



## Advancement Via Individual Determination

### NEWS RELEASE

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AVID Center

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### **AVID Participates in White House Roundtable**

*Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics Seeks to  
Improve Educational Opportunities for Hispanic Males*

Washington, DC – [AVID](#) (Advancement Via Individual Determination) recently participated in a roundtable discussion on education at the White House. The discussion focused on the status, challenges, and opportunities for increasing educational attainment and other life outcomes for young Hispanic males.

The roundtable featured 15 representatives from both the private and public sector organizations.

Topics included:

1. Early Learning Programs for Hispanics
2. Literacy
3. School Discipline
4. Criminal Justice System
5. Employment/Social Service/Network Support

AVID Center representatives were Mervin Jenkins, assistant director of the Eastern Division, and Terry Greenlund, AVID district director for Chatham County Schools in North Carolina. “This meeting with key leaders from various education sectors throughout the country signifies the urgency to continue working for students while addressing the inequities so many of them still face,” said Jenkins.

Marco Davis, deputy director of the [White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics](#), who convened the meeting, said “The educational and life outcomes of Hispanic males have implications for our entire nation’s economic and social well-being. If we act—collectively and intentionally—we can close existing gaps in development, education, and employment among this population, enabling them to reach their full potential, and best contribute to strengthening our economy and securing the American future.”

AVID participants shared information about its recent [Urban Leaders Convening](#), where AVID brought together key education leaders from urban centers across the country to learn about AVID’s Culturally Relevant Teaching strategies and how the consistency, support, and rigor of programs such as AVID can be vital contributors to improving success for all students and turning schools around. AVID has created a 10-step [blueprint](#) to help school districts around the country implement this effective strategy. AVID also discussed [Boys in Peril](#), a full-length documentary, which follows three Hispanic males and the obstacles they face getting to college and includes an interview with Davis.

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### **About AVID**

AVID is a non-profit, proven college readiness system that closes the achievement gap. Today, AVID is implemented in approximately 4,900 schools in 45 states, the District of Columbia, and 16 countries/territories and impacts more than 700,000 students in grades K–12 and in 41 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.

For more information, visit [www.avid.org](http://www.avid.org).