

NEWS RELEASE

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Spring Valley High School was named one of 125 schools in the country that qualifies as an exemplary college-ready high school campus by the AVID program, **the result of a nine-year process** that culminated Thursday, February 7, 2013. AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) is a nationally adopted college readiness program that aims to challenge students, increase learning and provide meaningful support to help first generation college attendees continue onto college. Currently, Spring Valley High School has the largest AVID program in the state of Nevada, and has enrolled over **a thousand members**. The program also helped Spring Valley High School raise more than \$11 million in scholarships for the 2011-12 school year, the third highest per-student in the Clark County School District.

Although more than 4,500 high schools across the country have been AVID certified, only 125 are officially recognized as demo schools, meant to serve as exemplary models of the program's core methodologies and strategies. Spring Valley was named one of these schools Thursday after years of intensive staff training and the implementation of multiple AVID instructional strategies designed to increase the number of students who attend postsecondary education.

AVID students are encouraged to take advanced classes, and are supported with college tutors and study skill sessions. These students are expected to challenge themselves by taking honors and AP courses, and receive early instruction on how to be successful as an independent student in a college classroom.

The benefits of AVID, however, have caused a ripple effect throughout Spring Valley High School that benefits everyone. All students are invited to attend AVID club meetings after school, where they can receive additional help with class work or the college application process. Specialized organization and writing procedures are also implemented and used in classes throughout Spring Valley, in an effort to ensure all students are prepared for post-secondary education.

Spring Valley High School has actively been involved in the AVID program since its opening in 2004, and was AVID certified in 2006. Since then it has resulted in at least 90 percent of graduates attending a higher education institution. Currently 250 students are enrolled in AVID (about 13 percent of Spring Valley's population), and hundreds more attend club meetings and events to seek help with college applications and advanced coursework.

It is the mission of Spring Valley High School faculty and staff to prepare all students for post secondary education and life long learning experiences through challenging, interactive curriculum. We are proud to be recognized as an official AVID demonstration school and continue to lead our students down the road to success.