

March 18, 2021

Oregon House Education Committee
900 Court Street, NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: HB 2412, -2 Amendments

Chair Alonso Leon and Members of the House Education Committee,

I'm writing today to urge your support and adoption of the -2 amendments to HB 2412. This amendment includes funding for five different college access programs that were funded in the Governors Recommend Budget. These five programs provide valuable access and supports for low-income and historically underserved students and help them to achieve their post-secondary goals.

One such program in the Lincoln County School District is the AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) program. LCSD has participated in the AVID program for the last seven years, applying it to all areas in our district K-12 for the last two years. When a student is college ready they are future ready. Streamlining organizational practices, college and career exposure, emphasizing skills such as collaboration, communication, and critical thinking are pillars of the AVID experience. Every student who graduates from Lincoln County School District must have the tools they need to go after their future goals. AVID, with its emphasis on college and career readiness, supports LCSD in working with students and families to increase our Advanced Placement/International Baccalaureate course offerings, Career and Technical Education offerings that are college and industry aligned, and increase our dual credit or access to Early College at Oregon Coast Community College. In 2020, the third year AVID being implemented in all LCSD High Schools, we saw a 6% increase in the number of students earning college credit during high school. These increases are a direct reflection on our commitment to the AVID program and teaching the skills necessary to be successful in college, career, and in the future.

"This last year, as it was the most challenging year we have ever had, having AVID as a common thread is what kept our building afloat and moving forward instructionally. As students have come back to the building, the AVID communication strategies have allowed us to work together to get students talking again," said Rebecca Bostwick, Taft Elementary Principal.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Majalise Tolan
LCSD Director of Secondary Education