



Mayor's Youth Advisory Council Overview

The mission of Mayor "Kip" Holden's Youth Advisory Council is to represent and advocate on behalf of the youth in the City of Baton Rouge and Parish of East Baton Rouge. The students chosen must:

- Possess solid communications skills,
- Work well with others in a collaborative manner,
- Think holistically to identify problems, and
- Be willing to actively search for and work toward solutions

To accomplish their goals, they will have access to the leaders in East Baton Rouge Parish and will work actively with them to create their shared vision of a Baton Rouge that values its youth. The selected student leaders will also be charged with planning, organizing and implementing a youth-led service learning project to culminate on Global Youth Service Day, usually in April of each year.

To become a member, the student must be an 11th grade student and must be recommended by a principal, school counselor, teacher or a current MYAC member with the approval of the administration of the school. Meetings are held monthly on the first and third Tuesdays and attendance at each meeting is required. Additional planning meetings will be scheduled as needed based on the need and scope of projects.

STRUCTURE

The MYAC shall consist of the following officers and committees:

President

The President will preside over all Mayor's Youth Advisory Council meetings; in the absence of the President, the Vice-President will preside over the meeting. The President will maintain communication with MYAC Council members and Committee Chairpersons.

Vice-President

The Vice-President will preside over Youth Council meetings in the absence of the President. The Vice-President will also assist, as needed, Committees as programs are developed. The Vice-President is expected to attend all Mayor's Youth Advisory Council meetings.

Secretary

The Secretary handles correspondence and works closely with the Mayor's Youth Advisory Council President and Vice-President to maintain communication within the membership. Minutes of all Mayor's Youth Advisory Council business meetings are prepared by the Secretary, then be submitted to the Youth Council members for approval at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

Mayor's Staff Liaison

The Mayor's Chief Service Officer and Office of Community Engagement will assist the Mayor and Youth Advisory Council with agenda preparation and distribution. The Staff Liaison will also be present at all MYAC activities, including meetings and community service activities. Additional assistance will be provided at the direction of the Mayor.

Committees

Teen Court

Teen Court of Greater Baton Rouge is a program in which teens sentence their peers for first time offenses. The primary purpose of Teen Court is to hold youth accountable for delinquent and problem behavior, to educate youth about the legal system and their role in it and to empower youth to be active in helping their communities solve problems. Teen Court of Greater Baton Rouge is sponsored by the Baton Rouge Bar Foundation, therefore, all programming and activities are organized by the Baton Rouge Bar Foundation.

Community Service

The Community Service Committee will work with the Mayor's Staff Liaison to organize and coordinate monthly projects that impact the citizens of East Baton Rouge Parish. Members will have the opportunity to develop and facilitate relationships between the MYAC and non-profit organizations across the parish.

Website Development

The Website Development Committee will work to provide content on the MYAC's page located within the Official City-Parish website, www.brgov.com. Members will also have the opportunity to recommend changes and enhancements designed to encourage youth participation.

Teen Talk

Teen Talk is a local TV program hosted by MYAC members. Members of the committee will develop episodes that feature topics and activities of interest to youth in East Baton Rouge Parish. Members will work directly with the Mayor's Staff Liaison to schedule tapings and logistics.

Legislative Action

The Legislative Action committee will work to develop potential legislation to be presented to the appropriate parish leaders, including but not limited to, the Mayor-President, Metro Council and state legislators.