



Rip Van Winkle Council, Boy Scouts of America
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May 29, 2024

Dear Scouters,

There are many rumors floating around the Council at this time, and we need to clarify some things and share some facts.

Based on a recent conversation with the leadership of CST#10, it is official, the Rip Van Winkle Council will be issued a **TRANSITIONAL CHARTER** for June 2024 to May 2025. This decision has been reviewed and approved by the National Key 3 of the Boy Scouts of America. This decision is final, there is no appeal for this decision.

This decision means the Rip Van Winkle Council needs establish a plan to merge with another nearby council or councils.

Anticipating this outcome, our Executive Board had started to organize a volunteer committee to consider and plan our transition. The Transition committee will be looking into various analytics for each of the councils being considered. Those analytics may include:

- Council governance
- Fiscal stewardship
- Local economy
- Population demographics
- Culture

The Transition committee has been tasked with selecting the best council for us to merge with in order to continue to meet the needs of our youth..

When all of this does finally take place, what impact is it going to have on a Cub Scout in a local Cub Scout Pack?

If done well, it will have little to no impact on the Cub Scout. He or she will have the same Den Leader and Cubmaster. They are still going to be in the same Cub Scout Pack chartered to the same chartered partner they have always had. The pack will continue to provide a quality Scouting program to the Cub Scout. *The only thing that will change is the Council Shoulder strip on their uniform.*

The Scouting program has three aims: character development, citizenship training, and personal fitness. Scouting's mission is to help young people develop physically, intellectually, socially, emotionally, and spiritually in a fun environment. The goal is to prepare them to be responsible citizens and constructive members of their communities, both locally and internationally. Whether you are in the Rip Van Winkle Council or another, as a leader, you share the same goal. Whatever Council you are in, whatever District you are in, that goal is, and will always be, to prepare our youth to be responsible citizens and constructive members of their communities.

Over the last four years, our Council has been operating as one unified operation. While we had two districts on paper, our size dictated that we operate as one cohesive unit. Our Roundtables, Commissioner Service, Training, Advancement, and Activities committees have all operated to serve the entire council, not a portion of it.

As the Rip Van Winkle District in some other Council, we anticipate operating in the same manner.

As we move forward with this transition, we will keep you posted.



David Gagnon
Council President



Elise Anderson
Council Commissioner



Dana Kuhns
Scout Executive/CEO