

AVID Elementary at Dorothy L. Sims

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**Rockdale County
Public Schools**

Specialty & Choice Options



Program Overview

AVID stands for Advancement Via Individual Determination. It is a program designed to prepare K-12th grade scholars for four-year college eligibility. AVID Center's mission is to close the achievement gap by preparing all scholars for college and success in a global society. AVID has a proven track record in bringing out the best in students and in closing the achievement gap. Sims' Scholars in grades Kindergarten-5th will utilize all aspects of the AVID Elementary curriculum.

AVID Elementary classrooms encourage:

- Organizational tool accountability and responsibility
- Use of agenda planner to foster a "plan-ahead" mentality
- SMART goal-setting skills
- Time management skills
- Note-taking strategies (STAR)
- Inquiry method
- Collaborative learning
- Effective reading strategies for comprehension
- Building community with open communication



Components for Scholar Success

The AVID curriculum is based on rigorous standards and was developed by teachers in collaboration with college professors. It is driven by the WICOR method, which stands for writing, inquiry, collaboration, organization, and reading. AVID Elementary promotes student success by implementing specific skills that enable all students to be prepared and organized. These skills are habits, behaviors, and strategies that students can learn, strengthen, and maintain throughout their academic careers. By using these skills daily, scholars become proactive learners who take responsibility for their learning. Thus, the Ivy League culture is attained!

AVID will enlarge our scholars' landscape for success. Traditionally, scholars have often been asked, "What do you want to be when you grow up?" Through the intentional use of AVID supports, our scholars' response to this question will encompass such a multifaceted approach to career readiness that they won't have to be asked, they will show! Their educational journey will leave mountains of evidence that demonstrate their success with writing and reading to learn, inquiry-based problem solving, collaboration, and organizational skills that far surpass the traditional student. AVID Elementary scholars will transition to middle and high school with a fluidity that assures their readiness for secondary education. AVID's influence will prepare all scholars for lifelong learning.



Application, Eligibility, and Lottery

RCPS will use an electronic application process for 2016 - 17 School Choice programs. **No paper applications will be accepted.** Students may apply for one School Choice program only for the 2016 - 17 school year.

The application window is December 1 - 18, 2015. The online application will be available on the district website at: www.rockdale.k12.ga.us

The Student Registration Office at 1143 West Avenue will provide assistance to access the online application if needed, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., on a first come, first served basis. Only complete applications will be accepted.

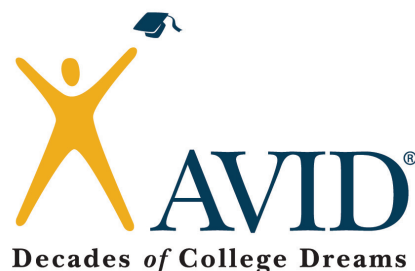
Eligibility Criteria

- Students must meet standards in ELA, Reading, Math, Science, and Social Studies on the Milestone assessment.
- Students must meet the student registration requirement for Rockdale County Public Schools.
- Students and parents must agree to the Choice contract.

Lottery

In the event there are more eligible applicants than space available, students will be selected via a random lottery drawing. If needed, a lottery will be held in January.

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A Message from the Principal

Welcome to Sims, the "Ivy League" and home to Sims' Scholar PRIDE!!

We are elated to expose our scholars to AVID Elementary! We are an AE K-5 school and our mission is to foster a love for learning and prepare our scholars to excel academically and affectively as they continue on their educational journey beyond the halls of the Ivy League.

We have an amazing Staff of Scholars that is committed to providing our scholars with an academically challenging, 21st century learning environment enhanced by WICOR strategies and overall AVID philosophy. We ask that you engage in your scholar's education by volunteering, mentoring, and becoming our partner in education as we prepare scholars for global competition and a world without limits. We are committed and destined for excellence!

The best is yet to come,

Dr. Chara N. Moore



Mission Statement and Beliefs

The mission of D.L. Sims Elementary School, a collegiate environment of diverse learners, is to ensure that all scholars **Achieve** high levels of learning **Via** academic rigor, relevance, and engaging experiences, while **Inspiring** each scholar to attain academic excellence through **Developed** teaching that promotes mastery of 21st century skills needed for communication, collaboration, critical thinking, and creativity preparing **ALL** scholars for individual and global success. We are an Ivy League community distinguished by:

- fearless advocates for scholars;
- self-directed scholars;
- empowered collaborative community of stakeholders
- performance-based culture.
- highly effective teachers and instructional support teams

We believe that scholars are at the core of all decision-making.

We believe that a collaborative partnership involving all stakeholders is an asset to school success.

We believe that all scholars can achieve and grow at high levels.

We believe that a positive school environment is essential to stakeholder engagement.

We believe that each person is responsible for his or her own actions.

We believe that clearly developed and challenging instruction is critical to effective teaching and learning.

We believe that the implementation of AVID prepares all scholars for college, career, and global success.



About SES

Sims Elementary is a family consisting of a diverse community of learners who are supported by a highly qualified faculty and staff that embraces and encourages the total learning experience for all students.

Extracurricular Activities

AVID Leaders
Junior BETA
Helen Ruffin Reading Bowl
Science Robotics
Scholar Council
K-Kids
4-H
Boys to Men Mentoring
Strong Girls Strong Women
Recycling Club
Art Club
Sims Singers
Safety Patrol
and more!

Additional Academic Services

Program Challenge
Scholar Academy

Opportunities through Partnerships

School Business Partners provide for a multitude of expanded academic opportunities and enhanced programs for scholars and faculty. There are various levels of business sponsorship for which the participating business enjoys recognition through school communications and events. The levels of sponsorship are as follows:

- Friends of Dorothy L. Sims (Spirit Night Partners)
- Bronze: \$100 donation
- Silver: \$300 donation
- Gold: \$500 donation
- Platinum: \$1,000+ donation