

**MINUTES**  
**Safe Routes to School Committee Meeting**  
**May 21, 2012 12:00 P.M.**

The Safe Routes to School Committee met during a regular meeting on May 21, 2012 at 12:00 p.m., at Apache Elementary School, 700 W Apache, Farmington, New Mexico.

**Present:** Champion: Debra Mayeux

Members: Joe Delmagori  
Steve Krest  
June Markle  
Sergeant Dave Monfils  
Duane Wakan  
Vicki Whitaker

**Absent:** Members: Pat Cordell  
Shawn Lyle  
Jeff Treat  
Candace Young  
William Young

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 12:05 p.m. by Debra Mayeux and the following proceedings were duly had and taken.

**DISCUSSION**

Mrs. Mayeux asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the April 16, 2012 meeting. Mr. Delmagori moved to approve the minutes and Mr. Krest seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

**Reports from Participating Schools:** With the schools finishing up the 2011-2012 school year, there were no school reports this month.

**Report of Champion Efforts:** Mrs. Mayeux reported that the health carnival held at Apache Elementary on May 10 was a huge success. There were a lot of children and parents who attended and Mrs. Mayeux, in lieu of handing out tokens and prizes the day before on the National Bike/Walk to School Day, gave out the 150 bike reflectors, tokens, caps, and vests that were set aside for Apache during the health carnival.

Mrs. Mayeux conducted three walking tours of the school area for parents and children. She noted, however, that many of the parents said they would not allow their children to walk to school along Apache Street. Mrs. Mayeux was pleased that several parents said they would be interested in establishing a walking school bus for the next school year. Mrs. Mayeux stated that these parents could receive a SRTS stipend for volunteering to lead a walking school bus.

Mrs. Mayeux reported that the National Bike/Walk to School Day was well received. Mesa Verde students knew it was National Bike/Walk to School Day as did many at Ladera; most at McKinley were not aware of the designation. Bike reflectors and tokens were given out to almost 70 children at each of the remaining three SRTS schools.

**Education:** Mrs. Mayeux said she has been able to schedule a bike rodeo training with a representative from the National League of American Cyclists. The date for this training is Saturday, September 15 at the Sycamore Center. The bike rodeo training would be from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon followed by an actual bike rodeo the same afternoon. To make the most of this opportunity, Mrs. Mayeux would like to have 20-25 people enroll for the course. There would be no cost to the participants as SRTS would bear all costs for the training. Mrs. Mayeux did recommend that participants should be willing to volunteer their time at future bike rodeos.

The instructor is also prepared to stay over and provide a TS-101 class on Sunday, September 16. This class would be for approximately 8-10 individuals who would like to become certified in conducting bike rodeos. Cost to the individuals attending this additional training would be \$25.00. Mrs. Mayeux stated that Mr. Shawn Lyle was interested in having some of his employees participate and they would then use this training for the annual Road Apple Rally in October.

Mrs. Mayeux encouraged members to get the word out about the training to ensure a good turnout.

**Encouragement:** Mrs. Mayeux reported that Ladera had an amazing response to the “no cell phone zone”. The school has already received 150 signed “no cell phone zone” pledges from family members, neighbors, and friends of students.

The SRTS committee meetings for the summer months of June, July, and August will continue to be on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month but will be held at the Civic Center.

The Committee discussed developing bylaws which they hoped would help establish some guidelines and define expectations of the participants. Mrs. Mayeux will ask the State SRTS office to provide a sample to begin working from.

Also discussed was the need to encourage participation by current Committee members. Meeting attendance remains low and many members have continued to be unable to attend the meetings even after requested changes were made to the day and time of the meetings. Mrs. Mayeux will be contacting these individuals and new members will be sought. With grant funding for SRTS ending in 2013, it will be extremely important to have dynamic and interested members who can sustain the program.

**Enforcement:** Sgt. Monfils said the Police Department’s traffic division will be conducting pedestrian observations at four City intersections beginning later this week that will be part of the NMDOT’s “Look for Me” campaign. Once the observations have been completed and any needed enforcement action taken, the outcomes will be reviewed by the state. The City can receive grant money for these efforts.

**Engineering:** Mr. Krest reported that the agreement was signed earlier this month for the \$250,000 in infrastructure funds for:

- Priority #1 - Sidewalk repair/construction from Apache Elementary east to Auburn along Apache;
- Priority #2 - Installation of a raised crosswalk at Monterey and Boyd for McKinley Elementary students. This will be the first such raised crosswalk in Farmington;
- Priority #3 – Construction of missing sidewalk along Victoria Way

Should any funds be remaining after these projects are completed, the final priority is:

- Priority #4 – Installation of a mid-block pedestrian-actuated signal along College Boulevard for Mesa Verde Elementary.

**Evaluation:** Mr. Delmagori presented student arrival count information compiled after the counts at the four SRTS participating schools were completed in April. The information shows that the number of students walking or biking to school remained about the same at each school and averaged 10-15% of students. This number is typical of the nationwide average.

The Committee discussed ways to encourage more students to walk and bike to school as well as how to encourage participation in and promote the value of SRTS. The Apache health carnival was mentioned as a good way of getting a school “community” involved in the health and fitness of its students. Other ideas included working together with school staff and SRO’s to be able to present information to both students and parents and finding opportunities to involve individuals community-wide.

Mr. Delmagori said the MPO will be hosting a Walkable Communities Workshop on May 30 and 31. Day one of the workshop will focus on strategies, development and planning for more walkable and livable communities. Day two will be walking audits of areas in Farmington, Aztec, and Bloomfield to apply ideas to actual locations.

Mr. Wakan introduced information from the US Census Bureau which showed ways for individual school teachers/classrooms to participate in a “class census”.

The June SRTS Committee meeting will be on June 18, 2012 at 12:00 p.m. at the Farmington Civic Center.

Mrs. Mayeux adjourned the meeting at 12:53 p.m.