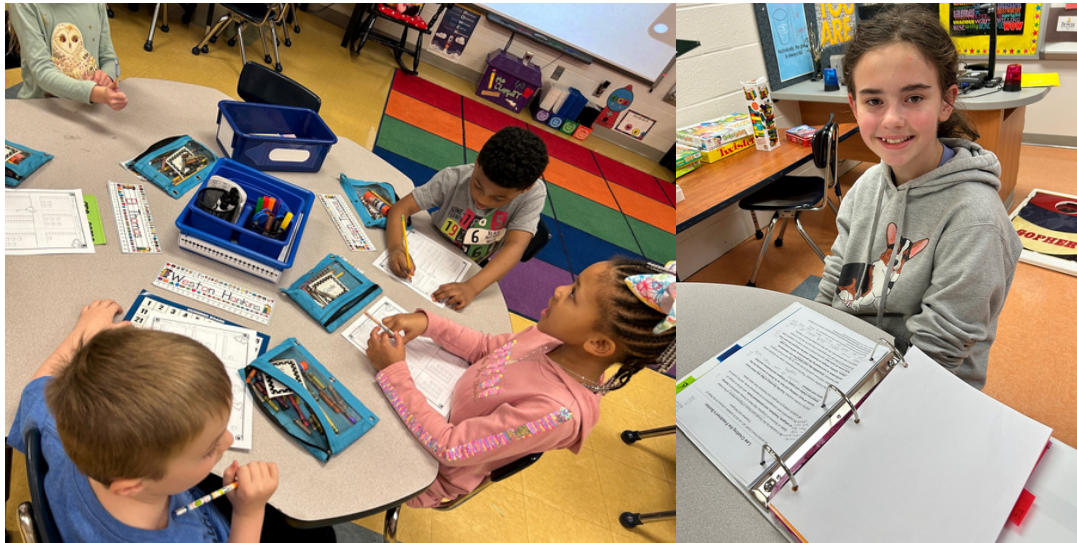


#WeekendSpotlight

AVID Elementary



The Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) program is well-established in all AACPS middle and high schools. The program also has had great success in some elementary schools for the past few years. At the elementary level, AVID is not an elective class; its strategies are infused in all subject areas, including "specials" like art, PE, music,

and media. It is a whole school approach to give even the youngest students tools and strategies to help them succeed through elementary, middle, high school, and beyond.

With full school administration support, Point Pleasant ES was one of the first to implement AVID at the elementary level seven years ago. Its teachers and staff have been entirely on board with the program's approach to learning ever since. AVID at the elementary level has a significant ripple effect. Strategies are modified for each grade level, and students become more independent as the years go by. AVID strategies help them with organization skills since they may not have "their" table, binders, or note-taking as they advance grade levels. From PreK on, students learn with a 'College and Career' mindset. To support the rigor of AVID, teachers and staff participate in several professional development opportunities, but perhaps what makes this program even more special is "Panther University," the school's initiative to get parents involved with AVID. Families learn what AVID is, its goals, tools their students use at school, supports parents can do at home, etc.



Mary Fucella and Madeline Smith, AVID Liaisons at PPES show off the school's College Row hallway