

Use of SD as a Tool for Collaboration – Margie Varnadoe, Jan Mons, Mary Jo Davis, and Nell McCullers, Waters Grant Project, Glynn County Schools, Brunswick, GA

Two years ago the GIST Project sponsored a group of Glynn County school administrators at the CLE Conference. Each of these administrators made a commitment to become an active member of a COHORT group which would meet in follow-up sessions after the conference. The purpose of the COHORT group was to master the use of ST/SD tools and concepts, and how these could be used in decision making.

This session will allow the GIST project to share the activities that were utilized with the COHORT group, along with the lessons learned from this experience.

During the 1999-00 school year the GIST Project was asked to work with the Glynn County school district's Rezoning Task Force. It was the goal of the GIST Project to incorporate the use of systemic thinking into the rezoning efforts to benefit long range decision making. The district is facing the potential of doubling in population within the next ten years, so making appropriate decisions based on all the data was essential. With the aid of the GIST Project, the Rezoning Task Force has begun employing BOTGs and a STELLA model to help in the decision making process.