

Kentfield School District

Safe Routes to School Task Force Meeting Notes

Thursday, September 5, 2024
9:30 AM – 11:00 AM

[VIEW RECORDING](#) - 91 mins

Participants

- Meredith Brewer – McAllister/Berens/Rosebank neighborhood captain
- Gwen Froh – SR2S/MCBC
- Lou Goodwin – SR2S/MCBC
- Matthew Hartzell – WTB-TAM
- Wendy Holmes – Kent MS Assistant Principal
- Erin Kahn – Parent volunteer
- Wendi Kallins – SR2S
- Andrew Kingsdale – Bacich parent, neighborhood captain
- Zack Kobic de Leon – Aide to Supervisor Katie Rice
- Jenn Mariska – Bacich parent/SR2S Laurel Grover neighborhood captain
- John Neville – Marin DPW
- Katie Rice – Marin County Board of Supervisors
- Mira Schwartz – SR2S/MCBC
- Jen Shriber – SR2S/Parametrix
- Cass Walsh – Bacich Assistant Principal
- Melanie Wollenweber – Kentfield parent

Safe Pathways & Issues Update (Wendi Kallins)

No Safe Pathways projects are proposed for Kentfield. During a recent meeting with neighborhood captains, it was noted that many issues could be addressed through education as opposed to infrastructure. For example, there are conflicts on the side streets connecting to Sir Francis Drake Boulevard as drivers pull into and block the intersection in order to see out, while students ride on the sidewalks and don't stop at the intersections. Both parents and students can be educated on these issues, starting by leveraging the existing Street Smarts visuals.

Street Smarts Communications (Jen Shriber & Wendi Kallins)

Jen gave an overview of Street Smarts, an annual safe behavior education campaign that is part of the SR2S program. It features messages to educate the public on safe behaviors for drivers, pedestrians, and bicyclists. The campaign features banners that will be displayed around the County, yard signs, and a social media component. This year's campaign will run from September 23 to November 15. For more information, visit the Street Smarts website at <http://streetsmartsmarin.org>.

Free yard signs will be made available for community members to pick up from Bacich and Kent. Jen will coordinate with Erin Kahn to get the signs to the schools. Melanie,



Meredith, and Jenn offered suggestions for getting neighbors in key locations to display the signs.

Wendi explained that people can also help share the message through social media. The Street Smarts website features a Social Media tab with newsletter templates, graphics, and email signatures that can be downloaded and shared. Wendi will also share a ‘tip of the month’ starting in October to keep the messages circulating outside the campaign dates. Task force participants offered to share the messages through the PTA, county PIO office, and other social media accounts. Lou suggested that, depending on this year’s student club interest, the students could make a video related to Street Smarts.

Education & Encouragement (Gwen Froh)

Fall Programming

Gwen discussed the latest updates around SR2S education and encouragement. The program has developed a video, PowerPoint presentation, and other information for back-to-school nights encouraging parents to walk, roll, and carpool with their students. The Buddy Up contest is currently live, and people can nominate students until November 15. Fall events include Walk & Roll Wednesday, International Walk & Roll to School Day, and Ruby Bridges Day. SR2S has a Vitamin D theme for the year, encouraging students and families to reap the health benefits of active transportation to school.

SR2S is now up to teaching about 13,000 students on a regular basis. As a result, the program is asking for support to help consolidate its educational classes to help best utilize program resources.

E-Bikes

SR2S has a new [E-Bike Education](#) section of its website. The page includes information for administrators, including e-bike registration programs at schools as well as useful information for parents.

Acacia as a Slow Street (Wendi Kallins & John Neville)

The group discussed ongoing efforts to reduce vehicles on Acacia during school pick-up and drop-off times. The current temporary closure has been effective but challenging to find volunteers; this year not enough volunteers have been identified to move the signs every day. Various permanent and semi-permanent options are being explored, similar to the San Francisco “slow streets” program.

Supervisor Rice suggested signage that is up every day during the school year and taken down during the summer. The signage could have wording indicating that the road is closed during school pick-up and drop-off times and could be paired with additional signage noting that residents are allowed to use the road. Signs could be placed along the whole length of Acacia in three locations. There was consensus on this idea from the other task force members, and John will pursue the idea with the County.



Bacich Parking Lot Signal Update (John Neville)

“No right turn on red” has been implemented, and CHP monitoring shows that compliance has so far been good. Some timing issues were reported with the signal timing, particularly concerning single cars that had to wait several cycles for a green light. The school will keep observing conditions and Cass will reach out to Brett with any signal timing issues.

Next Steps

- Jen will coordinate with Erin Kahn to get the Street Smarts yard signs to the schools.
- Wendi will coordinate with Jenn Mariska, Katie Rice, and Wendy Holmes about sharing Street Smarts messaging through social media.
- John will pursue the approval process for Acacia signage that stays up during the school year.
- Cass will reach out to Brett with any additional signal timing issues at Bacich.

Next Meeting Date

- January 23, 2025, 9:30 – 11:00 AM