



# What is District Council?



Tim Pehlke, Orange County 4-H Program Coordinator

## ***What is the purpose of District Council?***

District Eight 4-H Council (commonly referred to as “District Council”) is the youth led decision making body of District Eight 4-H. The term “District Eight” refers to the six county Central Florida region (Brevard, Lake, Orange, Osceola, Seminole and Volusia counties). District Council is composed of 11 elected officers. In addition, each county is responsible for sending four voting delegates to Council meetings. Delegates are responsible for representing their county’s interests at Council meetings.

## ***What happens at the meetings?***

District Council meetings are the place where youth conceive activities and make recommendations to 4-H agents about program governance. Youth work in committees to plan district-wide recreational events, service projects, and fundraisers. District Level activities include Teen Retreat, Junior Congress, Central Florida Fair and District Events. All Council activities are conducted under the supervision of the 4-H Agent Advisor, who is selected from the District president’s home county.

## ***Who should attend the meetings?***

Council meetings are held bi-monthly from August through May of each year (total of five meetings per year). Meetings are typically held on the first Tuesday of August, October, December, February and May at 6:00 PM. Meeting sites rotate between Orange and Seminole counties. It is expected that all County Voting Delegates attend these meetings. In Orange County this includes the President, Vice-President, Delegate and Secretary. District Council meetings are open to all 4-H members.

## ***How do you become an officer?***

District officers are elected at the final District Council meeting of the year (typically in May). Each county is responsible for sending four voting delegates to these meetings, who in turn elect the officers. To run for an officer position, an individual must be (1) a current 4-H member, (2) at least 13 years old, and (3) submit an “Intent to run” form on the night of the election.

## ***What are the benefits of getting involved?***

Through District Council involvement youth learn important life skills such as responsibility, service to community, public speaking, and much more! It is also a great opportunity to meet other 4-H members from across the Central Florida region.

*For more information contact Tim Pehlke in the 4-H office at (407) 254-9213 or [tim.pehlke@ufl.edu](mailto:tim.pehlke@ufl.edu)*