

## **AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) Praised by Nationally Renowned Journalist in Newly Released Book**

Award-winning education writer Jay Mathews writes *Question Everything: The Rise of AVID as America's Largest College Readiness Program*

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**August 12, 2015 (San Diego, Calif.)** – AVID ([Advancement Via Individual Determination](#))—a San Diego-based nonprofit, proven college readiness system—announced the Wiley publication of [Question Everything: The Rise of AVID as America's Largest College Readiness Program](#) by [Jay Mathews](#), award-winning education columnist and author of nine books, including [Escalante: The Best Teacher in America](#) (the basis for the film [Stand and Deliver](#)).

In the book, Mathews examines AVID strategies, concepts, and techniques, and details what sets AVID apart from other college readiness programs. When asked what he hoped to accomplish by writing about AVID, Mathews responded, “I wanted to give AVID teachers an independent appraisal of their work and its importance to the future of education of all students. They have heard this from people in AVID, but I am a foreigner arriving in their country, telling them that what they are doing makes sense to me, too, and should be planted everywhere.”

He continued, “I also wanted to sound the alarm for the rest of the U.S. education establishment that they should look into AVID and convince policymakers that AVID is worth the investment.”

AVID CEO Sandy Husk, PhD, applauds the book's release, as it further supports the AVID strategies implemented over the past 35 years. “AVID provides proven, real-world strategies so that educators can accelerate the performance of students across the entire campus,” commented Dr. Husk, who added, “I have a high regard for Jay and his work in the field of education. *Question Everything* validates what thousands of students and teachers know...AVID works.”

[Question Everything](#) tells rich and detailed stories about the beginnings of AVID and the skepticism and struggles founder Mary Catherine Swanson faced in expanding her idea that was having

dramatic results for students who were not typically viewed as being capable of success. The book chronicles people who have both influenced and implemented AVID and shares the personal stories of students whose life trajectories were changed by their AVID-trained teachers.

*Question Everything* is available for purchase [online](#) and at retailers nationwide in both print and all e-book formats.

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### **About AVID**

AVID 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 more than 800,000 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 and training. To learn more, visit [www.avid.org](http://www.avid.org).

### **About the Author**

Jay Mathews is an education columnist for the Washington Post and [washingtonpost.com](http://washingtonpost.com). He has been with the Post for 44 years and is the author of nine books, including five about high schools and a New York Times bestseller about the birth and growth of the KIPP charter school network. He has won several awards for education writing and was given the Upton Sinclair Award as “a beacon of light in the realm of education.” He won the Eugene Meyer Award for distinguished service to the Washington Post.

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