Stefan Bean, Ed.D.
County Superintendent of Schools

OCDE AVID UPDATE

AVID WEBSITE

AVID SCHOLARSHIPS

FREE AVID Secondary Site Team Workshop
December 3, 2025

This one-day workshop will give your site team the opportunity to engage in the Continuous Improvement Cycle to refine your site team plan of action to ensure sustainability of the AVID College and Career Readiness System within their schools. This workshop is designed for a TEAM from the same site. See flyer for details and registration.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?
This workshop is designed for AVID Educator, Site Coordinators, Site Leadership, and District Directors.

The make-up of individual teams will vary by school/district. Each team is strongly encouraged to have at least one administrative leader present.

AVID 9th Grade Leadership Conference
February 6 and 13, 2026
Interest Registration October 15-22, 2025

The AVID 9th Grade Leadership Conference is back. Two events will be held in February 2025 at Pomona College in Claremont. The number of students and sites will be limited. The dates of the conference are February 6 and February 13, 2026. Schools must register their interest in attending at https://ocde.k12oms.org/1235-271689 Registration will be open October 15-22, 2025. Please note that we cannot accommodate all interested schools each year. Schools will be notified of their acceptance or denial by the end of November.

Senior Scholarships
Opens November 17, 2025 **Due December 15, 2025**

The AVID Senior Scholarship Application template will be available soon. The application will open in November. Denise Harshman is working with OCCF and Scholarship America to get all the details so you can best support your students in the new process.

HIGH SCHOOL EVENTS & DEADLINES

- OCT. 15 – AVID 9TH GRADE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE INTEREST
- NOV. 17 – SENIOR SCHOLARSHIP ONLINE APPLICATION OPENS
- DEC. 15 – SENIOR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION DUE (1:00 PM)
- DEC. 18 – SENIOR SCHOLARSHIP TEACHER RECOMMENDATION LETTERS DUE
- FEB. 6 – 9TH GRADE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE
- FEB. 13 – 9TH GRADE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE
- APR. 15 – SENIOR STANDOUT RECOGNITION & SCHOLARSHIP PRESENTATION

MIDDLE SCHOOL EVENTS & DEADLINES

- MAR 3 - 8TH GRADE STANDOUT APPLICATION DUE
- MAY TBD - 8TH GRADE STANDOUT RECOGNITION

Dell Scholars Program - Deadline: December 15, 2025

Each year, the Michael & Susan Dell Foundation (MSDF) provides graduating seniors participating in select college readiness programs, (including AVID) with the opportunity to apply to be a Dell Scholar. Dell Scholars receive $20,000 in scholarship funds, a computer, textbook credits, and other resources to support them in their postsecondary journey. See the criteria, key dates, and application information at https://www.dellscholars.org/scholarship/

Resources for Senior Teachers

The 2025 UC Counselor Conference has concluded. You can access all the presentations on their website below.

- UC Counselor Conference
- CSU Freshman Application Resources
- CSU Counselor Conference
  (Resources available in mid-October)

UC Workshop Resources

Presentation slides and resources:

- The Personal Insight Questions
- Fall 2025 Major Decisions
- PIQ Worksheet PDF
- Presenting yourself on the UC Deck
- Quick Reference Guide
- UCI Majors Quiz

Inspired Teacher Grant Program

Due October 10, 2025

The 2025-26 Inspired Teacher Grants Program presents an opportunity for Orange County public and charter school teachers to seek funding for projects, field trips, tools, materials or ideas that will present an enrichment opportunity for their students and enhance the educational experience of their classroom, department, or school. Awards range from $1,000 - $10,000 depending on the type and level of the project. Visit https://www.tfaforms.com/5190824 for details and to begin the application.

Direct Admissions Through Common App

Common App has launched its direct admissions program for the 2025–2026 application season with 214 member colleges and universities. Beginning in mid-September, first-generation and low- and middle-income students who are college-interested will receive proactive admissions offers. Check out this site for more information and a list of the participating colleges.

TOOL: Support for Undocumented Students

The K-12 Advising Guide: Supporting Undocumented Students with the College Process was created to help you support undocumented students throughout the college application and financial aid process.

Nominate a Counselor for 2025-26 Arthur S. Marmaduke High School Counselor Award

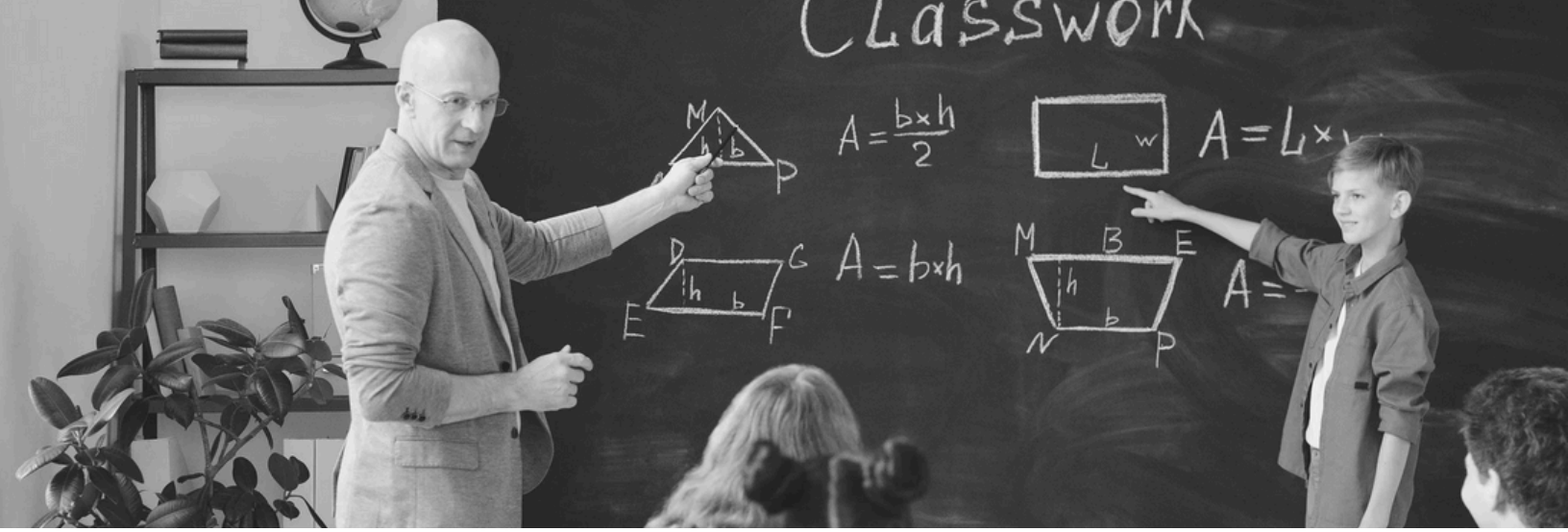
Due November 17, 2025

The award was established in 1985 by the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) to honor the late Arthur Marmaduke, who served as the executive director of CSAC for 25 years, for his dedication and commitment to helping students gain access to postsecondary education through the CSAC's programs. Each year, CSAC selects a deserving high school counselor to receive this prestigious award in recognition of their exemplary work in helping students fulfill their dreams of attending college. The award includes a plaque and a $1,500 check. Nominations can be submitted by district and county administrators, school counselors, teachers, principals, college administrators, and other school site officials. Submit your nominations here.

Financial Aid Workshop Resources

With the FAFSA changes and the graduation requirement for seniors to complete it, you will want to attend a FAFSA workshop to learn about the changes as soon as possible. The California Student Aid Commission and the California Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators are hosting the *2025 Annual Statewide Financial Aid Workshops*. These free workshops will assist in providing information and updates on state-funded financial aid programs and provide a comprehensive overview of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

For information, slides adn resources visit: https://www.csac.ca.gov/asfaw



8th Grade Standouts

Due March 3, 2026

The AVID 8th Grade Standout application will be online again. AVID 8th Grade teachers will be invited to the scholarship portal after winter break. It is our goal to have the template of the application posted by the beginning of December. Use the template as a tool for all students to practice completing a scholarship application. Practice ensures the standout will have a draft to use when the online application opens.

8th Grade Standout/Scholarship Teacher Workshop

December 4, 2025 3:30-5:00 p.m.

Are you new to AVID 8th Grade scholarships, if so, join us to learn about the scholarship process and participate in a sample scoring of the application. Remember each school may nominate one student as their AVID 8th Grade Standout. Join us Thursday, December 4, 2025, to look at the changes, answer questions, and review the new application template. Additionally, we will confirm the teacher accounts in the scholarship portal. Register for the virtual workshop at https://ocde.k12oms.org/1235-272911

Highlighting our OC AVID Student Speakers at AVID Summer Institute

If you need a little inspiration for your students or staff, consider showing our OC Scholars!

- Jacqueline Ajucum (Westminster HS, 2023)
- Sarita Plata (Early College HS, 2023)
- Lexi Phalen (San Clemente HS, 2022)
- Andrea Cervantes (Valencia HS, 2015)
- Gisel Marmalejo (Westminster HS, 2014)
- Eduardo Cervantes (Santiago HS, 2013)
- Amaris Valeriano (Sonora HS, 2010)
- Mark Vega (Villa Park HS, 2009)
- Kaylee Nguyen (Stacey MS, 2025)
- Lucy Ramirez (San Clemente HS, 2025)

Not all 2025 videos are posted yet. See https://www.youtube.com/@AvidOrgAVIDCenter/videos for all videos,

AVID 8th Ceremony Grade Dates

We are currently confirming dates with Angels Baseball for the recognition ceremony. We will have the date in the next month or two, but we are looking at second week of May for the award ceremony.

OCDE AVID CONTACT INFORMATION

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