



School Council Meeting  
January 11, 2010

**Minutes**

Respectfully Submitted by Brian Murphey

Attendance:

Rajnish Singh, Principal – **Present**  
Nancy Jester, Chair, Parent - **Present**  
Robert Clayton, Teacher - **Present**  
Robert Thien, Parent – **Present**  
Donica Johnson, Teacher - **Present**  
John Oselette, Parent - **Present**  
Brian Murphey, Parent – **Present**

Guests:

Angela Maki, Parent/Ambassador Program  
Abby Mattera, Safe Routes to School Outreach Coordinator  
Jennifer Morrison, Parent/Safe Routes to School  
Sarah Merkle, Parent/Safe Routes to School

The meeting was called to order at 7:15AM by Brian Murphey. The items below are a summary of the events of the meeting and are not necessarily in order.

Guests recognized

Minutes from meeting held on 12-14-09 approved by unanimous consent

Safe Routes to School presentation by Abby, Sarah and Jennifer

- In 2005, Congress approved \$612 million in funding for Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program to encourage walking and biking to school. The SRTS provides grants to schools and school districts to pay for infrastructure improvements, education programs and traffic law enforcement.
- Infrastructure improvements include building sidewalks, improving crosswalks, bike lanes, trails, traffic lights, etc. Education programs include bike safety courses, etc. Enforcement can include funding for crossing guards.
- Examples were given of other school districts in the area that have benefited from this program: Oak Grove, Decatur City Schools, Morning Side, Ocoee, Kingsley Charter, etc.

- Last year, there were 65 applications received for grants, 13 awarded. After MOU is signed, construction must begin within 12 months.
- Motion was made and seconded to form a SRTS committee to sign Hawthorne up for this program and begin the evaluation process needed to apply for grants. All present voted in favor and the motion passed. Committee members are Sarah Merkle and Jennifer Morrison.
- Next steps for the SRTS committee:
  - Distribute and collect questionnaires to the parents
  - Use the Georgia Walk to School day on March 3<sup>rd</sup> as the official launching of the program. Info will go out in Backpack Bites
  - Look into cleaning up/re-opening Cravey cut-through trail, repair bridge over creek.

#### Ambassador Program

- Angela Maki will be leading brief tours of the school at the January 19th meeting and as a set scheduled event every month.
- John recommended that the school keep the website updated with the latest accomplishments and test scores, point out our population diversity, etc.
- Robert will provide Angela information on the schools computer assets so she can include this information in the tours.
- Nancy and Brian both volunteered to assist Angela in leading tours in the future.

#### Principals Report:

- Mr Singh reported that he has made an agreement with Lakeside High School to have 21 Lakeside seniors come to the school every week to work with students.

#### Committee Reports:

##### Fundraising Steering Committee (FSC):

- Planning an informal meeting to decide on a date and agenda for the next public meeting. (This informal meeting has since occurred and the public meeting will be held on January 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:30PM. Info sent out already.)
- John and Brian reminded Committee members that any formal meetings must be made open to the public and advertised in advance to conform to the Open Meetings Act under which the School Council must operate.

Meeting was adjourned.

-End of minutes-