

AVONDALE HIGH SCHOOL
Dr. Tashara Wilson, Principal

A COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE

DeKalb County School System is committed to increasing student performance and closing achievement gaps. To do so, DCSS has welcomed the America's Choice comprehensive school reform program into 40 of its elementary, middle and high schools. America's Choice will work to enhance the state-mandated Georgia Performance Standards curriculum by providing accelerated programs so that elementary students are well prepared for middle school, middle school students are equipped to handle high school coursework, and high school students are college-ready and/or work-ready.

HOW CAN PARENTS ASSIST?

Parent/guardian and community involvement is a key element of the America's Choice school design. Parents should stay engaged by maintaining communication with their child's teachers via phone, email, parent teacher conferences, PTSA activities, and school or regional workshops that may be offered.

THE 25 BOOK CAMPAIGN

The 25 Book Campaign has always been a part of the Georgia Performance Standards and it is an important part of the America's Choice program. Studies have shown that if a student reads approximately 1,000,000 words a year, he or she will immediately add 2,000 words to his or her vocabulary. This jump in knowledge takes place without any supplemental instruction and regardless of the reading material's difficulty.

Avondale High School students read the first 20 minutes of 4th period every day. Students keep reading logs that are verified by 4th period teachers. Prizes are awarded as students reach their goals. Dedicating this time to reading will expose students to their 1,000,000 words which builds vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension; increasing knowledge and test scores while at the same time developing literacy skills and fostering a love of reading based on students' own personal interests.

YOU PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE

- Provide 20 to 30 minutes of daily quiet uninterrupted time for your child to read.
- Find a comfortable spot where your child can read.
- Read with your child.
- Do not focus on your child's mistakes.
- Discuss the book with your child, and share each other's favorite parts of the book.
- Ask your child to make predictions about what will happen next.
- Ask your child to retell the story in his or her own words.
- Help your child make connections to current events or family stories.