

School Accountability Committee—SAC
Chipeta Elementary School
January 8, 2019

Attendance:

Sarah Scott
Amanda Obringer
Scott Bots
Megan MacMillan
Ian Ratz
Jamie Wright
Kristine Lang
Jennifer Layher

- A. Call to Order at 5:00 p.m.
- B. Welcome and introductions
- C. Minutes from November 6, 2018 were approved.
- D. Administration: Traffic Flow at Chipeta

Crosswalk, Ramps and Signaling

- The school, concerned neighbors and the City of Colorado Springs discussed the possibility of a four way stop at Flying W Ranch and Ramsgate Terrace. City left the ultimate decision up to Chipeta.
 - Principal decided against it because of the potential for traffic problems with a light and four-way stop in such close proximity.
- Sidewalks will be ramped (ADA compliant) all the way from 30th to the light at Stoneridge. All crossings onto school property will be ADA compliant by the end of January.
- Ramps at Ramsgate Terrace across Flying W were removed to indicate it is not an appropriate place for pedestrians to cross.
 - Signage will be put up to discourage crossing at Ramsgate Terrace and Flying W Ranch and will send pedestrians to the crosswalk and light at Stoneridge.
- Blinking School Zone warning light will be moved to before Ramsgate Terrace.
- Speed limit reduced on Flying W Ranch to 30 mph from 30th to Centennial.

Drop-off and pick-up: SAC had an extensive discussion regarding options for improving traffic flow around Chipeta during drop-off and pick-up.

- Prefer a solution that does not put parent drop-off and bus parking in the same place.
- Possibility of a no-parking zone on Ramsgate Terrace, but city is reluctant.
 - Parking between Chipeta's driveways on Ramsgate is along a sidewalk that run continuously up to the school, making it a safe drop-off area.

- The City of Colorado Springs says there might be “grant money” to help with widening of driveways if necessary.

General Ideas:

- Ensuring there is supervision at Kindergarten drop-off and that parents were aware of it, so they feel more comfortable using kiss and go resulting in fewer parents parking and walking their children in, reducing congestion.
- Encouraging parents to teach their children to get out on the passenger side of the vehicle, which is almost always the curbside, making it the safest place to get out of the vehicle.
- Educate students about safe drop-off and pick-up procedures, including where to cross the streets, and they will tell their parents.

Ideas to change Traffic Flow to reduce congestion

- Make upper lot parent and visitor parking with drop-off in current bus lane.
- Move staff parking and buses to lower lot off Ramsgate Terrace.
- If buses enter and leave on Ramsgate Terrace, and parents enter upper lot off Ramsgate Terrace and exit on Flying W, avoiding buses.
 - Discussed having parents enter and exit using Flying W Ranch driveway
 - Cause congestion on Flying W
 - Driveway is difficult when it is icy
 - Discussed having parents enter lot off Ramsgate Terrace and exit on Flying W.
 - Concern expressed about the exit since many people scrape the underside of their vehicle on the steep exit.
 - A lot of traffic at the light, could still cause back-ups, especially as people have to wait to make their left turn.
 - Discussed having people go out Flying W Ranch exit if they are turning right, and Ramsgate Terrace exit if they are going to turn left on Flying W Ranch.
- **Most popular potential solution:** Make lower lot staff only parking. Extend drop-off line all the way to the end of the sidewalk. Take out parking spaces nearest Ramsgate Terrace to allow for smooth exit of traffic.
 - Eliminates pedestrian traffic in the lot.
 - Eliminates traffic from people needing to park and walk-in.

E. Subcommittee Reports

PTA:

- BINGO went well and was well-attended.
- Voted to approve APEX as our fundraiser for next year.
- January 17th is PTA reflections winners ceremony.
- Kid Power on 17th and 24th

DAC:

- January 17th is next DAC meeting.

Miscellaneous:

- Lego League Jr. We could use 2 or 3 more 3rd or 4th grade parents. Three teams with two adults each would be much better
- New neighborhood magazine for Mountain Shadows and Chipeta will have a standing article. The first one is on Lego League.
- Next Meetings: 2/5, 3/12 and 4/2