

OCONEE HOSTS SOUTH KOREAN DELEGATION

Korean Delegation Tours Oconee With Carl Vinson Institute of Government

Oconee County, GA – Oconee County hosted a delegation of officials from various local governments in South Korea on October 20, 2011. These officials were selected to participate in a program through the Carl Vinson Institute of Government in order to learn about government processes in the United States. Of interest to the group was how cities & counties work with businesses in their community.



Members of the delegation were hosted by Oconee County Board of Commission Chairman Melvin Davis and Economic Development Director Rusty Haygood. As part of the session in Oconee County, the group from South Korea met with Davis and Haygood to discuss processes in Georgia, and specifically in Oconee County. Following this exchange, in which the visiting delegation asked numerous questions, a tour of Oconee County was given.



North Oconee High School graciously opened the campus to the delegation to discuss the American educational system, which is vastly different from the Korean system. The visitors were exposed to components of academic instruction and extra-curricular activities. Of particular interest to the group was a practice session of the North Oconee Titan Regiment, the school's marching band, as they had never seen a live marching band before.



The group also visited Oconee Veterans Park to tour the Community Center. Of particular interest to the South Koreans was programming for an elderly and aging population. OCPRD Director John Gentry shared about the facilities and the programming currently offered by Oconee County.

The group was also toured around developing areas in Oconee County such as Epps Bridge and Daniells Bridge corridors, through some residential neighborhoods in the community, and to the Founder's Garden at OCAF. The evening was capped off with dinner at Chops & Hops in downtown Watkinsville.



This was the second delegation that Oconee County hosted this year through the Institute of Government; the first group was from China.