

The Virgin Islands Consortium

Arthur A. Richards 'AVID' Students Tour UVI For Closeup Look At College Life

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ST. CROIX-- Seventh grade students in the Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) program at the Arthur A. Richards Junior High School examined the educational opportunities offered at the University of the Virgin Islands (UVI), St. Croix Albert Sheen Campus, during a tour of the HBCU on Tuesday, February 2, 2016, according to a Department of Education press release issued late Sunday.

AVID targets students who display the potential to be successful in college, and may be first-generation college students who likely would require academic and emotional support to be successful.

AVID's elective teacher and coordinator Jamelia Thurland said 11 students participated in the tour. "They described their tour of UVI's campus as 'awesome'," Mrs. Thurland said. "They received historical information about the campus and learned about the future plans for UVI, such as the medical school and the Ph.D. programs."

The tour was coordinated by UVI's Director of Student Activities/Life, Mrs. Hedda Finch. Arthur A. Richards Jr. High AVID students were introduced to the various departments on the UVI campus to include the Office of Student Affairs, the Financial Aid office, Admissions Office, Research and Extension Service, The Research and Technology Park, the University Bound Program and the residence halls. They also explored the clubs and organizations offered at UVI.

"It was a really nice day and we look forward to a tour of UVI's campus on St. Thomas, jointly with 8th grade AVID students in the St. Thomas-St. John district and the Elena Christian Junior High School 8th grade AVID students on April 15, 2016," Mrs. Thurland said. Cicly Ferguson also serves as a coordinator for Arthur A. Richards Jr. High AVID program.

As a 30-year old college readiness system for elementary through higher education, AVID is designed to increase school-wide learning and performance and close the achievement gap by preparing all students for college readiness and success in the global community, according to www.avid.com.

Feature Image: AVID students at the Arthur A. Richards Jr. High School enter the grounds of UVI's St. Croix campus to begin a whirlwind tour of the campus Tuesday, February 2, 2016.

Image Credit: D.O.E.