



WEBELOS TO SCOUT TRANSITION PLAN





WHY DO WE NEED A PLAN?

THE TRANSITION FROM CUB SCOUTS INTO BOY SCOUTS IS WHEN WE LOSE A SIGNIFICANT PERCENTAGE OF OUR MEMBERSHIP.

AN EFFECTIVE WEBELOS TO SCOUT TRANSITION PLAN IS ESSENTIAL FOR RETAINING OUR CURRENT CUB SCOUTS BY MOVING THEM INTO A BOY SCOUT TROOP.





WHY IS A PLAN IMPORTANT?

- ALMOST ALL TROOP RECRUITS ARE FORMER WEBELOS.
- YOU CAN'T ASSUME WHERE THEY ARE COMING FROM AND WHETHER OR NOT THEY ARE INTERESTED IN JOINING.
 - WE HAVE LOST UNITS, SO WE NEED TO MAKE SURE ALL PACKS ARE CONNECTED WITH MALE AND FEMALE TROOPS
- YOU NEED TO BE SURE THAT THE WEBELOS PARENTS HELP THEIR CUB SCOUT MAKE AN INFORMED DECISION ABOUT WHETHER THEY WILL CONTINUE AND IF SO WHERE THEY JOIN.
 - THERE ARE MANY MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT JOINING A TROOP
 - WEBELOS ARE **NOT** REQUIRED TO TRANSITION TO THEIR CHARTERED/AFFILIATED TROOP
 - CHOOSING THE RIGHT BOY SCOUT TROOP IS AN INDIVIDUAL DECISION & IS ENCOURAGED.
- THE WEBELOS AND THEIR PARENTS NEED TO BE PREPARED TO TRANSITION INTO BOY SCOUTING.





WHAT WE KNOW IS...

- **NOT ALL TROOPS ARE THE SAME**
 - PROGRAM
 - MEETING DATES/TIME
 - TROOP SIZE
 - ADVANCEMENT
 - TYPES OF ACTIVITIES
 - PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT
 - LEADERSHIP
- **NOT ALL SCOUTS/PARENTS NEEDS ARE THE SAME**
 - WHAT TYPE OF PROGRAM WILL ENGAGE THEM?
 - COMPETING ACTIVITIES
 - LEADERSHIP STYLE





WHAT WE CAN AGREE ON

IT IS OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO RETAIN ALL
SCOUTS!

OUR GOAL IS TO GIVE EVERY WEBELOS II SCOUT
THE OPPORTUNITY TO CONTINUE IN SCOUTING;
***IT SHOUD NOT MATTER WHAT TROOP THEY
JOIN AS LONG AS THEY STAY IN SCOUTING!***





SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES

- SCOUTMASTER / ASM-MEMBERSHIP CHAIR
- CUBMASTER / ASSISTANT CUBMASTER-MEMBERSHIP CHAIR
- WEBELOS II DEN LEADER
- PARENTS & SCOUTS





SCOUTMASTER /ASM-MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

- APPOINT A LIAISON
- ESTABLISH CONNECTION WITH PACKS IN YOUR AREA
- RECRUIT AND TRAIN DEN CHIEFS; ENCOURAGE PACKS TO USE DEN CHIEFS
- HOST WEBELOS II AT TROOP MEETING, ACTIVITIES, EVENTS, CAMPOUTS
- KEEP IN TOUCH WITH THE PACK LEADERS AND PARENTS ALL YEAR LONG
 - AOL REQUIREMENTS REQUIRE US TO BUILD INTO OUR TROOP PROGRAM OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEBELOS II SCOUTS TO MEET THESE REQUIREMENTS
- HELP CUBMASTERS PLAN CROSS-OVER CEREMONIES





CUBMASTER & PACK MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

- APPOINT A LIAISON
- MOTIVATE WEBELOS II LEADERS TO ENSURE WEBELOS CROSS-OVER
- DEVELOP WORKING RELATIONSHIP WITH TROOPS IN AREA
- COORDINATE WITH SCOUTMASTERS FOR ASSIGNMENT OF DEN CHIEFS
- COORDINATE WITH SCOUTMASTER FOR WEBELOS OVERNIGHT ACTIVITIES AND TROOP MEETING VISITS
- INVITE TROOPS IN AREA TO ATTEND AND PARTICIPATE IN SPECIAL PACK EVENTS
- ENCOURAGE WEBELOS II LEADERS TO CROSS TO TROOP LEADERSHIP ROLES
- PLAN CROSS-OVER





WEBELOS II DEN LEADERS

- BE ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT THE TRANSITION TO BOY SCOUTS
- SPEAK TO YOUR WEBELOS II AND THEIR PARENTS IN SEPTEMBER ABOUT TROOP VISITS
- ENSURE THAT PARENTS OF WEBELOS II UNDERSTAND THAT THEY ARE WELCOME AND ENCOURAGED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE TROOP THEIR SON CHOOSES
- EXPLAIN THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN BOY SCOUTS AND CUB SCOUTS AND THE DIFFERENT ROLES OF PARENTS
- ENSURE THAT EVERY WEBELOS II RECEIVES AN INVITATION TO JOIN ONE OR MORE TROOPS





PARENTS & SCOUTS

- PARENTS - BE ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT THE TRANSITION TO BOY SCOUTS
- SPEAK TO YOUR WEBLOS AND UNDERSTAND WHAT THEY ARE LOOKING FOR; ADVANCEMENT, OUTINGS, FUN. WHAT ARE THEIR GOALS?
- VISIT TROOPS IN YOUR AREA AND LEARN AS MUCH AS YOU CAN ABOUT THEM; NIGHTS THEY MEET, FUNDRAISING, BOY LEAD(?), LEADERSHIP STATUS, PROGRAM
- ATTEND MULTIPLE TROOP OUTINGS TO SEE THE PROGRAM IN ACTION; ONE VISIT SHOULD BE WITHOUT WARNING; WANT TO SEE TROOP IN THEIR “TRUE” FORM, NOT “PREPARED” FORM.
- DO YOU FEEL COMFORTABLE SENDING YOUR SON FOR THE WEEKEND WITH THIS GROUP?
- ENCOURAGE YOUR SON(S) TO GO WHERE YOU BOTH FEEL COMFORTABLE; BOY SCOUTS IS A 7 YEAR COMMITMENT.





SELL YOUR TROOP

- ✓ ***DON'T ASSUME THE PARENTS KNOW ABOUT SCOUTS BSA AND HOW THE PROGRAM WILL BENEFIT THEIR CHILD.***
- HOLD A TROOP OPEN HOUSE, TAKE THE PARENTS ASIDE AND TALK TO THEM ABOUT THE SCOUTS BSA PROGRAM.
- EMPHASIS ON CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT, PHYSICAL AND MENTAL FITNESS IN A SAFE AND FUN ENVIRONMENT.
- TALK ABOUT LEADERSHIP, TEAMWORK, DECISION MAKING AND RESPONSIBILITIES — EMPHASIZE THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN CUB SCOUT AND SCOUTS BSA.
- MENTION HOW MERIT BADGES INTRODUCE SCOUTS TO POTENTIAL VOCATIONS OR AVOCATIONS.
- LET THEM KNOW HOW MUCH THE SCOUTING EXPERIENCE WILL AFFECT THEIR CHILD'S LIVES WELL INTO THE FUTURE.





SELL YOUR TROOP

- GIVE PARENTS CURRENT STATUS AND A BRIEF HISTORY
- MENTION THE SPL AND HOW HE/SHE RUNS HIS TROOP
- TALK ABOUT HOW THE PATROL METHOD WORKS, HOW YOUR PATROLS ARE SET UP AND HOW THE NEW SCOUTS FIT IN.
- HIGHLIGHT YOUR OUTDOOR PROGRAM AND ANY SPECIAL EVENTS
- SHARE YOUR ANNUAL CALENDAR WITH THE WEBELOS' PARENTS
- MENTION YOUR TRAINED YOUTH AND ADULT LEADERS
- TALK ABOUT HOW YOUR TROOP COMMITTEE WORKS





TIMELINE

Target Date	Who	Tasks
September	Cubmaster(s) AC - Membership Webelos Leader(s) Scoutmaster(s) ASM – Membership	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide Scoutmaster(s) with a roster of all 1st and 2nd year Webelos. Include phone, address, e-mail• Ask the Troop(s) for a Webelos Den Chief for 1st and 2nd year Webelos Dens.• Coordinate with Scoutmaster and begin working on AOL requirements.• Continue working on Activities badges and focus on the Arrow of Light.





TIMELINE

Target Date	Who	Tasks
October	Scoutmaster(s) Webelos Leader(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with 2nd year Webelos Den Chief(s) to focus activities on Boy Scouts. • Schedule a night(s) for the Webelos and their parents to attend a Troop meeting(s). • Help prepare families for visit with the troop • Have Webelos II attend District Fall Camporee as a guest of Troop.
November	Webelos Leader(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate with Scoutmaster and begin working on AOL Scout Badge. • Assist the Cubmaster/Scoutmaster in the final planning of the Arrow or Light and Crossover ceremonies.
December & January	Webelos Leader(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage Webelos Scouts to make a decision on joining a Troop based on their visits and what they are looking for. • Start making preparations for Crossover – type of ceremony, etc. • Continue to work on activities • Wrap up Arrow of Light requirements





TIMELINE

Target Date	Who	Tasks
February	Cubmaster(s) Scoutmaster(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Have the boys complete a Boy Scout Application and register with the Troop <u>of their choice</u>.• Graduate the Webelos into Boy Scouts!
March	Scoutmaster	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide new Scouts with a schedule and begin attending Troop meetings and activities• Talk to Webelos Leaders about continuing to work with the new Scouts as a Patrol Advisor.• Scoutmaster conducts a new Scout/Parent meeting that includes summer camp plans.<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review equipment needs; what the scout needs vs. what the Troop may supply.• Encourage new parents to get involved with the Troop committee• Follow-up with any of the Webelos that did not join the troop.





AFTER THE TRANSITION

- **A STRONG COMMITMENT TO THE FIRST-YEAR SCOUTS AND THEIR PARENTS IS IMPORTANT TO RETAINING THEM; DELIVER ON YOUR PROMISE.**
- **ASSIGN AN ASSISTANT SCOUTMASTER TO WORK WITH THE NEW SCOUTS AND THEIR PARENTS WHEN THEY CROSS-OVER.**
- **ASSIGNED THE NEW SCOUTS TO A NEW-SCOUT PATROL WITH AN OLDER SCOUT SERVING AS THEIR TROOP GUIDE OR PATROL LEADER. THE TROOP GUIDE AND THE ASSISTANT SCOUTMASTER WORK WITH THE SCOUTS ON RANK ADVANCEMENT AND PATROL ORGANIZATION.**
- **GET THEM TO ATTEND SUMMER CAMP!!!!!!**





Summary

- OBJECTIVE IS TO RETAIN WEBELOS SCOUTS BY CROSSING THEM OVER INTO A TROOP
- SCOUTS SHOULD BE GIVEN OPPORTUNITIES; WE SHOULD NOT LIMIT THEIR CHOICES
- LEADERS NEED TO WORK TOGETHER TO MAKE THIS PROCESS SUCCESSFUL
- CROSSING WEBELOS OVER IS ONLY ½ THE BATTLE; NOW WE HAVE TO RETAIN THEM

DELIVER THE ADVENTURE !

