



## Valor College and Career Preparatory Academy FAQ

### **When is Valor opening?**

The new building will be opening for the 2026-2027 school year for grades 6-8. There will be a pilot program starting in 2025-2026 co-located at Tradition Elementary for 6th grade.

### **Who will attend Valor?**

Rising 6th grade students will have the option to opt in to attend Valor during the 2025-2026 pilot year while it is co-located at Tradition Elementary. If students do not opt in they will automatically be scheduled to attend Heritage Middle School for the 2025-2026 school year. In 2026-2027 all 6th-8th grade students in Valor's attendance zone will attend Valor.

### **If my child is zoned for Valor, but attends Heritage in 2025-2026 can they continue to attend for 7th & 8th grade?**

Possibly. Families can request an in-district transfer. They *may* be granted depending on availability. Please note that transportation will not be provided to Heritage for Valor zoned students beyond the 25-26 school year.

### **Will transportation be provided for 2025-2026?**

ECISD transportation will be available for both Valor and Heritage next school year.

### **What are the daily start and end times for Valor?**

In 2025-2026 Valor will operate on Tradition's schedule which is 7:32 to 3:15. The times may adjust once Valor has its own building in 2026-2027.

### **What makes Valor different?**

Valor is a college and career preparatory campus that offers students the opportunity to begin their college exploration journey early. Through the AVID elective and college and university visits, students gain valuable firsthand experience and insight into college life. The school also offers a research-based curriculum that emphasizes collaboration and problem-solving, helping students develop critical skills for success. At Valor, we believe that all students have the potential to achieve greatness. That's why every student will be enrolled in honors-level classes, ensuring they are challenged and supported to reach their full academic potential. Additionally, parents are invited to participate in workshops designed to equip them with the tools and knowledge to effectively support their child's high school and college preparation.

### **What if my child doesn't know if they want to attend college?**

Even if your child isn't sure about attending college, a middle school college prep campus is still incredibly valuable. It helps build strong collaboration, critical thinking skills, and a solid foundation for future opportunities. Additionally, it offers career exploration, allowing students to discover their interests and potential career paths early on, helping them make more informed decisions about their future.

**What elective options are available during the pilot year, 2025-2026?**

All Valor students will be enrolled in the AVID elective course, as well as an art class. Additionally, if there is sufficient interest, P.E. may be offered, though please note that it would likely be held outdoors most days.

**What is AVID?**

AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) is a college readiness program designed to equip students with the skills, strategies, and mindset needed to succeed in higher education and future careers. In the AVID elective class, students develop essential college readiness skills through activities like note-taking, collaborative activities, tutoring, and college/career exploration.

**What electives are students required to take in middle school?**

All Texas students in grades 6-8 are required to take two years of physical education and one fine arts course (dance, music, theatre, or art). Athletics meets the requirement for physical education.

**Will Valor students take high school level classes?**

All 8th graders will take algebra and biology which are high school level courses. Additionally, students will be able to earn high school credit through electives such as Spanish and high school art.

**Are all programs available during the pilot year?**

During the 2025-2026 pilot program year, not all electives or services will be available. Students who receive specialized programming or wish to take identified courses will attend Heritage Middle School in the 2025-2026 school year (EX: Humanities, Band, Choir, P.E., Dyslexia, Special Education, ESL). All programs will be available for the 2026-2027 school year in the new building.

**What about sports?**

Middle school sports begin in 7th grade for all ECISD middle schools, including Valor. There is no prerequisite for students to participate in athletics. Boys will have the opportunity to participate in football, while girls can participate in volleyball. All students will also have the chance to play basketball, soccer, track, tennis, and golf.

**Will the new campus have athletic facilities?**

Yes, Valor will have two gyms, tennis courts, and a turf football field.

**I'm worried about my student's readiness for a college prep campus. What if they face academic difficulties in school?**

If your student faces difficulties in school, enrolling in a college prep campus can provide valuable resources like tutoring and programs such as AVID, to help them build the skills needed for academic success. Additionally, students will receive teacher personalized support in all their classes, ensuring they have the resources they need to succeed across every subject.

**What if I still have questions?**

You can contact the principal, Kasey Beckett, at [kasey.beckett@ecisd.net](mailto:kasey.beckett@ecisd.net) or 210-634-6109.

**Is there a deadline to opt in?**

We kindly ask that all students opt in by **April 4, 2025**, to allow us ample time to plan for staffing and make preparations for the upcoming year.

**How can I opt in?** You can scan the QR code below or follow the link to the [Opt In Form](#).

