

AVID Professional Learning

Summer Institute/Path Sequence – STEM

Elementary (Grades 3–6)

Year 1

AVID Elementary: Foundations Implementation (Grades 3–6)

This strand is designed for elementary educators (grades 3–6) who are new to AVID Elementary. Participants will practice and discuss strategies, activities, and lessons focused on WICOR® (Writing, Inquiry, Collaboration, Organization, and Reading) methodologies in order to facilitate students' access to rigorous academics across all content areas. By attending this strand, participants will develop a clear understanding of WICOR and the educator's role in an AVID Schoolwide system that provides differentiated instruction to students to help develop a culture of student success, academic achievement, and college and career awareness.

Year 2

AVID Elementary: STEM

AVID's guiding principle around the "why" of STEM is to ensure diversity of representation in STEM by providing opportunities for students to develop confidence and competence in rigorous coursework and experiences, keeping them engaged in STEM coursework through the years and inspiring them to pursue STEM in their postsecondary journeys.

This strand creates the foundation for that vision by showing participants how to support, encourage, and empower STEM literacy for all students. STEM-literate students may not all become STEM professionals, but they should understand STEM as currently defined by AVID and be able to leverage that knowledge effectively across their everyday lives, future careers, voting decisions, and overall life choices. AVID's current working definition for STEM is "identifying, applying, and integrating concepts from within and across science, technology, engineering, and mathematics in order to understand and solve complex real-world problems."

This strand offers our partners professional learning that can be taken back to the classroom to provide students in grades 3–5 with rigorous, multidisciplinary, hands-on STEM experiences. Strand participants will work together to better understand STEM as both an integrated subject area and a pedagogy, to practice hands-on applications of STEM through a variety of design-based activities, and to understand how to identify real-world problems that can be woven into a variety of curriculum and teaching contexts. Educators will leave equipped to better identify, apply, and teach STEM content and materials through an authentic, integrated approach at their unique educational settings.

Recommended AVID Professional Learning Modules

AVID Professional Learning Modules are 90-minute sessions that focus on one aspect of AVID K–12 implementation. They can each be used on their own for a short professional learning opportunity, or they can be assembled together to create a full-day or multi-day professional learning event. The goal of these modules is to support implementation of the AVID College Readiness System with fidelity and depth.

[WICOR Workshop](#) – This module is designed for participants to engage in a collaborative setting to identify key components of WICOR and evaluate implementation of WICOR strategy use within their school site. Participants will examine the importance of centering their instruction on WICOR as an opportunity for students to access rigorous learning across content areas. Additionally, they will make connections to college and career readiness to develop a schoolwide implementation action plan that focuses on building students' skills through the use of WICOR.