

Portal Partnership Notes
April 28, 2009

Attending: Larry Motes, Abraham Williams, Jimmy Parrish, Paul Hudson, Bob Lake, Dianne Bath.

- Ms. Bath introduced Dr. Bob Lake from Georgia Southern to the group.
- Mr. Motes went over the purpose of the group for the new attendees.
- Ms. Bath brought the Goals and Timeline Charts for posting in City Hall.
- Jimmy Parrish brought the designs for the new schools to share with everyone. He said the slab work was well on the way for the school. He shared about the new gym which was not originally in the project. The community is very excited about the 11.4 million dollar project.
- Mr. Parrish shared the information about a child care program being included in the school. It was discussed whether this might address another goal of having a three year old program in Portal. Jimmy and Paul would think about this and discuss with system leaders this possibility.
- Both principals shared their schools were growing and the new high school was much needed.
- Mr. Motes and Ms. Bath had met with the people they had committed to at the March meeting about future recreational plans for the area. Mr. Motes met with David Ball, Chairman of the Bulloch County Board of Education. He reported that Mr. Ball felt the board would be receptive to working closely with the Statesboro Bulloch County Parks and Recreation Department to form an intergovernmental agreement to develop recreational facilities on land owned by the BOE. Ms. Bath met with Mike Rollins, Director of SBCPRD, who had gathered data about the participation of Portal students in recreational programs. Mr. Rollins shared that there was not as much involvement as he would like to see in the program. Ms. Bath shared the data with the group. Mr. Rollins stressed they were in the process of developing a new “master” plan for the county and would like to have some written needs from the Portal community to include in the planning. Mr. Motes said he would meet with several area groups and have something to submit for the “master” plan. Mr. Hudson and Mr. Parrish could get input to him also. Mr. Motes thought it would take until the middle of June to get this done. Ms. Bath would check with Mr. Rollins about the time frame for getting the needs to him.
- The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 15 at 6:00 – City Hall.