

**Kentfield School District**  
**Safe Routes to School Taskforce**  
**Meeting notes**  
**Tuesday February 13, 2018**

**Attendance:** Wendi Kallins- Safe Routes to Schools, Peggy Clark – Safe Routes to Schools, David Hoffman- Parisi & Associates, Heather McPhail Sridharan- Neighborhood Captain, Paul Miller- School District, Anne Petersen- Kentfield Planning Advisory Board, Josie Sanguinetti- Marin County Sheriff, Jenny Walsh- VP Kent MS, Liz Schott- Superintendent, Nancy Vernon- Aide to Katie Rice

**County updates on SFD and McAllister and Wolf Grade**

Nancy reported on behalf of the County DPW.

**Sir Frances Drake Project**

On January 30<sup>th</sup> the project design components were presented during a public meeting; there was a good showing of Safe Routes to Schools supporters. County staff took notes and will develop “staff recommendation” to be presented at the Board of Supervisors meeting in May (5<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup>). The staff recommendations will prioritize projects/issues and link projects previously approved for the \$13-million-dollar grant. Funding will be managed in stages. The staff recommendations should be available to the public 2 weeks prior to the May Board of Supervisors meeting.

The project is scheduled to begin the summer of 2019 through 2020 while school is not in session. Some parking may be temporarily lost on Drake for at least a couple of years during construction. It is too soon to know what the impact will be; the county will be tracking issues and concerns as the project moves along. Bacich School improvements will be completed before this project begins.

The Larkspur Bon Aire bridge could also be under construction during this time frame and will add to the potential traffic congestion.

**McAllister Update**

Several homeowners were not happy with the repaving and how it changed the entrance to their driveways. The county installed rubber bridges; however, they did not fix the problem for several homeowners (10). The county is now collecting bids for an asphalt designed bridge. Once approved the project will be scheduled for this summer.

There have not been any reports of drivers speeding with the new road surface.

## Wolf Grade – Update

No information was presented.

## Chicken Path

The safety issue of students cycling on the Chicken Path have not changed. The issue of student cyclists not stopping as they exist the path still needs to be addressed. It is a challenge to provide education each year to the new and returning riders.

Task Force suggestions were discussed:

1. A fun “chicken crossing” road sign to warn drivers and students. (Nancy will pursue info)
2. Update the student video and present at Kent and Bacich. Note that there is one student who is embarrassed by her appearance in the video which could preclude using it. Perhaps a new video could be created.
3. SR2S include specific education during Bike Safety Classes.
4. Encourage “peer to peer” best practices for students to share.
5. Recruit a neighborhood volunteer to be stationed at the path instructing students to stop before entering the road at the start of each year.

## Crossing guard report

The Transportation Authority of Marin recently released a preliminary report for crossing guard assignments for next school 2018-19. <http://www.tam.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/12-Attachment-Ranked-List-withfunding-by-others.pdf>

TAM’s has been scrambling for additional funding for years for the program. The initial cost for a crossing guard was \$12,000 and now the cost is \$18,000 a year per guard. The sales tax renewal may or may not increase the number of guards throughout the county.

TAM has proposed a Crossing Guard Volunteer program; it is not currently being used. The cost is \$4,000.00 vs \$18,000 for a paid crossing guard (note this cost has been increased to \$5000). The funding for the volunteer program would be borne by the school or local jurisdiction ([see report](#)). The program would train, manage and insure an adult volunteer crossing guard. The challenge is finding volunteers that can commit to being a guard on a daily basis. Parents are already busy; the local retired community may be a resource. Now is the time to look for creative solutions within each school district. It is also a good time to present cost sharing options to TAM.

David was very involved in the month long process resulting in the report. The criteria used to evaluate each existing crossing guard was consistent throughout the county. The ranking for a crossing guard can change if road or sidewalk facilities have been improved. Improvements can change the ranking of a sidewalk. A request for a crossing guard does not necessarily mean a

guard will be considered. There are many on the list of 150 guards that would never meet the criteria.

Wendi reported that Senator Mike McGuire is an advocate for school transportation funding for school buses and crossing guards. Now is the time to propose the state consider looking for funding school bus programs. This service would reduce traffic congestion throughout the state. The Superintendent reported she is researching options for the school district to subsidize the cost of guards with TAM. One possible option is to cover 2 of the 4 hours a guard is scheduled for each day. Staff that would like more paid hours could add an hour a day as long as they did not go into overtime. Unions are not an issue in this school district.

Josie suggested students at COM for part-time crossing guard positions. Many arrive at COM early to avoid traffic and want part-time work.

There are a total of 7 crossing guards in the Kentfield School District, one is paid for by the district the others a funded by TAM.

List of crossing guard for Kent SD that ranked high enough for funding in the report

- McAllister & Stadium Way
- College and Stadium Way
- Drake at Laurel Grove
- Drake at Manor

List of crossing guard locations that did not rank high enough or may have never been staff

- Drake at Bon Aire
- College at Woodland (district wants/needs to keep this location staffed)
- Drake at College (district wants/needs to keep this location staffed)
- Drake and South Eliseo- streets do not intersect, this should not be on the list

\*Wolf Grade crossing guard is funded by the school district.

\*Nancy reported COM is working with the County to place a crossing guard at Kent and Lot 17. COM students requested a guard and ped activated light.

Josie reported the Sheriff Dept. has received several complaints about the guard at Woodland by the Flora and Fauna business. The guard seems to have mental health issues and says inappropriate things to students and pedestrians. She did speak with a contact at the crossing guard company and the guard.

The sheriff's department can complete fingerprint background checks if a guard is placed before the Live Scan report has been submitted. She suggested the school contact her office for assistance.

Ann expressed her concern for placing crossing guards that have not cleared a background check. COM students need the same screening as predators are known to hang out by schools. Paul asked for an explanation of the evaluation process for the College and Woodland intersections. He is very familiar with the challenges a crossing guard encounters at this intersection of 3 streets. David provided a brief overview listing the criteria referenced in the link listed above. He offered to go back and review the scoring and suggested TAM be requested to go back and reevaluate that intersection.

### **Bike racks update**

Bacich does not need racks at this time. Kent MS does need additional racks, the current ones are full all the time.

### **School Activity**

[Family Biking events link to more information](#)

April 25 - Family Biking – After Dinner Bike Ride & Ice Cream Social, Tamalpais Valley Community Center in Mill Valley

MAY 11 -FAMILY BIKING-COMMUNITY PICNIC FRUIT & VEGGIE FEST, Department of Health and Human Services, San Rafael

### **Volunteer for Bacich**

The PTA president knows there is a need for a SR2S Team Leader, Heather is hopeful a volunteer will emerge as many parents have gotten involved with Measure A outreach. Wendi recommended recruiting SR2S volunteers at the Kindergarten orientation. She also suggested they recruit a parent volunteer for specific school events. Once a person is comfortable with an SR2S event they may be interested in supporting more school events. It is important to recruit a Team Leader to maintain green transportation at Bacich. Green trips have declined. SR2S Reports Card will be presented soon; the new format provides more details and suggestion on what each school can do to improve.

### **Set next meeting**

May 23 at 10:00 am