

Agenda Item

DATE: SEPTEMBER 20, 2022 - 9:30 A.M.
TO: DOUGLAS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FROM: DOUG DEBORD, COUNTY MANAGER
SUBJECT: DOUGLAS COUNTY YOUTH COUNCIL DISCUSSION

The Board will discuss a proposal to establish a Douglas County Youth Council.

See attached for details.

The Douglas County Youth Council

To act in an advisory capacity to the Douglas County Board of County Commissioners on matters pertaining to the youth and teen population in the County.

The Youth Council would provide an opportunity for students to learn more about their local government, participate in the process, and represent and articulate the needs of our community's young citizens.

Youth Council members would be appointed to two-year terms. Any Douglas County student in grades 9 through 12 will be considered for membership. Youth at large can apply, and BOCC can appoint youth from their districts.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Acquire a greater knowledge of the political system through active participation.
- Make recommendations to the BOCC on matters affecting youth in Douglas County and identify opportunities to increase youth participation and involvement in local government.
- Inform the BOCC of the needs and wishes of youth.

Examples:

- Youth Council members would review the County's Initiatives list, be briefed by appropriate staff, discuss the issue with DCYI's Youth Services Program Supervisor, and meet with the BOCC to discuss.
- Youth Council members would be asked how best to promote information on relevant topics, such as: smoking cessation, youth suicide prevention, mental health help, etc. This would be beneficial to the Douglas County Health Dept., DCSD, DHS, the Mental Health Initiative, and the Youth Initiative as we all work to promote crisis help lines, public service announcements, and other relevant information.

DOUGLAS COUNTY YOUTH COUNCIL

Youth Advising County Leaders