receiving High School Credit	6.2%
Involvement with AVID	None
National Recognition or Awards	None

Our Journey

- Develop a culture of high expectations
- Implement a more inclusive Special Education atmosphere
- Implement AVID



School Profile (2010-2011)

Southwood Middle School

Free/Reduced Lunch Population	81%
Special Education Population	19%; (SLO 11%)
Report Card Improvement Rating	GOOD
Teacher Retention from Previous Year	94%
Students Receiving High School Credit	15.4%
Involvement with AVID	24% of students enrolled in AVID elective classes; National AVID Demonstration School
National Recognition or Awards	National Middle School "Schools to Watch" Recipient



South Carolina State Department of Education Awards



Winner of seven flags from the SC State Department of Education for Improvements in State Test Scores.

2011-2012 State Test Results

Grade 6 Results (AVID Students)		
Subject Area Test	<u>Met</u> Grade Level Standard	<u>Above</u> Grade Level Standard
Writing	94%	51%
English Language Arts	100%	66%
Math	100%	66%
Science	92%	25%
Social Studies	95%	65%

2011-2012 State Test Results

Grade 7 Results (AVID Students)		
Subject Area Test	<u>Met</u> Grade Level Standard	<u>Above</u> Grade Level Standard
Writing	100%	64%
English Language Arts	88%	53%
Math	94%	53%
Science	94%	50%
Social Studies	97%	55%

2011-2012

High School End of Course Exam Results

- 100% of AVID Algebra 1 students passed the End of Course Test
- 100% of AVID English students passed the End of Course Test

Similar Schools Data

Category	Southwood	Similar Schools in South Carolina
Report Card Rating	Average	0 Schools Excellent 0 Schools Good 19 Schools Average 30 Schools Below Average 21 Schools Unsatisfactory
School Improvement Rating	Good	0 Schools Excellent 0 Schools Good 21 Schools Average 20 Schools Below Average 19 Schools Unsatisfactory
Proficient in Writing	62.5%	49.5%
Proficient in English/Language Arts	66.4%	52.1%
Proficient in Math	70.4%	52.8%
Proficient in Science	79.5%	49.5%
Proficient in Social Studies	72.9%	49.1%
Algebra I End of Course Passing Rate	100%	89.9%
English I End of Course Passing Rate	96.9%	87.9%

How did we do it?

- 100% of administrators and 90% of faculty have all attended at least one AVID Summer Institute.
- 100% of RAMS faculty participate in monthly AVID training.
- ALL students receive an organized binder and Cornell notes are used school-wide.
- All students use Costa levels of questioning and AVID students use the new Tutorial Request Form.
- A very strong Core and Site team that both meet monthly.



College Culture ON Campus

- Teachers' doors, hallways, cafeteria areas are all decorated with college materials.
- Students, teachers, custodians, lunch staff, office staff and parents proudly wear “Think College” shirts.



- 8th grade students wrote letters to colleges asking for pennants.



College Culture OFF Campus



AVID students taught university students how to take Cornell notes during a college field **trip....but it wasn't all work.**



Some time for fun was built in as well!

Excellent Faculty Support

“After attending the AVID summer institute in Atlanta, I began to see the benefits of fully incorporating AVID strategies in my classroom. Gary Kroesch introduced me to a number of engaging, student-centered strategies and I came away from that conference fired up about teaching and ready to take risks in the **classroom.**”



**Anderson School District Five’s 2011-2012 Teacher of the Year
Mr. Curtis Smith
8th Grade Social Studies Teacher at Southwood Middle School**

Mentor Support

- AVID students receive mentors who help them in struggling subjects and talk to them about college.

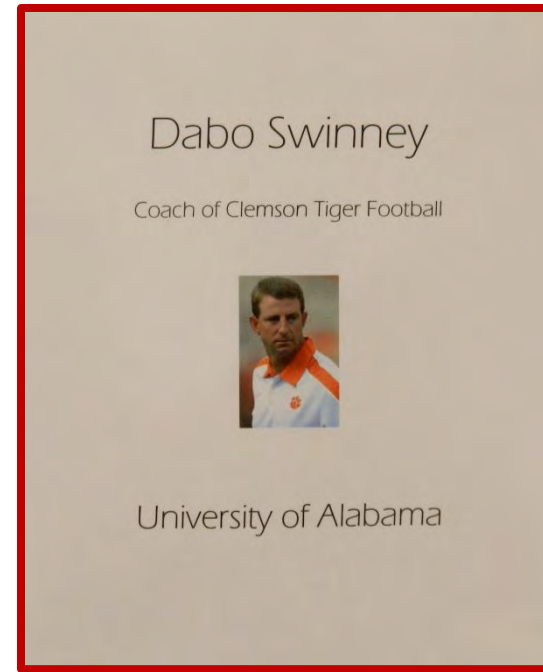


New Initiatives

- Focus on a different in-state College of the Week over the PA system
- Publish our quarterly newsletter, “The AVIDizer”
- AVID “Tip of the Week” commercials

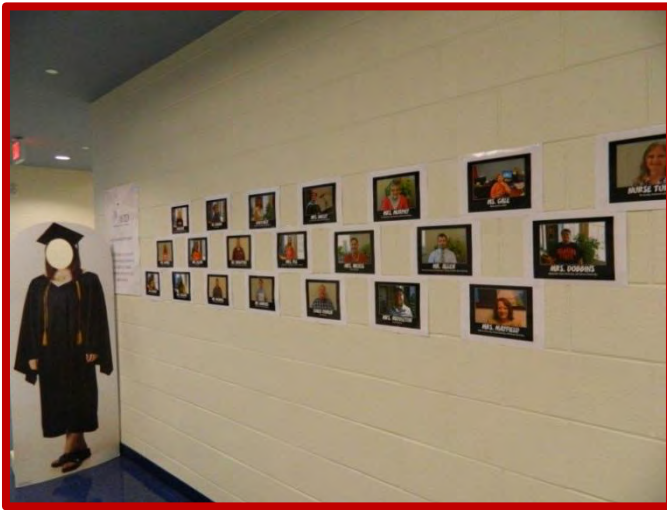


- Wall of Fame honoring locally famous people and listing the colleges and universities they attended.



- AVID students visiting feeder elementary schools and *teaching the teachers* about different AVID strategies.

- Teacher College Wall: See which schools their teachers attended!



...and their principal, Mrs. Murphy!

- AVID posters created by the students decorate the hallways.

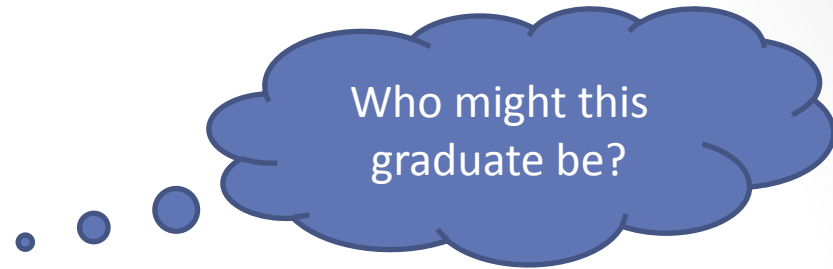


- Life size student wall posters are hung in the cafeteria displaying the college theme.



- Holiday decorations include a tree with college ornaments.

- Cardboard cut-outs of college graduates greet you at our front door.



- One of our tutors, Jim Rometry, serves as our PTSO president, but he is also a full-time college student and parent of an AVID student.



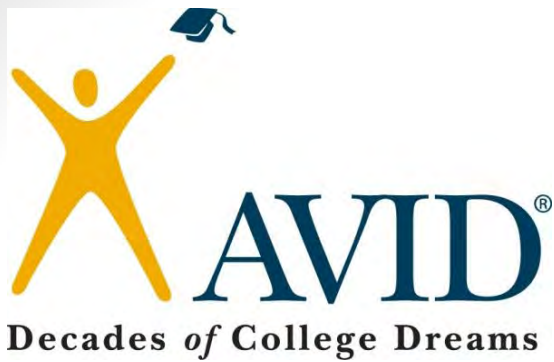
- Adding 6th, 7th and 8th grade College-Readiness classes into our course offerings.

New Challenges as Robert Anderson Middle School



- New faculty members are not accustomed to AVID and are learning how to incorporate strategies and college-going culture into their repertoire.
- The infusion of additional students diluted the student population which resulted in fewer students being familiar with AVID.
- AVID students who previously were in other schools are having to become familiar with our AVID culture.
- There is a need to recreate a college-going culture with new students and faculty.
- New faculty and students must become accustomed to high expectations for learning.
- We are studying how to successfully incorporate the AVID philosophy with leadership as we move toward becoming a magnet school in our district.

And Now Introducing...



AVID in Anderson School District Five: *A Systemic Approach to College and Career Readiness*

Mrs. Betty T. Bagley
Superintendent
Anderson School District Five



**Anderson
School District Five**

Mrs. Amy Wood Hawkins
Director of Middle and High
School Programs
& AVID District Director

Anderson School District Five's AVID Campuses

High Schools

- T. L. Hanna High School, an International Baccalaureate World School
- Westside High School, an Early College Academy

Middle Schools

- Glenview Middle School
- Lakeside Middle School of Inquiry and Innovation, a STEM School
- McCants Middle School, an International Baccalaureate World Candidate School
- Robert Anderson Middle School

Focus on Articulation:

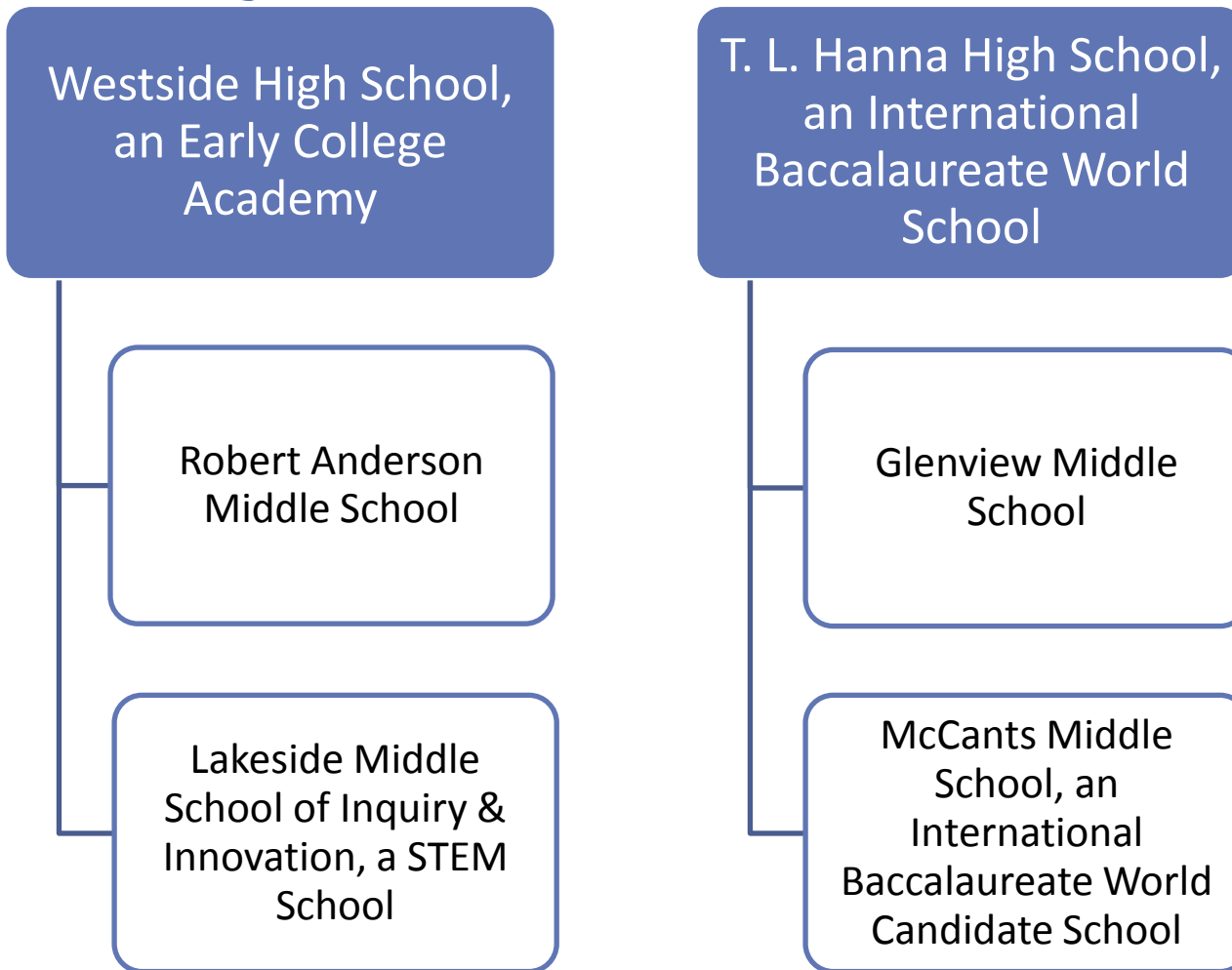
Articulation is the systematic coordination of course and/or program content within and between educational institutions to facilitate the continuous and efficient progress of students from grade to grade, school to school, and from school to the working world.

- Selected members of each Site Team (Site Coordinator, AVID Elective Teachers, AVID Administrators) meet as the Anderson Five AVID team.
- Together we create a framework for a district-wide program.
- We share the AVID philosophy with ALL teachers in the secondary program.
- We also share the AVID philosophy with the elementary school faculties as they aid in selecting our incoming AVID students.

Anderson Five AVID Team

- Site coordinators, AVID elective teachers, AVID administrators, and the AVID district director meet regularly to work on the following:
 - Vertical articulation of goals
 - Guidelines for selection/de-selection
 - Collaborative planning (especially important for sites with only one AVID elective teacher)
 - Reciprocity for accepting AVID transfers
 - Providing a consistent message on AVID and sharing it with schools
 - Discuss fundraising for AVID
 - Professional development for the AVID Team members

Pathways



Due to our magnet schools, theme schools, and school within a schools, our students may apply and attend any school with a specialized program.

Professional Development

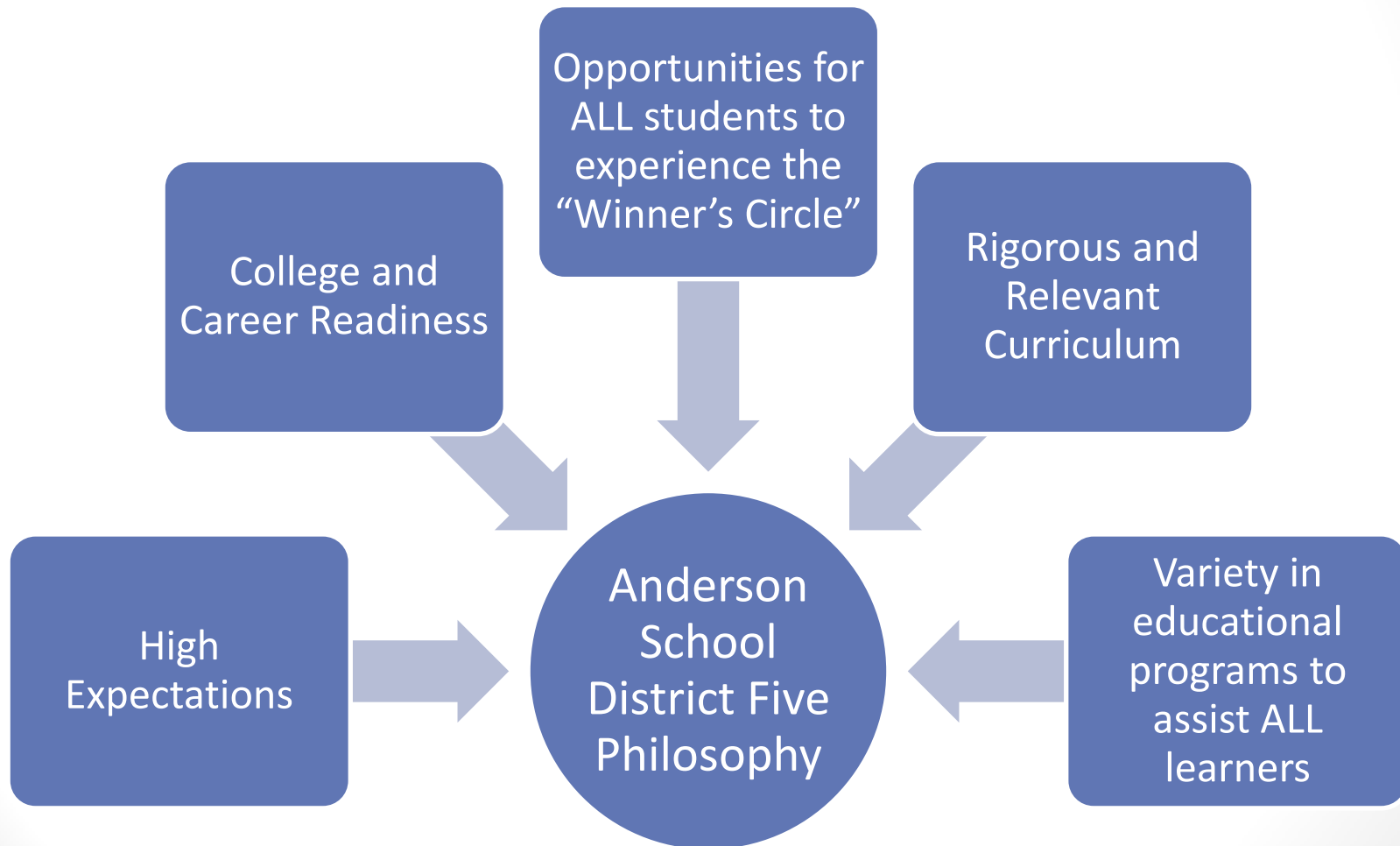
- District –wide professional development plans regularly incorporate AVID strategies
 - Southwood/Robert Anderson Middle teachers provide district-wide professional development monthly
 - Kathy Dobbins presented a session for secondary teachers on using AVID strategies
 - Anderson Five Summer Institute offers AVID connections in courses.
 - “Common Core Literacy in Science, Social Studies, and History” used AVID critical reading strategies
 - Path trainings have been offered

Funding AVID

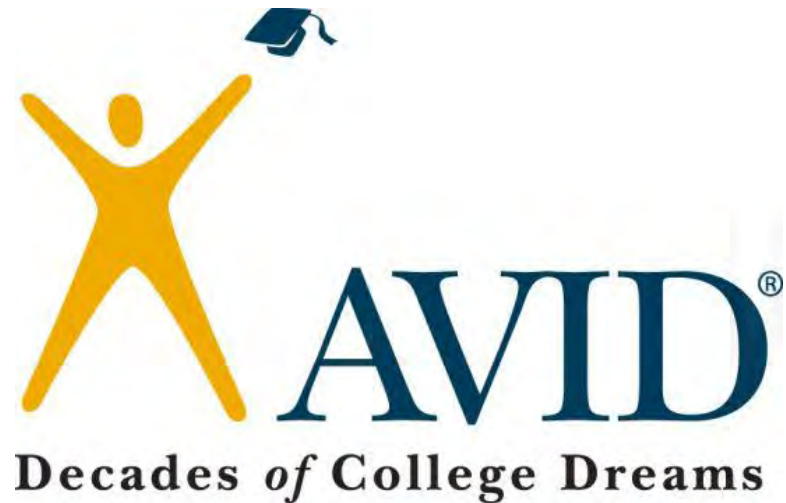
- Smaller Learning Communities Grant (High Schools)
- EEDA Grants
- Commitment from the General Fund
- Anderson School District Five Foundation
- Fundraising

Funding has been made a high priority
in Anderson Five thanks to the efforts
of our superintendent and
cheerleader, Mrs. Betty Bagley

At a hotel by an airport...



Common Philosophy & Goals



*Thank you for your presence and attention today.
If we can help you, please contact us.*

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