

MINUTES
Safe Routes to School Committee Meeting
May 4, 2011 - 3:00 P.M.

The Safe Routes to School Committee met during a regular meeting on May 4, 2011 at 3:00 P.M., in the Civic Center, 200 W. Arrington St., Farmington, New Mexico.

Present:	Champion:	Debra Mayeux
	Members:	Martin Lucero Joe Delmagori Steve Krest Shawn Lyle Jeff Treat
Absent:	Members:	Lieutenant Taft Tracy Lieutenant Hardy Candace Young William Young

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 3:06 p.m. by Debra Mayeux and the following proceedings were duly had and taken.

DISCUSSION

Debra Mayeux opened the meeting with a report on the individual participating schools and her efforts.

Apache Elementary – Mrs. Debbie Braff: Mrs. Mayeux emailed Mrs. Braff concerning the program and a grant opportunity for her school. However, she has not heard back from Apache. Mrs. Mayeux does know that the principal has indicated that she wants to focus on physical education. The grant can be awarded up to a thousand dollars and is eligible for each of the schools participating in the SRTS program. Mrs. Mayeux would like to help Apache Elementary apply for the \$1,000 grant to develop a health and nutrition program for the school.

Mesa Verde Elementary - Mrs. Cynthia Sosaya: Mrs. Mayeux discussed the efforts of Mr. Jeff Treat, from Mesa Verde, to coordinate after school walking activities and is currently giving out charms to students that reach various milestones. They are also looking to organize a bike unit within the school's PE department. Mrs. Mayeux further discussed that the school is looking to pursue the full Farmington Walk and Roll program at the start of next school year. The question was asked if a bike unit was feasible within the school itself. Mr. Treat, the schools PE teacher, indicated that the program would be feasible. The only item lacking at this time would be the funding. Mrs. Mayeux indicated that she could apply for the \$1,000 grant, as seed money, to help start this program.

McKinley Elementary- Mrs. Marilee Dixel: Mrs. Mayeux indicated that she spoke with Katherine Lucero and she indicated that she would be willing to help with the Farmington Walk and Roll Program at the school during the following school year. However, she

would not be able to be the main coordinator. Mrs. Mayeux stated that she would remain as the main coordinator for the schools but needed help at the schools from the parent representatives.

Reports were then given for each "E".

Encouragement: Mrs. Mayeux reported that she participated in the McKinley school bike rodeo that was sponsored through Big Brother/Big Sisters (BBBS) and Conoco Philips. Conoco donated three bikes to the program and they had approximately 20 students participate in the Bike Rodeo. She further discussed how BBBS and Conoco sponsor two bike rodeos per school year and seem to be well organized. The Farmington Walk and Roll Program participated by providing informational items and donating water bottles that were used at the event.

Mrs. Mayeux then directed the conversation to her efforts to promote the Farmington Walk and Roll Program. She discussed her radio appearance on KNMI radio to discuss Bike to Work week which will be held May 16-20. She also indicated that she would be taping the weekend spot for Clear Channel Radio on May 5th to discuss Bike to Work Month and the efforts of the Farmington Walk and Roll Program. The Tri-City Tribune and the Talon have also agreed to post articles on the National Bike to Work week. Within these articles she plans to also mention the program and its benefits to students and administration who bike or walk to school.

Mrs. Mayeux then mentioned that Las Cruces has been recognized as a bike friendly community by the League of American Bicyclists. She would like to see if we can help join a push to have the City of Farmington listed as a bike friendly community. She would like to work with Shawn Lyle or Steve Krest in a coordinated effort. Mr. Lyle indicated that they would need the support of the biking community. Mr. Lyle also indicated that in the past the Bike Club has tried to promote Bike to Work Week and feels that this might be a good time to work with them on this endeavor.

Mrs. Mayeux indicated that she registered the four participating schools in the International Walk to School Day for the 2011 school year. She has also scheduled presentations for this coming August with the Rotary Club and will be on the radio just before the International Walk to School Day encouraging the community to participate. .

Education: Mrs. Mayeux discussed some concerns that she has had after performing the counts at Mesa Verde Elementary. She noticed that parents were stopping in the parking lot travel lanes and letting their children out in the middle of traffic. She indicated that the parents need to be reminded of safety issues. She is proposing developing a letter to send out to the parents reminding them of the proper drop-off locations and safety rules. The committee commented that the issue wasn't limited to Mesa Verde Elementary but was occurring at all the schools within the district. A suggestion was made to develop a general correspondence that could be sent out to all the schools. Mrs. Mayeux will have Mr. Krest review the letter prior to sending it out to the parents. Mr. Lyle added that the situation at Mesa Verde has improved since the relocation of the driveway as parents are no longer dropping student off in the travel lanes in the middle of College Blvd.

Enforcement: No officers were in attendance. Mrs. Mayeux mentioned that Michelle Delise will have another school resource officer go and present at Mesa Verde as Officer Tyson has moved to the detective division of the police department. Mr. Pat Cordell has agreed to be a community representative on the Farmington Walk and Roll Board. He will be out of town for the first set of meetings in the summer but will be an active participating member on board by late summer.

Engineering: Mr. Krest indicated that the City of Farmington was awarded their Phase II application. The award will help with the progression of the program and fund the SRTS Coordinator position for the next two years. The state awarded infrastructure funds that will be used for two identified infrastructure improvement projects. The two projects are the raised intersection at Boyd and Monterrey and the widening of the sidewalk along Apcache Street. Mr. Lucero added that this would be a good time to go and speak with the principals of both schools that will have infrastructure improvements. The improvements are a good way of drumming up support as it is a physical item that they can see. It should help motivate them to have greater participation in the program. Mr. Krest continued his report by discussing the school zone markings that are currently being laid down at 10 different school zones and school crossing locations.

Evaluation: Mr. Delmagori discussed the outcomes of the student arrival counts that took place during April. He also provided a historical comparison to show the changes in participation and illustrated the possibilities for continued improvements in the walking rates. McKinley Elementary had the highest total of student walkers and bikers with the benchmark being set last spring with approximately 170 students. Both McKinley and Ladera Elementary have large populations of walkers which indicates the importance of the SRTS program.

Mr. Lucero reminded the committee that if they wanted to make a presentation in August to the various schools and school staff that they would need to schedule those appointments prior to the end of the current school year.

The next SRTS meeting will be on June 8, 2011 at 3:00 pm at the Civic Center. The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.