





## AVATAR Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

10/22/2013

- The Interactive Notebook for Math was an AVATAR outcome. The goal was growth in students' math understanding over time.
- High school educators saw a need to develop more independent learners.
  - Parent engagement is important for students to be college and career readied.
- Conversations were held about adding a literacy piece to the math component.
- A Professional Learning Community Model has assisted them in trying to build AVATAR relationships.
- Jean Keller added while individual AVATAR partners may change, AVATAR institutional relationships are sustained.
- Mary Harris inquired how the two- year community college staff was involved.
  - Joe Kulhanek said community colleges have been involved through the AVATAR process.
- Discussion focused on the use of the Interactive Notebook.
- An inquiry was made about Texas Success Initiative (TSI), and Joe Kulhanek said he is working with multiple districts that have remedial programs in place for students going to the University of Texas at San Antonio.
  - Seminars are being used to work with the high school students to help them prepare for the rigor and responsibilities or expectations outside the classroom.
  - The weekend seminars are held at Café College in San Antonio, and tutors work with high school seniors.
- Ravae Shaeffer said they would like to build more awareness in their region, and Jean Keller said several regions are involving counselors.



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HB 5 and Other Legislative Actions and their Impact on Secondary and Postsecondary Partnerships “</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There was discussion of HB 5, dual credit, and funding issues.</li> <li>• In Region 20, Ravae Shaeffer said they had a conversation with higher education and the school districts. Three committees have been created to determine what a college preparatory course should contain. Alma College and UTSA were involved in the meeting, but no private colleges.</li> <li>• In Region 10, Chris Kanouse said they have focus groups in place to discuss how to proceed with HB 5. They want to create college preparatory courses with vertical curriculum alignment/continuity.</li> <li>• In Region 9, Kathy Harvey said they are having conversations with the AVATAR groups and how they want to deepen their relationship with their P-16 Council, Midwestern State University, and Vernon College.</li> <li>• Gary Madsen said Austin Community College has 54 high school campuses they serve, and they are trying to determine ways to serve everyone.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What Should We Do Related to Vertical Alignment Scalability and Sustainability</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gary Madsen expressed concerns about sustainability of the P-16 Council state funding, and how we share the work of AVATAR with regions not involved with AVATAR.</li> <li>• Discussions included dissemination of information at content conferences, CCRS and school workshops, local exchanges at the P-16 Council meetings, and continued funding.</li> <li>• Jean Keller thanked all for a wonderful discussion. The next meeting was <b>changed to February 3</b> at 12:30 PM.</li> </ul>



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### **2013 – 2014 AVATAR Advisory Committee Meeting Dates**

(Connection through TETN System available at all ESCs and Phone Connections)

January 28, 2014 <b>Changed to February 3, 2014</b>	12:30 – 2:00 pm
April 1, 2014	1:00 – 2:30 pm
June 17, 2014	1:30 – 3:00 pm