

**NARRAGANSETT COUNCIL
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA**

MEMORANDUM

November 13, 2009

TO: Key Council & Unit Leadership

FROM: Kevin Kennedy, Vice President for Youth Participation
Dave Anderson, Scout Executive

SUBJ: **100% Trained Leader Project**

As you are probably aware, since March of 2005 the Narragansett Council has been aggressively working towards the goal of ensuring that 100% of our “direct contact leaders” participate in the appropriate leadership development course. We were one of a handful of councils who’s Executive Boards passed resolutions related to training requirements for certain positions and, we believe, the only one to extend these requirements to all direct contact leaders.

While we haven’t quite reached that 100% goal, this effort has produced impressive results. The percentage of “trained leaders” has increased dramatically. Participation in the various training courses has been very strong, especially the Boy Scout training opportunities offered at Yawgoog during the summer. And, not surprisingly, we have seen an increase in retention of youth in existing units.

One of the things we learned in this process is that it would be very difficult for us to consistently reach the 100% mark without more tools from the National Council, primarily making portions of the training for certain positions, especially den leaders, available on-line. While we all realize the value of face to face contact, we also understand the time constraints on parents and leaders today. We also know that it is absolutely imperative that a new den leader have access to the resources they need to run a den meeting instantaneously – den meetings begin right way and they cannot wait a few weeks or months for a training course.

The National Council has taken note of our experiences as well as those of other councils who took the lead in this area and are incorporating the lessons learned into a new Strategic Plan. That plan will include a national emphasis on 100% trained leadership with the on-line tools that will allow councils to accomplish that objective. Complete details will be available once the plan has been released next May.

In light of these new developments, the Narragansett Council Executive Board has passed a resolution that aligns our current local training requirements with those of the National Council. The Board is pleased that the National Council shares it’s belief that every young person in Scouting deserves a trained leader who will have the tools and resources to deliver a safe and top quality program. While we await further details from the National Council we will continue to work towards our own goal of 100% trained leaders at every level of the program.....Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting, and Venturing!

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact either of us.

Thanks for you do for Scouting!

kk/dsa