

## Cobb County Sister City Seongdong-Gu, Seoul, South Korea



Photo: Sister City Signing Ceremony, April 2008

In 2007, Cobb County entered into a Sister City relationship with Seongdong-Gu, a province in Seoul, South Korea. The goal of this relationship is to support and encourage mutually beneficial opportunities for practical exchanges of people, ideas, and information in a variety of areas including business, education, culture, arts, and tourism.

Much has taken place since the establishment of this Sister City relationship in 2007. Highlights include:

**Fall 2007** A group of business, community, education, and government leaders traveled to Seongdong-Gu to officially sign the agreement establishing a Sister City relationship.

The delegates met with business and education interests including Coca-Cola, Kia, Doosan, Doran Capital Partners, LG, and Han Yang University, and brought back information and ideas for future partnerships and collaborations.

**Spring 2008** Delegates from Seongdong-Gu visited Cobb County. These business, education, government, and cultural affairs representatives spent a week touring Cobb County and meeting with their counterparts. Meetings with numerous businesses were held. Pope High School established a Sister School relationship with Muhak Girls' High School during this visit.

**Summer 2008** Students from Kennesaw State University spent part of the summer teaching English to students in Seoul. They lived with families in Seongdong-Gu and participated in daily life activities. They gained first hand knowledge of Korean education, culture, and life.

**Fall 2008** Cobb delegates traveled to Seongdong-Gu and hosted several seminars on "Doing Business in Cobb County" for Korean businesses. A special highlight was the unveiling of the "Lover's Clock", a four-sided clock tower dedicated to honoring the relationship between Seongdong-Gu and Cobb County. The clock was a gift from Mr. Sunny Park.

**2009-2010** Cobb County and Seongdong-Gu continue to cement their friendship. Plans call for an exchange of materials between the Cobb County Library System and the Seongdong-Gu Library system. Additional business and educational trips are being planned with an exchange of high school students being discussed for 2010.