



Advancement Via Individual Determination Los Angeles County

November 13, 2006

Eric Moore
Founder & Executive Director
Educate LA
4401 W. Slauson Avenue, Suite 157
Los Angeles, CA 90043

Dear Mr. Moore:

With gratitude, I thank Educate LA and Verizon for your support of all the Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) students in Los Angeles County. This product created by Educate LA and distributed because of the generosity of Verizon made it possible for at least 800 AVID teachers to receive the *Gateway to Academic Achievement* CD. The CD is now being used in AVID classrooms in over 270 middle and high schools. Over 25,000 AVID students now have access to this tool.

I do think it's important to think of this product as a tool that helps to create rigorous learning by accessing the power of technology and the power of information. The AVID teachers are creating the belief system in students that they WILL go to college and they WILL be competitive with other students. The AVID students often have "gaps" in their learning and haven't had access to Honors/AP courses during their academic career. The *Gateway to Academic Achievement* CD helps teachers to create the needed rigor in their classes and to also provide the needed support system for students striving to do better than they knew they could do.

During one of Eric's training last spring, an AVID teacher approached him and asked him how he could buy 100 copies of the CD – one for each of the teachers at his school. This also happened this fall after an AVID teacher received her CD in their back-to-school mailing. The AVID teachers don't only want their students to have this support in the AVID elective class but also in their content classes. They understand the power of this tool. I am hopeful that the CD, because of its introduction in the AVID classrooms, will become available in many other classrooms.

Please feel free to contact me for further information. I can be reached at (562) 922-6818 or wiebold_laurie@lacoedu.edu.

Sincerely,

Dr. Laurie Wiebold

Dr. Laurie Wiebold
Regional AVID Director, Los Angeles County