Documentation of AVATAR Technical Assistance Phone Conversation

Participants: Christine Holecek, ECS Region 12, and Mary Harris, AVATAR

Date: March 4, 2014 Time: 11:00-11:30 a.m.

Status of documentation:

The following documents need to be submitted

1. Region 12 Vertical Alignment Team Members
2. Minutes from meeting(s) of Vertical Alignment teams
3. Evidence of review of regional student outcomes with P-16 Council
4. 2013-2014 Regional Action & Sustainability Plan with Measureable Outcomes

Topics discussed:

1. The math and ELAR vertical alignments teams met on January 24. Plans went well including use of the CRAfT lessons and beginning of follow-up sharing through a wiki.
2. Bill Williams will supply documentation of work of the ELA group at January and February meetings. (Do I have this right, Chris? I thought Bill was math.)
3. Additional meetings of these teams are planned for March and May.
4. There is no participation so far from Baylor University but Texas State Technical College and McLennan Community College are active.
5. The next meeting of these VATs will be on Friday, March 7. Institutional leaders have discussed preparation for College Preparatory Courses. McLennon stepped up to the plate in developing courses and invited school districts to become involved. McLennon will host a regional forum at which plans will be shared with districts. The AVATAR VAT will vet the syllabi. Stipends are associated with some of these activities.
6. There is also discussion of how CTE teachers will incorporate core content in their courses that are part of endorsements.
7. The Heart of TX P-16 Council and Region 12 hosted a symposium about HB 5 that featured Dr, Kramer from the THECB, and representatives of Adult Basic Education and the Texas Workforce Commission. Chris recommended Rich Froeschle as a speaker from the Workforce Commission.
8. Chris attended a data dashboard training with the ESC core group that was relevant to AVATAR. She appreciated attention to how to access local school to college related data.
9. We discussed possible sequences of events for high school students in College Preparatory Courses. May those who pass exempt the TSI assessment? Mary thought this might be of interest to Baylor.
10. Chris has made AVATAR the subject of a major report to be completed as part of her doctoral studies at Tarleton State University!

Follow-up

There is need to follow up on documentation.