Documentation of AVATAR Technical Assistance Conversation

Participants: Kathy Wright-Chapman, ECS Region 11, and Mary Harris, AVATAR

Date: Monday, Feb. 10, 2014 Time: 1:30- 2 p.m.

Status of documentation:

Documentation is posted through December 2013, including team members and 2013-14 action plan.

Topics discussed:

1. At the meeting held 2/1/2014, the topic was ELAR and CTE. Representatives from Hill College, Tarleton State, and Joshua, Cleburne, Godley, and Burleson ISDs were involved. Morning discussion focused on baseline core courses and barriers. In the afternoon, the group worked on an action plan whose planned product will focus on three critical areas of writing in the discipline to be supported by CTE. These included procedural text, spelling, and short answer response (an expectation on the STAAR).
2. Another day-long meeting is planned for April 3.
3. Considering measurable outcomes, we discussed alignment of the writing curriculum as defined by the CCRS across English 1 and CTE. What best practices in writing across the curriculum result from this cross-disciplinary discussion? Could best practices be shared in a non-ELAR journal? How does this contribute to the discussion of endorsements in HB5?
4. The last part of this discussion focused on a desire for networking between K-12 and higher education in the region. Kathy mentioned conferences being held by the College Board in Austin and by UT-Arlington P-16 Council. She is interested in Region 11 and the North Texas Regional P-16 Council convening IHE’s to seek a coordinated approach especially to the call for college preparatory classes.

Follow up

1. You submitted minutes from the 2/11/2014 meeting along with all the materials that were presented.