

The National Boy Scouts of America requirements regarding employing the Buddy System have raised questions in certain circumstances involving advancement procedures. Therefore, the Golden Empire Council of the Boy Scouts of America has assembled the following FAQ's to help youth, parents and adult leaders better understand their responsibility in following the BSA's policies:

Q: How can I conduct a Unit Leader Conference if one on one contact between adult leaders and youth members is prohibited?

A: Unit Leader Conferences can be held in a corner of the room during the unit meeting as long as it is in plain view of others. If a meeting is held in places other than the unit meeting, the Scout's parent or legal guardian or another registered adult over the age of 21 must be present.

Q: If my son or daughter is meeting with a registered merit badge counselor and is the only Scout present, is supervision by two registered adults still required?

A: When a Merit Badge Counselor meets with a Scout, the Scout's parent or legal guardian or a second registered adult over the age of 21 must be present for each meeting. If more than one Scout is present then 2 registered adults must be present.

Q: Does a youth buddy need to be present when an Eagle Candidate turns in their binder to the District Eagle Advisor or Advancement Chair?

A: Any meeting between a Scout and their Eagle Advisor or Advancement Chair does not require a youth buddy if the Scout's parent or legal guardian or a second registered adult member over the age of 21 is present. This pertains to Eagle Project concept reviews, Eagle Project Proposal reviews and Eagle Binder turn-ins.

Q: Who must accompany an Eagle Scout Candidate to their Eagle Scout Board of Review?

A: Eagle Boards of Review are conducted by a panel of 3 to 6 registered adults, therefore no additional persons are required. The Scout shall have a parent or legal guardian or 2 registered adults with them while

waiting for the Board to begin and during the time the Board determines whether the candidate has met the requirements to become an Eagle Scout.

The above requirements also pertain to all forms of communication including emails, phone calls, texts, chats, Instant Messaging, etc. between a youth member and a registered adult and is good practice between any youth and any non-family adult.