



*Final Validation Visit Report
Northside High School
March 19, 2015*

Principal: Maria Johnson
AVID Coordinator/s: Martha Martinez

Summary of Findings:

An exemplary presentation involving several site leaders, classroom visitations and opportunities to visit with students, tutors, parents and Site Team members throughout the day demonstrated a high quality and effective implementation of both the AVID Elective and AVID Schoolwide at Northside High School. Northside High School supports several career focused academies with AVID students dispersed throughout, providing each academy with high expectations for students and a culture of college readiness. The use of WICOR strategies is articulated in the site's strategic plan as well as the school's improvement plan and core values. The site leadership team's commitment to sustaining a quality AVID implementation is shown through the combining of the AVID Site Team and School Leadership Team and through a flexible and student driven master schedule that allows open access and opportunities for all students to prepare for college success.

Commendations:

- **Culture:** Northside has committed to a culture of college awareness and readiness through a visible explosion of college posters, expectations, and student work on the walls throughout the building.
- **Instruction:** There is an authentic student collaboration of learning in all classrooms across the campus.
- **Leadership:** The Site and School Leadership teams have been combined and are led by an effective principal leader who has established a foundation of decision making based on student need.
- **Systems:** The master schedule is flexible and data driven, resulting in student choices which ultimately leads to student success.

Recommendations:

- There needs to be more consistent evidence of all components of the Cornell Way in all classrooms in order to support the desired expectation of rigorous note-taking.
- There was not a clear progression of improvement in the AVID elective students in the area of Cornell note taking.

- A vertical scaffolding strategy needs to be incorporated to help AVID students understand what an authentic point of confusion is which will improve tutorial sessions in all grade levels.

Final Finding:

Based on today's visit, as well as on the certification and application process, we are pleased to welcome **Northside High School** as an AVID National Demonstration School. Application for revalidation will be in **Fall 2018**. This term of validation is contingent upon timely annual completion of data collection, all 11 Essentials at (Level 2) or higher, all indicators in Essential 8 are rated (Level 2) or above, and school meets the seven Schoolwide metrics listed on the 2013-2014 CSS.

Team members:

Denise Wren and Ellen Nickerson: Co-Leads

Allen Johnson and Alberta Banks: Eastern Division staff