

Schweinfurt Middle School

School Year 2008-09

Preparing Students to be Successful in the 21st Century

**Critical Thinking and Problem Solving Skills
Information & Communications Technology (ICT) Skills
Life Skills**

Academic Focus on Reading and Math Improvement

(Advancement Via Individual Determination)

AVID Contract

Instructor

Mr. Troy L. Purdin

Tutor(s):

Jennifer B. Evetts

Amber Coulombe

Student Name: _____

Parent (Guardian Name): _____

Parent Email: _____

Assignment #: _____

To earn credit for this assignment, the student must review the following pages with a parent and return this cover sheet with both parties' signatures. Please keep the content portion of this contract.

Parent Signature: _____

Student Signature: _____

AVID Course Syllabus

Troy.Purdin@eu.dodea.edu

Classroom Expectations

Rule 1: Be Respectful

Guiding Principle/Question: *Am I being negative?*

Rule 2: Be Responsible

Guiding Principle/Question: *Am I prepared to learn with the right attitude and other materials?*

Rule 3: Be safe

Guiding Principle/Question: *Might I hurt someone or break something?*

Evaluation and Progress

Parents may sign up for Gradespeed, which will allow them to monitor student's grades via the Internet. AVID grades in Gradespeed will not reflect individual assignment information. Please ask your AVID student to share his/her weekly Self-Evaluation for this information.

Student's work will be graded in a three-step process according to:

- Assignments (Any tests, projects, etc.)
- Weekly Self-Evaluations (Includes weekly grade determination and goals for improvement.)
- Classroom Participation (Positive attention to assignments and time on task.)

Important Websites

Title	Web Address	Notes
Schweinfurt Middle School	http://www.schw-ms.eu.dodea.edu/	Contains curricular information, calendar events, policy handbook, and helpful links
DoDEA	www.dodea.edu/	Browse to find standards, course descriptions, and much more
AVID Homepage	http://www.avidonline.org/	National site for AVID educators, parents, and students
Collegeboard	http://www.collegeboard.com/splash	College preparation information and links for educators, parents, and students
Gradespeed	https://dodea.gradespeed.net/gs/	Keep track of your child's grades
21 st Century Skills Consortium	http://www.21stcenturyskills.org/	Research 21 st Century Skills

**Qualifying for AVID:
Student MUST...**

- have Terra Nova test scores of 5-8 stanines in at least two of the following subjects: language arts, math, and reading
- have a GPA between 2.0 and 3.5
- enroll in at least one rigorous course such as advanced math, foreign language, or advanced band (this is not required for sixth graders)
- have good attendance and discipline
- obtain recommendations from teachers
- complete AVID application
- have a personal interview with AVID staff
- have the desire to attend college
- sign a contract of commitment to learning
- demonstrate the willingness to follow AVID curriculum and methods

Curriculum and Activities

Activities often overlap in curricular areas.

WICR

Writing

Essays and other practice using the writing process
Learning Log Summaries in language arts and math
Field Trip Presentations
Electronic Portfolios showcasing artifacts from classes, extracurricular, and community achievements
Cornell Notes

Inquiry

High Level Questioning
Self Evaluations
AVID Tutorials
Guest Speakers
Binder Organization
Socratic Seminars using research, questioning, and discussion

Collaboration

Teaming with focus on individual and group success
21st Century Theme projects:
 8th Grade-Family Fun Night Café
 7th Grade-Gingerbread House Construction
 6th Grade-Cookie Factory
MyPay Reward System for individual and team success

Reading

Vocabulary Building
Junior Great Books