Documentation of AVATAR Technical Assistance Phone Conversation

Participants: Karan Duwe, ECS Region 15, and Mary Harris, AVATAR

Date: Thursday, May 22, 2014 Time: 10-10:30 a.m.

Status of documentation:

1. Documentation is needed from the May 20 meeting and any others since January

Topics discussed:

1. On May 20, 52 ISD participants and faculty from Cisco College, Howard College, San Angelo State University and 4 other IHEs attended a meeting to talk about College Preparatory Courses (CPC). Those present included directors of developmental education at the colleges. It was clear that collaboration through the ESC was not required to offer a CPC, but people seemed to see the collaboration as an advantage both for the districts and the students.
2. Smaller breakout groups were formed in mathematics and ELAR. The groups will report back in August with syllabi, assignments, and course plans.
3. Districts from Region 14 were present from Cisco to Coleman.
4. There were some issues related to interpretation of HB 5. One question is about next year’s seniors who may be on the foundation graduation plan.
5. Here are other questions that arose. Can the CPC for ELAR be embedded in English IV? What is required for a student who does not intend to go to college? What about the student who passes the EOC but not the TSI?
6. Also discussed was the opportunity provided by HB 5 for adults from families, students, and counselors to discuss college plans and their implications.

Follow-up actions:

Karan said that she will be at a meeting in Austin on June 6, but it will be hard for to attend the AVATAR meeting. She will ask another member of the Region 15 staff to attend.