



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **AVID Day at the Capitol Promises to Bring Students and State Legislators Together**

*Students from all over Colorado head to the capitol to share their stories*

Denver, CO (January 25, 2016): AVID ([Advancement Via Individual Determination](#))—a national non-profit, proven, college-readiness system—announced today that it has teamed with Senator Nancy Todd and Representative Brittany Pettersen from the Colorado Senate Education Committee to sponsor AVID Day at the Capitol on Wednesday, February 3, 2016. More than 150 Colorado AVID students from 17 districts across the state will participate. A majority of these students will be the first in their families to attend college, and many face struggles that make college success challenging, but by joining AVID, they have dedicated themselves to being college-ready.

“It is great to have AVID students and teachers at the capitol to help create a better understanding of a successful program that has helped so many students in Colorado and nationwide,” said Senator Todd.

This powerful event will provide opportunities for these students to have their voices heard and experience democracy firsthand. The day includes a student leadership breakfast and exhibition with members of the House and Senate, where students can speak directly with legislators about their experiences and ask questions. Students will also be able to observe legislative sessions and take tours of the capitol grounds. Senator Todd and select AVID students will share their unique personal stories of encouragement.

“AVID is definitely life-changing. It opens your eyes, so you know what is possible!” said Jessica Lopez, one of the students who will address the group, from Thomas Jefferson High School in Denver. Lopez will be the first person in her family to graduate from high school. She credits much of her academic success to the support from her AVID teacher and fellow AVID students.

A tribute will be read in both the House and Senate declaring February 3, AVID Day at the Capitol in recognition of the dedication and commitment that AVID educators and students make to being college- and career-ready with AVID.

#### **About AVID**

AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) is a non-profit, proven, college-readiness system that closes the achievement gap. Today, AVID is implemented in approximately 5,000 schools in 44 states, the District of Columbia, and 16 countries/territories, and impacts almost a million students in grades K–12 and in 43 postsecondary institutions. The AVID College Readiness System transforms a school’s academic culture to increase the number of students who enroll in four-year colleges and succeed in higher education. For more information, please visit [www.AVID.org](http://www.AVID.org).

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