


**School Governance Team
Meeting Minutes for SY 23-24**

SAWYER ROAD ELEMENTARY	2023-2024
Member Name	Affiliation
Susan Graves	Principal
Tezella Comeaux	Certified (appointed)
Kristin Lincoln	Teacher (elected)
Sarah Smith	Teacher (elected)
Brad Gubler	Parent/Guardian (elected)
Kelsie Peters	Parent/Guardian (elected)
Margot Moorman	Community Member (appointed)
Majid Bassery	Parent Liaison

OCTOBER 25, 2023



Ribbon Cutting CEREMONY

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS
Susan Graves, Principal

MUSICAL PERFORMANCE
SRE's Drama Cast Members

STORY OF SRE MOBILE MARKET & FOOD PANTRY
Susan Tucker, YMCA

IMPACT STORIES
Ms. Jessica Strickland, First Grade Teacher
Ms. Amber Lemar, SRE Parent







RECOGNITION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS
Brittany George, School Social Worker

CLOSING REMARKS & RIBBON CUTTING

RECEPTION
Join us inside the Learning Commons for snacks, sponsored by Morning Shift, and a behind the scenes look at our Food Pantry.

PANTRY COMMITTEE:
Kim Harrison, Gayle Battersby, Susan Tucker, Liz Platner, Sara Evans, Margot Moorman, and Brittany George.

SPECIAL THANKS



Sawyer Road Elementary an IB PYP Academy

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Today was our Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for our grand opening of the Mobile Market and Food Pantry here at Sawyer Road. Thank you to Brittany George, our school social worker, for operating this amazing program for our community. Special thanks to [Grant Rivera](#), Bluefin, The YMCA, School Pantry, Atlanta Community Food Bank, C & S Paving Inc., and [Marietta City Schools](#) for making this a possibility for us.

Hoy fue nuestra ceremonia de inauguración para nuestra gran inauguración... [See more](#)



The Story of the Sawyer Rd Elementary Mobile Market and Food Pantry

In the early days of 2020, Jessica Strickland, first grade teacher, and Kim Harrison, YMCA Board Member, would work out together in the early morning hours before the school day starts at Sawyer Rd Elementary School. During these sessions, Jessica would share her concern for "her babies and her school" and her wish to have access to food at the school. In January 2023, Kim brought Jessica's concerns to Gayle Battersby on the McCleskey-East Cobb Family YMCA Board of Directors. Gayle & Kim worked with several food pantries in Cobb County and approached Brittany George, the school social worker at Sawyer Rd Elementary, about setting up a food pantry. Brittany toured the food pantry that was operating at Brumby Elementary in East Cobb and realized this was what they needed here at Sawyer Rd.

In February 2023, Gayle asked Liz Platner, the Chapter Leader of PORCH-Marietta if she would be interested in having PORCH help set up a new food pantry at SRES. Gayle connected Liz with Kim and they partnered to bring dry goods and canned goods to the food pantry along with cases of snacks to keep the students on task and ready to learn during the school day.

PORCH holds monthly food drives by collecting items from front porches around Marietta. The food is delivered to the pantry on the first Thursday of each month. There are currently forty-one neighborhoods or groups collecting food and twelve of these groups donate to Sawyer Rd Elementary. To date, PORCH has contributed 4950 pounds of food to Sawyer Road's Mobile Market.

At the beginning of the 2023-2024 school year, Mrs. Tina Abercrombie, owner of C&S Paving became a Sawyer Road Elementary School Partner by providing shelving, monthly food orders, gift cards, Crockpots, can openers, hygiene kits, baby wipes, and many other items to the pantry. C&S Paving has provided over 10,000 lbs. of food and counting. Her donations have helped the food pantry reach ten times the number of people served since the spring of 2023.

Stephanie Pisano, A teacher at SRE, provided the first donation of 20 Crockpots through her husband's company, Bluefin International Inc. The Sailor Family (Carrie Sailor Teacher at SRE) provided the freezer and refrigerator. These donations will be critical as we expand to over perishable items and ways for families to make dinners during hotel stays.

Through the assistance of many volunteers – from churches, workout classes, bible studies, school liaisons from Marietta City Schools, donations from teachers and neighborhoods throughout Marietta, we've been able to grow from thirty families served in April & May to 300 families served on the 4th Wednesday of each month. We appreciate all of the people who have helped us grow to where we are today. Thank you for coming today to help us celebrate this mission that is serving the Marietta, Georgia community.