



TOPEKA YOUTH COMMISSION

est. 2019

AUGUST 2020 NEWSLETTER

Team Updates

Government

The Government committee has been very active in these recent weeks. Two of our members got to interview Tony Weingartner for the Republican sheriff primary. You can check out that interview on the TYC's Facebook. We are now working on creating a youth voting coalition and reaching out to many groups in Topeka to get started on increasing the youth vote in Shawnee County.

Community Outreach & Community Involvement

The Community Involvement committee is staying super busy with a couple of volunteer events coming soon this month that are outside and should benefit our local community and environment.

Along with this we are working with the outreach committee on a mental health awareness campaign that we are asking teachers to have apart in this October the details still are in the making on how this online event will go but we are super excited about it! There is multiple different ways we are getting volunteering in during this rough times through the SENT program distributing lunches through out August for students and families, getting to reach out with local business to support them through this rough spot.

Social Media

The Social Media Committee has been working on a Tik-Tok video campaign to show case people wearing masks. You can check out the videos on all of our social medias. Along with the videos we will also be putting together information for a social media campaign to showcase voting.

Finance

The finance committee has been extremely busy these past few weeks with the start of two new projects! We are beginning to start a new partnership with the Topeka Community Foundation to grant money to youth projects in Topeka. Secondly, our committee is working on a financial planning series that is comprised of short, 3-5 minute videos on basic money management skills that most teens aren't taught in school. These videos will be posted to our Youtube channel in the coming months.

July Monthly Meeting

Our July monthly meeting was held on July 27th at the Lake Shawnee Ted Ensley Rose Gardens. Before and after the meeting, the commissioners painted rocks with positive messages to be hid around the lake for visitors to find. During the meeting, we had presentations from the Topeka Community Foundation and the Topeka Youth Project. At the meeting, we discussed the creation of a voting coalition in Topeka, volunteer and job opportunities for the commissioners, a mask campaign, and a partnership with the Topeka Community Foundation.

Back To School

WHAT THIS YEAR HAS TO OFFER..

Following the Kansas State Board of Education rejection of Governor Laura Kelly's plan to reopen schools after Labor Day, each individual school district is now able to decide when and how they wish to reopen schools.

AUBURN-WASHBURN 437

School begins on August 27th. A modified student schedule will be created to provide students with a combination of on-site, in-person learning at school, and off-site remote learning. Students will still have the option to enroll in 100% remote learning.

SHAWNEE HEIGHTS 450

School will begin on September 1st. Alternating groups of students will be allowed to attend in-person due to social distancing and capacity requirements. Based on last name, students will attend school in person for two days and fully remote for three days with Wednesday being a deep cleaning day of schools.

HAYDEN HIGH SCHOOL

Beginning August 25th,

SEAMAN USD 345

Similar to Auburn-Washburn, Seaman will also begin classes on August 27th in a hybrid learning environment. Students will attend school on-site two days a week and engage in remote learning on the other days. Students with disabilities, in foster care, learning english, or are homeless are given a third day to attend school.

TOPEKA PUBLIC SCHOOLS USD 501

Following with Governor Kelly's plan, school will begin on September 9th with 100% remote learning. 2 weeks later, students will attend class in a hybrid model with in-person instruction taking place twice a week and remote learning the other three days. In addition, students have the option to enroll in 100% remote learning or virtual school.

New Members!

This month the TYC has gained two more fabulous members. Join us in welcoming back former member Cleo Foster and congratulating our newest member, Ryleigh Atkinson on joining the commission.