



## **South Suburban PARKS AND RECREATION**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **South Suburban Park and Recreation District Seeks Students for Newly Established Youth Commission**

South Suburban Park and Recreation District is looking for dynamic students to serve on its newly established Youth Commission. The purpose of the Youth Commission is for teens to advise South Suburban staff on what is important to youth and teens who live and play in the area. The Youth Commission will provide a forum for an exchange of information. The Commission will also provide opportunities for youth to volunteer and give back to the community.

Youth will have a chance to practice their skills in critical thinking, communications and creativity, while being exposed to local government, and learning about the parks and recreation industry.

Eligible youth include middle and high school students in grades 8-12, who reside within the District and have and maintain a minimum 2.0 GPA in school. Youth must be drug and alcohol free, be willing to share ideas in group settings and be accepting of others and their ideas.

The goals of the Commission are to discuss and suggest possible solutions about issues that young people face; to discuss and provide input about programs that are offered to teens in the community; to promote positive programs with peers; to promote healthy living, including overall physical, emotional and mental wellbeing, and to provide opportunities to develop youth as future leaders.

The Youth Commission will serve in an advisory role to the Recreation and Community Services Department, and members of the Youth Commission will be selected through an application and interview process facilitated through the Youth Commission and staff liaison. Candidates will be appointed by the South Suburban Board of Directors.

The Commission will meet once per month in the evenings, a minimum of nine times per year. Members will also assist at District events in the role of student organizers and volunteers, helping to increase and broaden youth attendance and participation.

The Youth Commission will include a minimum of five, and a maximum of 10 members representing a cross section of the District. Interested youth can read more about South Suburban's Youth Commission, including responsibilities and time commitment, and apply for membership, by visiting [www.sspr.org](http://www.sspr.org). For more information, contact Allison Boyd, Recreation Program and Facility Supervisor, [Allisonb@sspr.org](mailto:Allisonb@sspr.org), 303-483-7037. Applications are due May 23, 2014.

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