

**Lehi West Stake  
Aaronic Priesthood Leadership  
Core Principles, Concepts, and Methods  
October 2009 – Version 3**

**Core Principles**

- The 4 T's – Testimony, Training, Tenure, Time
- Boys Leading, Boys Leading, Boys Leading –E.D.G.E. (Explain, Demonstrate, Guide, Enable)
- The alignment of the Church and BSA is based on revelation, and is endorsed by heaven.
- The "Oath" of Scouting is preparatory to the Oath and Covenant of the Priesthood.
- The end goal is temple endowment and missionary service for each boy – testimony, character building, god-fearing traits are key
- "Not one soul is lost" – President Hinckley's admonition and challenge to us all.
- Provide for meaningful experiences – Spiritual, Hard, Life Preparation, Fun, Sacrifice of self for others
- Parental Involvement is essential. They must be communicated with and have visibility to happenings.
- Aaronic Priesthood (Duty to God) and Scouting seamlessly integrate – again, by inspiration.
- Using the outdoors is a vital part of the program success for each age group
- "That which the Spirit whispers to you is what will be the most important to you in your stewardship"
- "All hands on deck" – (Parents, Committees, Ward members, MP, RS, YW, Primary)

**Concepts**

- Leaders must be spiritually nourishing themselves – leveraging the Atonement in their own lives daily
  - Temple attendance and Home Teaching participation are important examples
- Always be striving for the boys to feel the Spirit in every meeting and activity
- Boys are hungry – they are waiting for someone to teach them to lead and to give them an opportunity
- The Quorum is a service organization – Service opportunities should be sought prayerfully.
- Eagle is great – but boys without it can still be great!!
- Teach boys that they have the capacity to do hard things – remember what is hard for them is not the same as what is hard for you – use the Spirit to determine how to challenge them
- Scout leaders can't do it alone...committees and parents must be actively involved
- What we do today, can make a big difference in the years and lives ahead – it really can.

**Methods**

- Duty to God program – all boys and leaders should complete – critical
  - In planning, connect and integrate Duty to God with Scouts, Varsity, and Venturing programs.

- Aaronic Priesthood Committee Meeting – teaching boys to preside and delegate and return and report – Bishop conducts and presides/YM Leaders quiet (shadows) – boys challenged, assigned, reporting
- Weekly Quorum Presidency Meetings (integrate Scout, Varsity, Venture elements as well)
- Leaders trained – Wood Badge for all!!! (Fast Start, Youth Protection, Leader Specific Basic training, North Star Training, Round table)
- Boys trained – annual planning/training summits – continued during presidency and APC meetings
- Eagle by 14 – 3 years to do it – Create a legacy
- Scout Troop – 11-13 – Create a legacy (focus on the aims/outcomes of the program)
- Varsity Team – 14-15 – Create a legacy(focus on the aims/outcomes of the program)
- Venture Crew – 16-18 – Create a legacy (focus on the aims/outcomes of the program)
- Have the departing Quorum Presidents train their incoming replacements
- Duty to God Program – meet, welcome, and train boys and parents before entering the quorum
- Scoutmaster Conferences, Boards of Review, Courts of Honor – all held quarterly – a legacy
  - Committees are all vital for these elements to be effective
- Use all available manuals and the bounty of on-line materials for furthering your knowledge