

Pathway to Adventure Council- District Realignment 01/01/2021

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

1. Why was it necessary for the District Realignment in PTAC?

2020 brought much change to Scouting at the National level, which filtered to the Council level. Funding, Membership, Retention and Programming were all severely impacted by COVID-19 safety precautions and preventative measures. It was an appropriate time to assess the staff responsibilities and assignments to serve our Scouts, their Units and their Districts. The District Realignment enabled PTAC to align staff with comparable assignments of youth served as well as territory covered since there were Districts without District Executives. It was critical that each District have a dedicated Professional Scouter assigned to assist with the District administration.

2. What does this mean to my local Scouting Unit?

Local Scouting Units will continue to operate as usual. The District Realignment will affect the administration at the District level and above. Individual Units will continue their unit programming, planning, advancement and membership plans. The objective of the District Realignment was to provide our units the proper Professional and District Volunteer support for their success.

3. How do I know if my Scout unit is impacted by the District Realignment?

There is a map which accompanies this FAQ on the PTAC website along with a list of all the units impacted by our realignment accompanies this FAQ. This chart lists the Unit Type-Number, Community Organization, Zip Code, Current District Name, Realigned District Name and New District Number.

4. What is the name of my Scouting District?

By January 11, 2021, the names of the Districts will change to an assigned number. The following table includes the new District Number along with the former District information and includes the District Executive.

New District #	Former District Name (District with units realigning into this former district)	District Executives (DE)
1	Calumet * (Nishnabec, Crossroads & Thunderbird)	Ray Delcourt
2	Aguila *	Nancy Ithier
3	Prairie Dunes *	Kellauana Mack **
4	Thunderbird * (Sea Scouts)	Gary Polodna **
5	Founders (Indian Trails & Sea Scouts)	David Tafur **
6	Greater South Side (Iroquois Trails, Founders, Arrowhead & Sea Scouts)	Deriell Reed **
7	Blackhawk (Twin Lakes, Indian Trails & Sea Scouts)	Carl Monk
8	Arrowhead (Voyageur Trace & Calumet)	To Be Hired
9	North Woods (Blackhawk, Pathfinder & Signal Hill)	Emily Constantinou
10	Voyageur Trace (Iroquois Trails & Twin Lakes)	Tim Strudeman / Alexis Marcotte
11	Tall Grass * (Sea Scouts)	Sean Bennington
12	Pathfinder (Signal Hill & Sea Scouts)	John Kenny
13	Exploring / STEAM *	Abigail Krause / Kristen Vogt
NOTE 1: Districts denoted by an asterisk (*) are not required to change their name		
NOTE 2: Avery Epstein (**) supports the Restoring The Village (RTV) units within those Districts		

5. Will the district name remain as a number?

Each District, receiving new units will be selecting a new District name which will be inclusive for all Scouts, the Units and the Volunteer Adult Leaders. The selection process will be established by the Interim District Chairman, Interim District Commissioner, the newly selected District Chairman and District Commissioner and the District Executive. Each District will submit a list of three (3) different District names for consideration. The three new District names are due to be submitted to Cedric Bodley no later than 03/15/21. The District Realignment Task force together with Professional staff will review the selections and notify the Key 3 District leaders of the approved District name selected by 03/31/21.

Please note: Names currently used by PTAC Districts and names that are demeaning to the Native American culture are not eligible.

6. Will the District Realignment change which Scout Office I visit?

Scouts, parents and Scout leaders may visit any of the four Scout Centers (Chicago, Munster, LaGrange and Arlington Heights). Each office is staffed to serve your needs. Qualified and trained staff members are available to assist you or direct you to local volunteer leadership as needed. The only restrictions will be based on COVID-19 measures required by the Public Health Departments of Illinois for Illinois offices or Indiana for the Munster office to preserve the health and safety of our Scouts, the Adult Volunteers and PTAC Staff members.

7. Who are my primary contacts for information about this District Realignment?

- a. Your assigned District Executive
- b. Your District Chairman
- c. Your District Commissioner

8. Who are the new leaders in my new District?

Each of the 13 new Districts have an Interim District leadership team composed of the District Chairman and District Commissioner. They will act as interim District Key 3 leaders until the new Slate is formally reviewed, approved and installed.

9. How are the new leaders in my new District selected?

With the announcement of the District Realignment on November 9, 2020, the existing Interim District Chairmen and District Commissioners were instructed to set up Nominating Committees to fill each and every leadership position in the District Committee Organizational chart. The primary Top 7 District positions; District Chairman, Commissioner, Membership Chair, Program/Activities Chair, Training Chair, Finance Chair and Advancement Chair are to be selected by the District Nominating Committee based on nominations received by 01/14/2021. The Slate of these Key 7 positions is due to be submitted to Cedric Bodley by January 15, 2021. Each candidate on the proposed Slate will be reviewed based on the nominee background, accomplishments, training and recommendations. PTAC leadership will review each Slate candidate and respond by February 1, 2021. Successful Slate candidates will assume leadership positions in March 2021 following a warm and cordial transition from existing leaders which will include one-on-one training.

10. Are there leadership positions available at the District level?

YES! Attached to this FAQ is the District Committee Organizational Chart. The District Committee Organizational Chart also contains Secondary and Tertiary positions that are to be filled by March 15, 2021. Please review to see the available leadership positions in each District. You are strongly encouraged to select a position that can assist your Scouts, Units and the District as an organization.

11. How do I share my interest in a District leadership position such as Program/Activities, Membership, Advancement, Finance, Marketing, Training, Cub Scout, Scouts BSA, Venturing, Exploring, or Sea Scouts?

Each District has a Nominating Committee which is actively seeking interested Adult Volunteers to fill a variety of District leadership roles. You may also contact the assigned District Executive, the District Chairman or the District Commissioner. Please refer to your District's Webpage for the email address of your District Chairman and District Commissioner.

12. How will the District Realignment affect the Sea Scout program and these Units?

The Sea Scout program will continue to exist, however, Sea Scout Ships and their Unit Leaders will report administratively to the local Scout District and participate in the local Scout District programming. The advantage is that this will provide additional visibility to Scouts within each District to interact with and learn from the Sea Scout program.

13. May our Scout Unit participate in activities in another District?

In the Pathway to Adventure Council (PTAC), Scouts and their Units are eligible to participate in any activities held anywhere in the PTAC territory. The administration of each event may result in fees associated with each event. The fees will be equal for all participants.

The District Realignment Task Force strongly encourages participation in the new District if your unit was affected by the unification of our Districts. Find a new leadership buddy and find a way to help improve your District together.

14. How will the District Realignment impact the Eagle Scout advancement path?

Life Scouts who have already begun the process of their Eagle Scout Service Project with their existing District Advancement Chairman (DAC) and Eagle Coordinator (EC) are strongly encouraged to continue working with their current DAC & EC. A Life Scout, currently working on their Eagle Project, could also opt to move to a new DAC and EC, but this could delay your progress. Any Life Scout not working with a DAC and EC should start with the new District Advancement Chairman and Eagle Coordinator after June 1, 2021.

15. How will this affect the Order of the Arrow and the Chapters and the elected Scout youth leaders?

The Lodge Adviser and the Key 7 youth Leaders have decided that the existing 10 Chapters and the elected Youth Leaders will remain in place until their terms end as planned in May 2021. The existing Order of the Arrow Chapters will continue to operate as usual until that time. Between now and then, the Lodge Leadership team will assess the District Realignment and decide on the best ways to align the existing Chapters to the newly realigned Districts.

16. How will the realignment impact my relationship with my existing Unit Commissioner?

Work with your current District Commissioner to request to keep your existing Unit Commissioner (UC) if the realignment will place your unit and UC in different districts. The ultimate decision is between the existing and new District Commissioners, who will then inform you of their decision.