

School Night for Scouting

Agenda

1. **Gathering & Greeting**
 - Greeters meet and welcome boys and adults at the door.
 - Give parents a Parent Information Guide, Cub Scout Application, Family Talent Survey and a pen.
 - Ask parents to take a seat and begin filling out the Cub Scout application and Family Talent Survey.
2. **Opening - District Executive**
 - Be sure to start on time.
 - Introduce yourself.
 - Introduce Cubmaster and volunteers in attendance.
 - Give an explanation of the Cub Scout sign.
3. **Why Cub Scouts**
 - Brief overview of Tiger cubs, Wolves, Bears, Webelos, dens, den meetings, packs, pack meetings and advancement.
 - Explain parental involvement – especially in advancement.
 - Emphasize Cub Scouting is a family activity.
 - Remind parents the boy is there to have FUN! He didn't come to have his character developed, it just happens along the way.
 - Ultimate goals – skills learned, reinforcement of values, ethics and morals.
4. **Bobcat Trail**
 - Show boys and parents how to do the Cub Scout Salute.
 - Lead boys and parents in the Cub Scout Motto.
 - Lead boys and parents in the Cub Scout Promise.
 - Tell them "See it only takes a few minutes to learn something new".
 - Explain there are eight requirements to attain the first rank in Cub Scouts (Bobcat) and their boys just learned four, halfway there.
5. **Pack Information**
 - Ask Cubmaster to give brief statement about cool things pack does.
 - Lead parents in filling out last page of parent Information Guide.
6. **Newspaper Game**
 - And now for something FUN!
 - Explain the rules of the game (see Newspaper Game instructions).
 - Observe and make notes.
7. **Discuss Details**
 - Fees and rechartering. Be brief but explain where the money goes.
 - Leadership needs of the pack. Remind parents the boys get the best program and no one person is overloaded when everyone helps.
 - Promote Fall and Spring Cub Scout Weekends, Cub Resident Camp, Cub Leader Basic Training.
 - Ask parents to complete filling out their son's application and Family Talent Surveys. Make sure to mention e-mail addresses.

8. **Parent Orientation**
 - Give date, time and location of parent meeting (should be 7-10 days after school night).
 - Ask parents to read and review the Parent Information Guide prior to coming.

9. **Conclusion**
 - Answer questions.
 - Collect applications with fees. Be sure to get all applications.
 - Collect Family Talent Surveys.
 - Pass out incentive items.

10. **Follow-Up**
 - Have pack leaders take time to plant seeds with prospective leaders.
 - Meet with pack leaders afterward to finalize the paperwork.
 - Have pack leader confirm count on applications and fees.
 - Issue pack leader a receipt for the applications and fees.
 - Compile a list of prospective leaders identified by the Newspaper Game.

Reminders:

- Start and end on time. Meeting should last no more than one hour!
- Involve everyone you possibly can.
- Keep things simple, lively and moving.

Notes on the Newspaper Game method:

- Eliminates the high pressure/guilt trip method of recruiting which in many cases produces a leader who is not fully informed nor committed.
- Allows pack leadership the opportunity to identify parents who possess good leadership traits.
- Allows time for pack leadership to discuss potential leaders identified.
- Gives parents time to digest the information presented in the Parent Information Guide and come to the Parents Orientation meeting prepared to make an educated and conscientious decision.