**Documentation of AVATAR Technical Assistance Phone Conversation**

Participants: Robin Adkins, ECS Region 16, and Mary Harris, AVATAR

Date: Fri. Feb. 8, 2013 Time: 1:30- 1:45 p.m.

Status of documentation:

1. Documentation is up to date.

Topics discussed:

1. The January 25 meeting of the VAT was from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. High school teachers anchored the discussion as joined by two groups of college faculty who participated when not teaching. The purpose was to broaden lists of what’s useful in teaching algebra for college readiness in the region. The focus of the team is on success for students who are enrolled in the general curriculum, not dual credit. The next meeting will be February 22. Participants plan to bring their textbooks, assessment instruments, and lists of people or soft skills and how they are reinforced in the high school and college settings.
2. In cases were practices may not be aligned, it is helpful for high school teachers to be able to tell students what the college practices are like. For example, the group discussed how faculty in higher education use office hours and the importance of students taking advantage of these opportunities for support.
3. A project is getting started in which high school students keep journals about key concepts in college algebra with examples. These journals are to be maintained over time. They may form the basis for the curriculum at the end of the year after the state assessments. Review of key concepts will help both students and faculty remain current with the content, its alignment, and applications of content. The journals might help high school seniors as they enter college.
4. The Panhandle P-16 Council has a math page on its website (panhandlep-16.net) that focuses on tips for college readiness and success.
5. Robin said that the region plans to keep the algebra team together next year. The team works together well and has laid good groundwork.
6. Regional planners want to take the lessons learned from this experience to other content fields. The AVATAR work has highlighted the importance of the role of content curriculum coordinators in P-16 education. The Panhandle Council has some funding for continued work although not enough to provide substitute teachers, a helpful aspect of this year’s work.
7. We talked about additional funding for special events available this fiscal year through AVATAR and the possibility of putting together a math team for the Cisco College conference in May.

Follow-up actions:

None were noted although Mary’s list of observations about the project may be expanded by hearing Robin’s presentation at the P-16 Council Workshop in Austin on February 12.