



Advancement Via Individual Determination

NEWS RELEASE

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AVID Names New CEO

SAN DIEGO – The AVID Center board of directors is pleased to announce that Dr. Sandy Husk will become AVID's CEO effective January 2014. Dr. Husk has served as a superintendent of schools for almost 18 years, most recently in Salem-Keizer, OR, where she has led impressive reforms that have positively impacted student achievement. She is a proven instructional leader with broad and deep experience helping students, especially students who have frequently been underserved and those from challenging backgrounds, succeed academically. She has more than 17 years of experience implementing AVID in districts she's led. Dr. Husk has served in many state and national leadership roles including the National School Public Relations Association, Educational Research and Development Institute, College Board Advisors, and the American Association for School Administrators.

As CEO, Dr. Husk will be responsible for implementing AVID's strategic priorities that include furthering its mission of closing the achievement gap and preparing all students for college, accelerating the scalability of AVID as a schoolwide and districtwide system, developing student-centric technologies to enhance and sustain the student experience in AVID, and determining how AVID can best serve urban districts.

Dr. Husk has a Ph.D. in Administration, Curriculum, and Supervision from the University of Colorado, Denver; an M.A. in Guidance and Counseling from the University of Colorado, Boulder; a B.S. in Elementary Education from the University of Georgia, Athens. Her postdoctoral study includes work at Columbia and Harvard universities. She has more than 35 years' experience in the education field.

The AVID board of directors, composed of business and education leaders from across the nation, led the national CEO search assisted by Heidrick & Struggles. Dr. Husk will replace current AVID Executive Director Jim Nelson, who is retiring from the AVID Center and will continue his support of AVID as Counsel for the law firm of Thompson & Horton in Austin.

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About AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) is a kindergarten through higher education system that prepares students for four-year college eligibility. AVID, a non-profit organization founded in 1980, challenges students to take high-rigor courses, such as AP and honors and provides them with the academic and social support needed for success. Today, the San Diego-based organization now serves more than 700,000 students and is implemented in approximately 4,900 schools in 45 states and 16 countries/territories around the world. This summer, AVID trained more than 25,000 educators in the latest in AVID curriculum and teaching techniques. 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.

For more information visit www.avid.org.

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