

Georgia Center for Educational Renewal Partnership
Meeting Notes
Friday, November 7, 2008

Attending: Danny Edenfield, Eileen Baynes, Pat Parsons, Brabara Mallory, Judith Repman, Stephanie Kenney, Dianne Bath

Discussion of Issue Statement: Inequities in Public Education

- A major point came out in regard to the vision for public education being characterized not only by access, excellence, equity, and social justice for all children, but needed to include a value on social capital that each person brings to the education setting.
- Conversation led into discussion of how the Performance Learning Center was addressing these characteristics. Danny gave the highlights as he saw them translated.
- Access – PLC students referred by high school graduation coaches, parents, or self referrals. There had been tension between Communities and Schools concept of how the PLC students should be referred and the school principals. The graduation coach referral has helped.

Tour of PLC – Danny took the group on a tour of the PLC and discussed a visitation by ICF International, an external review agency of US Department of Education’s Institute of Education Sciences; What Works Clearing House. The review team will be on site the week of November 10.

How to support LODS work at PLC and Stilson Elementary?

- Both schools desired to renew themselves through some readings to be done with their faculties. Dianne said she would be glad to provide both sites with some literature that might stimulate their discussion about democracy with their faculty and students.
- Start with where you are, involve faculty, and go from that point.

High Flying Schools Application Review and Selection

Stephanie thought there would be time to do it at our scheduled meeting date of Thursday, December 4 at 9:00. It would probably be best to do this at GSU since resources would be immediately available in case of need. Dianne will locate a room at GSU and notify everyone.

Equity Survey

Dianne will contact Amy and get the link to survey out beginning in January. Eileen had some paper surveys she had done with her school staff. Others were reminded to administer with present classes. Pat wanted to do paper survey so she could make sure they did them before leaving student teaching.

Ways to help schools with democratic practices:

Ideas:

Elections
Constitution Day

How to involve the community in the partnership?

Look for folks who have connections to a broader community constituency. Jeremy Fordham, who represents Hands On Ogeechee was invited to join the group.

Initiative Updates

Portal Partnership – Working on a five year plan for the community. Planning a meeting in January with key community constituents to present time-line and gather feedback. Work based on community meeting several years ago.

Equity Survey – The survey is located at:

<http://www.zoomerang.com/Survey/?p=WEB228CCUEA6E3>

Please continue to share with classes and school groups.

“Two Million Minutes: A Global Imperative” – November 13 beginning at 6:00 in the Performing Arts Center. Free admission!

LODS – We now have two schools that are part of the Eastern Region – Performance Learning Center and Stilson Elementary. Annual Reports are completed each year by the sites and submitted to the regional and national offices.

Partnership Work – We have been expanding the partner school program from the original 14 to 30 schools. There are liaisons aka Clinical Associates who are committed to partnering with Georgia Southern in preparing future teachers. The partner school status is still being finalized and notification will occur in December.

Faculty members are working with Portal Elementary School and Ebenezer Middle School to move them to Professional Development

International Partnerships –

Educational Leadership -