

April 27, 2017

Message About Advancement from Teresa Hoover

Advancement begins with properly trained leaders and volunteers. Many of us have an avocation or special skill that lends itself to assisting with a Pack or Troop activity or to becoming a merit badge counselor. While not all activities require special training, there are many that do, under BSA regulations, in order for that work to count towards advancement. Sagamore council offers specialized training on a regular basis. The training may be offered online at www.my.scouting.org, at campouts, or events scheduled specifically for a particular type of training. Be aware of upcoming training offered on the Sagamore website @ www.sagamorebsa.org.

Keep an eye on your Journey To Excellence scorecard. Go to www.Scouting.org/scoutsource/Awards/JourneytoExcellence/scorecards. You will be able to tell the strength of your program by how you are advancing on your scorecard. For example, one of the differences between Bronze and Gold level is the percentage of scouts advancing at least one rank throughout the year. Check in with your advancement chair to find out the percentage of advancement. If you don't have one, make it your goal to appoint an advancement chair. The purpose of tracking that percentage is not only to advance your level on the scorecard, but to aim just a little higher and be sure the boys are staying involved. Thank you all for your "one hour per week."