**Alliance for College Readiness – Science Team**


**Highlights:**
- Held 3 team meetings (Feb, Mar, Apr).
- Reviewed the high school science curriculum, as well as the college-level requirements for beginning science courses.

**Lowlights:**
- Low attendance at team meetings – only two ECC teachers and one H.S. teacher.
- Input from only one local high school district.

**Status:**
The team has reviewed the standard sequence of science courses that a high school graduate would take in district U-46. The team has also performed a high-level review of the competency requirements for Chemistry and Biology at the beginning college level, particularly for the Health Occupations field. Further analysis of the alignment between the high school curriculum and college requirements is planned. The team also considered the high school math requirements, as these affect a student’s success in college science.

The team has considered the reasons behind a student entering college unprepared for college-level science courses, including non-academic issues (e.g. maturity), general academic issues (e.g. critical thinking skills), and science specific issues (e.g. content knowledge).

Regarding science specific issues, the team has broken these issues into additional categories, with a special consideration given to the baseline skills that are applicable to all science coursework, such as problem solving, logical thinking, making inferences, etc. These general skills are especially important for the Illinois Prairie State Examination taken in the junior year of high school.