

Ohio's Race to the Top Innovative Programs Grant Application Application Period- March 11-May 20, 2011

Please ensure that ALL questions are answered completely in each of the four sections as incomplete applications will not be returned for modifications or completion.

Section A

1. General School Information

a) Name of Applicant (LEA):	b) Name of School(s):			
Allen East Local Schools	Allen East Local School District			
c) Superintendent of Schools:	d) LEA RHT Contact:			
(or equivalent)	Name:			
Name:	Dan Swick			
Michael Richards				
	Address:			
Address:	9105 Harding Hwy.			
9105 Harding Hwy.	Harrod, OH 45850			
Harrod, OH 45850				
	Telephone:			
Telephone:	(419) 648-3333			
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Fax:	(419) 648-5282			
(419) 648-5282				
	Email:			
Email:	swickd@ae.noacsc.org			
richardsm@ae.noacsc.org				
e) School Vision:	f) School Mission:			
"A Partnership for Lifelong Learning"	The mission of the Allen East Local Schools is to create a partnership with parents and members of the local community that provides a safe, positive, and academically challenging environment where students will become responsible, productive citizens of a society that values lifelong learning.			
g) Primary Goals of School:	h) Teacher/Student Ratio:			
To close the achievement gap for all students,	K-12 (63/1096) = 17.4			
specifically economically disadvantaged				
students, and to increase college readiness,				

enrollment and retention.	

PLEASE NOTE: In you enter into a collaboration with another LEA, please mark with an * which LEA will serve as the FISCAL AGENT if selected for one of the competitive grants.

Names and titles of individuals who participated in the <u>March 10th</u> Innovation Symposium:

Dan Swick, 6th grade reading and language arts teacher, attended the March 10th Innovation Symposium. In addition, Superintendent Mike Richards and teachers Dan Swick and Cam Staley participated in the live AVID webinar on March 31, 2011.

2. SCHOOL PROFILE

	STUDENT INFORMATION	N .				
Grades served: K-12 Enrollment (total number of students served in school applying for Innovative Program):						
Pre K-5		508				
6		93				
7		88				
8	82					
9	85					
10		84				
11		79				
12		77				
Ethnicity and gender de	ata (% of enrollment):					
Black: 1.1%	White: 96.1%					
Asian/Pacific Islander: 0.2%	American Indian/Alaska Native: 0.1%	Male: 48%				
Hispanic: 1.2%	Multi-Racial: 1.3%	Female: 52%				
Percent of students elig	ible for free/reduced lun	ch : 31.3%				
Percent of students ide	ntified as special educati	on: 13.8%				
Names of current comp	petitive grants LEA has be	en awarded (2010-2011):				
Allen East School distric grant.	t was awarded a Race to	o the Top and JobsEd				
	0 school Report Card : Se	a attachment				

Section B

1.	Please check circle(s) next to the specific Innovative Program(s) for which you are applying. Prioritize your preference order to the right of the program, with "1" being your first priority. A separate application must be submitted for each Innovative Program.		
	☐ Asia Society (International Studies Schools Network)		

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✓ AVID *	1
□ Early College High School	
□ New Tech Network	
□ STEM*	
Other Proven Model (please list)	
*Priority may be given to the lowest-achieving	schools

Section C

<u>Questions Addressing Innovation Selected-</u> Please answer these questions in the text boxes provided. Provide as many details as possible so that the reviewers can gain a good picture of your school.

1. Identify your selected Innovative Program and the reasons for selection. (Note: If "Other", please include research evidence that justifies how the "other" innovation will accelerate student achievement and progress.

Allen East Local Schools has selected the AVID program. AVID would create a structural foundation to transform the academic culture of our institution. It would serve as a building block to improve collegiate enrollment among our student population and provide vital skills to help our students excel in the environment of higher education.

Reasons for our selection are based on the following criteria: Parental education completion levels, an increasing economically disadvantaged student population, and the achievement gap between economically disadvantaged students versus non-economically disadvantaged students.

According to our most recent senior survey, the highest level of education for 46.4% or our parents is a high school diploma or GED equivalent. Only 21.4% of our senior parent population has completed a minimum of a four year college degree. Additionally, 28.5% of our current senior class attends a local vocational school. This demonstrates that a large percentage of our student population is not enrolled in a rigorous college preparatory curriculum.

Trend data reveals that our economically disadvantaged population has more than tripled in the past decade. According to our Ohio School Local Report Cards and current EMIS data, this population has grown from 9.6% to 31.3%.

Furthermore, district report card data demonstrates an achievement gap between our economically disadvantaged and our non-economically disadvantaged student populations. There is a 13.4% disparity in the passing rates of reading achievement scores and a 10.4% disparity in the mathematics achievement scores between these two populations. Additionally, there is a 12% gap in advanced achievement levels in both reading and mathematics assessments.

These alarming statistics clearly indicate a growing trend concerning our economically disadvantaged student population. We anticipate that these numbers will continue to escalate in the future. AVID offers a viable and research based approach to closing the achievement gaps described above. According to the aforementioned data, AVID would provide intervention resources inaccessible to many of our students at home due to parent education levels. Ultimately our goal in implementing the AVID program is to align our school district with AVID's mission, which is "to close the achievement gap by preparing all students for college readiness and success in a global society".

2. In what other school transformation strategies has your school been engaged and its/their status.

Allen East is participating in the Ohio Improvement Process (OIP). This is our first year in OIP. To date, the district has established a district leadership team (DLT) and building leadership teams (BLT's). The district has devised a district improvement plan and all buildings have completed building improvement plans. All improvement plans include SMART goals for increasing student achievement in reading and mathematics. Goals are based on OAA and OGT data and are targeted at reducing the achievement gap for all students, in particular students with disabilities.

In an effort to measure the effectiveness of the goals, staff has developed common formative assessments in reading and mathematics for grades 3-8. On-going professional development has been provided to our staff this school year to provide opportunities to devise the assessments and create scoring rubrics.

As a result of participating in the OIP and implementing common formative assessments, Allen East staff has participated in teacher based data team (TBT) training. The TBT's are scheduled to be fully implemented this spring. The intent of the TBT's is to continually assess progress towards the OIP goals in reading and math on a monthly basis. Furthermore, the DLT and BLT's are meeting on a regular basis to monitor the results of the common formative assessments and assess the effectiveness of the OIP goals.

3. Describe the capacity your LEA/school has to ensure a successful implementation.

Allen East Local Schools commits to providing a revised and flexible schedule to accommodate the needs of the AVID program. This initiative is staff driven, both certified and classified, and administratively supported by the superintendent, principals, and board of education. An AVID research committee has been formed and is regularly meeting to ensure a successful transition to becoming an AVID school district. A five-year AVID blueprint has been created to outline our vision and ability to sustain the AVID program beyond the duration of the grant (see attached blueprint for complete details).

4. How will you integrate the specific Innovative Program into your school culture and current transformation plan/Scope of Work?

As a part of college and career readiness, the current Scope of Work for Allen East Local Schools commits to participating in gap analysis meetings between high school faculty and college professors in English and math to ensure alignment of coursework. This is a portion of the Assurance Area B Scope of Work activities for 2011-2014 in our OIP plan.

AVID will serve as the mechanism to connect our student population to the necessary resources for success in higher education. We will establish partnerships with the six local higher educational institutions for services such as tutoring, college access programs, post-secondary opportunities, summer bridge programs, and campus visits. Additionally, we will look to form partnerships with local businesses and institutions to provide summer apprenticeships, job shadowing, and experiences which provide hands-on learning opportunities. These opportunities will be used to motivate and allow our students to experience the benefits of a college education.

The rigorous AVID curriculum paired with our creation of teacher based teams will be a driving force to provide our students with the necessary tools to succeed at the college level without intervention. As a result, we anticipate improved college preparedness, increased college enrollment, and higher college retention rates for all graduates.

5. How will implementation of this Innovative Program increase student achievement and progress in your LEA/school for ALL students?

AVID will put a concentrated and visible focus on higher education for our student population. It will help create a clear vision for students and staff and uniformity across grade levels. A feeder pattern will be established to instruct all students in AVID methodologies such as WICOR, organizational skills, note taking strategies, time management, and goal setting. It will utilize these skills to cultivate academic success in all students, including those not participating in the AVID elective. This directly correlates with our OIP academic goals outlined in our district and building improvement plans. Specifically, our reading and math SMART goal is: By 2013-2014, increase performance on the OAA/OGT and/or common formative assessments by at least 4-5% each year for the general education population and by at least 3-6% each year for students with disabilities in order to reduce the achievement gap.

6. How will you sustain this Innovative Program post RttT?

Funding, professional development, and infrastructure are the three areas that need to be addressed for sustainability post RttT.

The district is committed to providing general fund money and Title I funds to sustain the AVID program. This will provide funding for staff development, materials, and curricular needs.

Through professional development, it is our goal to create a train the trainer system. An AVID mentorship program will be established to train new teachers and provide ongoing and additional support for veteran staff. Furthermore, this includes training for existing staff transitioning to new teaching assignments.

In regards to infrastructure, the AVID Research Committee will transition to an AVID Review and Oversight Committee. This committee will be responsible for analyzing AVID data in working with the DLT and BLT's to maintain the integrity of the AVID structural foundation. In addition, this committee will monitor the AVID program and hold staff accountable for adhering to continued alignment with AVID principles.

7. Describe any potential challenges or barriers with the mandatory professional development and Innovative Program requirements for the framework that you have selected. What strategies will your LEA/school implement to overcome these potential obstacles?

Allen East Local Schools has identified the following potential challenges or barriers: faculty, community shareholders, and unforeseen obstacles that may arise after attending the AVID Summer Institute.

There is an essential need to provide AVID education to our certified and classified staff. A multi-year plan of action is detailed in our attached implementation blueprint. It clearly articulates our vision for utilizing research-based methodology to create staff acceptance.

In regards to community shareholders, we recognize the importance of their support and open communication. We plan to provide community forums, newsletters, and detailed website bulletins to allow these shareholders transparent access and ownership. In addition, our implementation blueprint includes specific parent/adult resources for reinforcement of the AVID principles at home (see attachment for details).

Lastly, any "unforeseen" obstacles presented to our AVID district leadership team at the Summer Institute will need to be addressed post Summer Institute. These will be addressed by our current Research and Implementation Committee.

8. How will the implementation of this Innovative Program increase college and career readiness of all students?

The AVID program is designed to increase college and career readiness. It is our responsibility to create an environment for AVID to flourish. AVID will create a culture shift and a rigorous curriculum for ALL students.

The culture shift will create a mindset that college is a viable and desirable option for all students. Our goal is to change the perception of academics by creating an atmosphere that highlights academic achievement and the importance of higher education (see attachment for details).

The AVID program will provide students with strategies, skills, and support to enroll and succeed in advanced coursework. As a result of the foundational tools inherent in AVID's instructional methodologies, a larger segment of our student population will become engaged in a rigorous curriculum. This will prepare more students for college and career readiness.

9. Identify a timeline to achieve a successful implementation.

Attached to our application is a five-year blueprint crafted by the Allen East AVID Research Committee. The blueprint is a comprehensive timeline to achieve successful AVID implementation and was developed by adhering to the AVID principles of slow and steady, slow and sequential, and slow and solid. The components of the blueprint include organization of an AVID Research Committee, staff education, staff training, community education, student education and awareness, cultural changes, infrastructure, AVID elective, and community and higher educational partnerships. Highlighted areas indicate changes from year to year.

10. Why should your LEA/school be awarded an Innovative Programs grant?

Currently, we are a school of unrealized potential. We are located in a rural community where industrial jobs and agriculture have a dominant influence on our community and student population. The world economy has shifted from a manufacturing based economy to a tertiary and information based economy. Our mentality as a community, however, remains in the past. Through AVID, we want to transform our school to an environment that goes beyond accepting the status quo. We aspire for our students to labor in more than manufacturing and agricultural jobs. Rather than just be passive participants, we want our students to become industry leaders in these areas. Our goal is to break the cycle of complacency that exists in our current culture regarding higher educational opportunities. We will make higher education a valued and viable option in every household in our community. AVID will help our school raise the bar and maximize the potential for our students. AVID will become a central piece of our school's vision to equip our students with the necessary tools needed to reach higher education and succeed while they are there.

If selected for the AVID program, we aspire to be an exemplar AVID district that functions in a rural area. Allen East has the potential to be a unique model for future rural school districts throughout Ohio to replicate.

SECTION D

Please include LEA Name, IRN#, and proposed Innovation Program information at the top of this table. Include a breakdown of the annual expenditures anticipated in each budget category during each grant-year that equals the total dollar amount of the innovation program selected.

Proposed Innovation: AVID Allen East Local School District IRN# 045757							
Budget Categories	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013	FY2014	Total		
Salaries (100)	N/A	\$2,100	\$2,100	\$2,100	\$6,300		
Retirement/ Fringe Benefits (200)	N/A	\$310	\$310	\$310	\$930		
Purchase Services (400)	N/A	\$17,395	\$12,755	\$12,260	\$42,410		
Supplies (500)	N/A	\$6,360			\$6,360		
Capital Outlay (600)	N/A				\$ -		
Other (800)	N/A				\$ -		
9. Total Costs	\$ -	\$21,165 -	\$ 15,165 -	\$ 14,670 -	\$56,000 -		

RttT Innovative Programs grant applications may be found on the Ohio Department of Education website under Race to the Top at:

http://www.ode.state.oh.us/GD/Templates/Pages/ODE/ODEDetail.aspx?page=694

Interested LEA/Schools are required to submit the requested grant information electronically to <u>jay.keefer@ode.state.oh.us</u> no later than Friday, May 20, 2011.

Questions may be directed to Jay R. Keefer Director, ONET (Ohio Network for Education Transformation) Center for School Improvement 614.644.2605 jay.keefer@ode.state.oh.us

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