Safe Routes to School (SRtS) Information Meeting Minutes May 18, 2009

The information session began at 3:40 p.m. in the SAU Conference Room at Moultonborough Academy.

In attendance: Maud Anderson, Andrea Bonner, Cassie Coons, Joanne Coppinger, Tom Dawson, Sara Fogarty, Mike Izard, Scott Kinmond, Michael Lancor, Carolyn Nelson, Betsy Patten, Carter Terenzini, Gary Torressen, Les Smith and Julie Velie

<u>Unable to Attend</u>: Jody Eichhorn, Pasha Marlow and Laurie Whitley

<u>Election of Chairperson</u>: Consensus was reached to appoint a chairperson to conduct future Task Force meetings. Joanne Coppinger moved, and Sara Fogarty seconded a motion, to elect Gary Torressen as chairperson. The motion carried unanimously.

<u>SRtS Overview</u>: Carter Terenzini reviewed the history behind the decision to apply for SRtS grant funds. The primary concerns originally discussed by Carter, Mike Lancor and Scott Kinmond were the geographic areas connecting MCS and MA to the village center and town property formerly owned by the Lions Club. This is not the main focus of SRtS grant funds that has a specific focus on increasing the number of students in grades K to 8 that walk or bike to school. Additional SRtS funding is dependent upon this specific focus. There may be some possibility to have drop-off locations from which students walk or bike to or from school.

Much discussion took place regarding formal (roads) and informal (pathways) currently used or potentially utilized as routes to walk or bike to school. The informal pathways include snowmobile trails and student created pathways.

<u>Surveys</u>: During the week of May 11, the "Student Arrival and Departure Tally Sheets" and "Survey About Walking and Biking to School for Parents" were very successfully completed. For grade K to 8, 116 parent surveys were returned and 70 for grades 7 and 8.

Special thanks to Sara Fogarty (MCS) and Carolyn Nelson (MA) for administering these surveys. All surveys were given to Mike Izard who will send them to the national SRtS officials for tabulation.

Travel Plan: The SRtS Task Force, together with Lakes Region Planning Commission, will "map" (GPS) roadways and pathways within two miles of MA and MCS and make notations regarding current conditions. Once mapping has been completed, then the SRtS Task Force needs to discuss the barriers that exist and potential action steps that could be taken to overcome barriers. If we can accomplish all of these steps, then we will have a "travel plan." A completed travel plan is a prerequisite for application to receive SRtS implementation grant funds. There are \$20,000 SRtS travel plan development grants available, but it is our intent to produce a completed travel plan with our current \$5,000 grant.

<u>Future Meetings</u>: The next Task Force meeting will be held after the survey and tally sheet results have been received. The Task Force is still scheduled to meet at 9:00 a.m. in the SAU

Conference Room on Monday, August 17, 2009. By that time, the "mapping" of current conditions will be completed.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Lancor, Superintendent of Schools