Documentation of AVATAR Technical Assistance Phone Conversation

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

Date: Thursday, February 27, 2014 Time: 11-11:30 a.m.

Status of documentation:

1. Documentation is up to date

Topics discussed:

1. The two vertical alignment teams (mathematics and ELAR) in Region 15 are focusing on College Preparatory Classes as defined in HB 5. Central Texas College has reached out to districts in rural areas, and additional districts are being invited to a meeting at which secondary and high school partners will explore plans. AVATAR funds will provide substitutes as needed.
2. Five additional districts, so far, have asked to join the VATs.
3. Because of the small size of some districts in the region, College Preparatory Classes will have to be offered online to make. This is a difficult format for the intended high school population. We talked about blended options are possible.
4. There is lack of clarity about the circumstances under which performance in a College Preparatory Class might lead to college credit or exemption of the TSI. This needs to be clarified.

Follow-up actions:

 Karan said that she will be at a meeting in Austin on June 6 and can join the AVATAR meeting at 11 a.m.