



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **BUSH FOUNDATION SELECTS ADVANCEMENT VIA INDIVIDUAL DETERMINATION (AVID) FOR \$2 MILLION INVESTMENT IN EDUCATION**

*29 schools in Southern Minnesota and the Bismarck–Mandan region of North Dakota are participating to accelerate college and career readiness for students*

San Diego, CA (February 16, 2016): AVID ([Advancement Via Individual Determination](#)) announced that it has partnered with schools across Southern Minnesota and the Bismarck–Mandan region of North Dakota to expand its nationally recognized college readiness system. These efforts could give as many as 22,000 students access to educators who can help them develop the social, organizational, and learning skills necessary for postsecondary success. This is all possible thanks to the [Bush Foundation](#) in Saint Paul, MN, which awarded \$2 million in the form of a four-year grant that will fund AVID Schoolwide implementation at 20 schools in nine school districts in Southern Minnesota and nine schools in two school districts in the Bismarck–Mandan region of North Dakota.

Each of the 11 participating school districts have demonstrated commitment to embed the AVID System in primary feeder patterns of middle and high schools and to ensure sustainability in order to create strong college-going cultures and to improve postsecondary education acceptance and persistence for students across the regions.

Participating schools will receive the following through AVID as a result of the grant:

- Leadership development training
- Professional development in proven AVID instructional methodologies at AVID Summer Institute and regional training events
- Ongoing coaching and support from AVID to support quality instruction and student access to classes of rigor to prepare for college and careers

AVID CEO Sandy Husk, PhD, stated, “Bush Foundation’s commitment to the improvement of public education is exceptional, and we are proud to provide AVID Schoolwide strategies, support, and training to help these deserving students.”

#### **ABOUT AVID**

AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) is a nonprofit, 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).

## **ABOUT THE BUSH FOUNDATION**

The Bush Foundation invests in great ideas and the people who power them. They encourage people and communities to think bigger and think differently about what is possible across Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, and the 23 Native nations that share the same geographic area. The Foundation's Major Investments in Education initiative will advance ideas improving postsecondary success for students of all backgrounds, help expand strategies with a proven record of success, and launch new ideas with potential to transform the education system.

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