El Dorado Hills CSD May Bring Back Youth and Teen Programs this Fall with in-house Staffing

The District announced today the Recreation Department may be delivering the Youth and Teen Programs offered at El Dorado Hills CSD with in-house staffing. In summer 2019 an amazing partnership with Boys & Girls Club of El Dorado County Western Slope (BGCE) began after the CSD was in a position to need outside assistance in delivering youth and teen care programs. BGCE quickly stepped in with their robust safety protocols, array of camp activities, and their ability to graciously accommodate any requests of CSD Management. BGCE did a tremendous job during that transition, and we’re thankful for the relationship we will continue to build upon.

Pending community interest and adequate staffing needs, the District would be bringing the programs back in-house for the 2020-2021 school year. This will start under new direction, with some traditional undertones, such as; themes, and hands-on learning in a safe, cooperative environment.

Over the past 12 months, District Recreation Staff have worked with the community to rebuild the Youth and Teen Services Program’s safety and operational protocols. Michael Cottrell, Recreation Director, recommended the District bring the Youth and Teen Programs back in-house given all considerations of impacts related to COVID-19; with the assurance the Recreation Department could deliver a safe, fun, and successful environment. General Manager, Kevin Loewen, and BGCE CEO, Sean McCartney, mutually agreed that fall 2020 could be the best time for the CSD to implement their revised protocols, program management, and ensure continuity of service to families in the El Dorado Hills area. Loewen shared that, the BGCE’s expertise with innovative programming, robust protocols, and exceptional management is something he wants staff to continue to learn from once the operations become in-house. BGCE will be invited to continue to advise the CSD, and take part in a new programmatic review and rating effort, which is intended to provide objective data about levels of service delivery. The overall program will be the responsibility of Cottrell, who states, “we’re excited about the possibility of bringing the programs back in-house and plan to offer the safety-first model that can still be fun-filled, and is chock full of cooperative learning, which, kids love!”

The District-led Youth and Teen Programs plan to highlight a structured curriculum of games, arts and crafts, science, and homework help. New to the program will be ePACT, a highly secure online emergency network, to collect medical and emergency information for all our participants, instead of using paper forms. Using ePACT means the District will be better prepared to deal with emergencies. ePACT will also operate as the Check-In/Out process, eliminating hardcopy sign in/sign out sheets, improves audit tracking, and keeps important participant information easily accessible and mobile for staff.
The District would like to thank the community for the feedback received, including the Ethos Committee comprised of community members, parents and staff developed to secure insight and feedback on the Youth Development Programs.

An update on the program will be shared on July 24, 2020.

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