

*Partnership for Community Learning Centers*  
DESIGN TEAM Meeting  
April 19, 2004

The Partnership Design Team met at the Athens Area Chamber of Commerce on Monday, April 19, 2004. Attending were: Jackie Saindon, Ginger Davis-Beck, Donna Butler, Pam Paisley, Don Carver, Lori Ragsdale, Janet Martin, Janie Voss, Sandra Bland, Keyra Williams, Cindy Beck, Phyllis Stewart, JoBeth Allen and Jenny Penney Oliver.

Guests were: Gaines Literacy coaches Alison Niedzwiecki and Pat Waldrip, Chase Literacy coach Jan Miller, and Alisa deMao from the Athens Banner Herald.

Agenda:

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*On our agenda today ...*

< **Welcome Literacy Coaches Alison, Jan and Pat**

Re-run of Board of Education presentation  
Discussion, etc.

< **Updates**

- Calendar
- Intersession
- Schools -- Chase and Gaines:
  - cheers and sobs,
  - anticipated openings and timeline for hiring,
  - “after the test” sighs,
  - upcoming events,
  - etc. etc.
- Partnership video
- San Diego partnership visit
- Other

*Next meeting, May 17, 2004*

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Design Team meeting summary:

**The Literacy coaches** presented the 2 power point presentations they had made to the Board of Education regarding the literacy work in the Partnership schools. They stressed the research base from which both schools have grounded their literacy instruction and professional learning. In particular they pointed to the value of having the Professional Development Associates (PDA’s) on site in the schools to provide instruction so that classroom teachers can participate in school based, on going professional learning. All

consider this factor to have contributed strongly to the overall success the schools can document with regard to their literacy work this past year. The coaches pointed to how the schools have used the assessments throughout the year to help structure “just right” literacy instruction for students, and their plans to *assess the assessments* at the end of the year in order to decide which are most valuable and informative. Another positive point made was the overall enthusiasm teachers seem to be feeling about the literacy work and how focused and productive it is -- as evidenced in part by the student self reflection of increased success in reading and writing.

### **Updates:**

**2004-2005 Calendar:** Ginger Davis-Beck updated us on the decision to conduct the ITBS the week of May 2-6, 2005; therefore, ‘Plan B’ for the 2004-2005 Partnership calendar will be followed. Intersession will now be May 9-13, 2005. Because that is after UGA’s semester ends, we realize we will need to use the next year to design alternatives to how to support the intersession without the UGA student support we typically have. One idea was to begin talking with College of Education faculty now about offering a special intensive Maymester course, perhaps interdisciplinary, that would allow UGA student participation in intersession. Otherwise, personnel costs could increase somewhat.

**May 3-7, 2004 Intersession** enrollment is up to 119 students (46 from Gaines and 73 from Chase) which is an increase over enrollment last year. Donna Butler reported for the committee that among the many plans for this year is instruction by a competitive jump roper, visits from a professional storyteller, trips to Sandy Creek, the new WOW playground, and the local zoo. UGA Art Education students will again be involved in the week. Their involvement and products resulting have been coordinated by their professor to serve as their final exam! Donna commented that again CCSD partners Bob Milans and Paula Farmer had been very helpful in arranging food and transportation. Intersession will again be held at Lay Park. Design Team members are encouraged to stop by for a visit!

**Partnership video:** Donna Butler continues to work with UGA staff Ron Braxley in preparing the Partnership video, phase II! The new production will be an interactive DVD which allows for a lot more flexibility for use. Topic areas that will be covered are: Family Resource Centers, Curriculum, Intersession, Calendar, Professional Learning, Sustaining the Partnership, Community Involvement, UGA Partners and Service Learning. **PLEASE let Donna know [dqbutler@coe.uga.edu](mailto:dqbutler@coe.uga.edu) of events or activities in the school that would be good for videotaping and/or interviewing folks.** Also, please send your thoughts and ideas to Donna or Jenny about this product.

**School Updates:** Lori Ragsdale reported for Chase (Dr. Bluett and others were unable to attend due to a School Council meeting) that Chase is a recipient of the Enhancing Education Through Technology (EETT) grant, which is a 4 year grant aimed at math instruction, grades 3-5. Phyllis Stewart enthusiastically reported that Gaines will be able to hire a full time Math Coach next year due to the partnering of their Title I

funds and a College of Education Teacher Quality grant. Gaines also has begun screening of applicants for Special Education and 5<sup>th</sup> grade and hope to conduct interviews next week. Also, Gaines has extended their Pathways to Success participation in order to keep the tutoring momentum in place for some targeted students.

**San Diego Partnership:** Jenny reported that her visit to the San Diego State University and San Diego Schools City Heights K-16 Partnership in San Diego, CA was very exciting and reaffirming that we are moving in the right direction! Jenny will make available articles on their literacy instruction and partnership initiative. Initial and significant funding has been provided by Price Charities - their web site contains some information about this partnership work.

[http://www.pricecharities.com/CHI\\_education.shtml](http://www.pricecharities.com/CHI_education.shtml)

*The meeting ended with thanks for the warm and good cookies, the participation, and the commitment all continue to demonstrate to this important work!*

Next meeting is set for May 17, 2004.