

**Vertical Alignment Team Meeting Agenda**

March 26, 2015

1:30 PM Welcome & Introductions

1:45 PM Review of HB5 Requirements

2:00 PM Shirley Mills, UT Pan Am

2:45 PM Questions and Wrap-up

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| **Agenda Item:** | **Notes:** |
| Welcome & Introduction | Guest: Dr. Shirley Mills, UT Pan Am |
| Review of HB5 Requirements | * Districts are required to offer the courses * Also required to meet “regularly” * May 29th- Session offered at Region 10 for teachers for the 2015-2016 school year. Sessions will be for planning and for teachers to share resources. High school and IHE professors will be invited. This will satisfy meeting requirement. |
| Shirley Mills, UT Pan Am | * One year waiver impacts current juniors * Need to document TSI Complete on high school transcripts. Reg 1 went to THECB and said they needed support. Dr. Harris suggested putting the language in the MOUs. * We now have PEIMS numbers for the courses. * Colleges would still like a separate statement on the transcripts so they don’t have to look for specific College Preparatory courses. * Reminder that agreements are only with institutions that signed the MOUs. “TSI Complete” will not apply to other colleges. * Reg 1 has ELAR and Math College Preparatory courses totally online. Originally courses were designed so they could be offered on paper, but ISDs requested online, due to limited resources. * When students repeatedly struggle with topics in the online courses, live teachers intervene. * Math course developed by Virgil Pierce, UT Pan Am * ELA course developed by Collin Charlton * ELA course uses YouTube and iTunesU * Students generating portfolios in ELA * Students are used to writing 26 line papers which is not college level writing. HS teachers are getting pushback from principals when trying to teach at level other than STAAR * Reg 1 MOU wants highly qualified teachers * 1st VAT meeting had other teachers, based on principal recommendation. * Counselors and APs built schedules and assigned courses to less qualified teachers. * Must train counselors and Aps * Reg 1 tried to do online training for teachers * High Ed and Service Centers do not have control over teachers or when courses are taught. * Reg 1 had a big training and teachers liked it. Consisted of about 16 teachers assigned to courses and was conducted right before school started. Consider adding training requirements to MOU. * Reg 1 has approx. 900 math and 500 ELS enrolled. * Fidelity of course is compromised when teachers don’t follow the plan * Communication between colleges and ISDs important * NROC (National Rep for Online Courses) have college prep courses available (Funded by Gates Foundation) * Transitional courses- what states outside of Texas call the courses * Challenge: ISDs want to consider this course as test prep * Reg 1 had a party to rollout the courses * Development of courses funded by AVATAR. * Choose teachers and professors wisely. Make sure they’re open to new ways of teaching. * Struggling with getting data. Everyone is terrified of FERPA * Will observe teachers * Math will do trainer-of-trainers * Need for ELA to be more structured and start building portfolios * Reg 1 bringing teachers in in April. Each will bring 4 portfolios and teachers will begin calibration * Reg 1 and Reg 2 brought professors and teachers together to evaluate each other’s work. * Dr. Harris suggested getting student input on how to overcome the barrier of TSI |
| Questions and Wrap-up | Some committee members expressed interest in going to UT Pan Am to participate in a focus group with Reg 1 AVATAR committee members.  Next meeting date was not set. |

Past VAT resources and meeting minutes are available [www.untavatar.org](http://www.untavatar.org) – click on Files and then Region 10. For more information about the Region 10 ESC, visit [www.region10.org](http://www.region10.org).