Webelos Cross Over Ceremonies

This is a big event for the Cubs and their parents. This ceremony should be simple, meaningful and dignified

Materials
2 - Candles and candle holders
1 - set red shoulder tabs for each Webelos (held by parents)
1 - Troop neckerchief (if used) for each Webelos

Personnel
Scoutmaster
New Patrol Assistant Scoutmaster
Senior Patrol Leader
Assistant Senior Patrol Leader
Graduating Webelos

Setting
A darkened room, a single candle burning on a table. The Webelos Scouts (their parents behind them) are lined up near the Scoutmaster who is standing beside the flame.

SM: "The flame you see before you represents the Flame of Knowledge. You Webelos Scouts who are bridging over to Boy Scouts have shown me that you bring with you a hunger for Knowledge. The Scouting program offers you a special kind of knowledge that will serve you well as you walk the sometimes difficult Road to Manhood."

SM takes up another candle from the table where the Flame of Knowledge sits and holds it near the Flame but does not light it yet.

SM: **"The Flame of Knowledge never goes out as long as there are people who are willing to seek knowledge. It burns eternally in the mind of Humankind as a beacon, casting it's rays to guide us as we seek a higher level of understanding of our world."**

SM lights candle, saying: **"This candle represents a Youth who seeks knowledge. Each of you Webelos here with me tonight is that Youth."**

SM hands the newly-lit candle to the nearest Webelos Scout, saying: **"You have sought to continue building upon your Scouting knowledge by finding a Boy Scout Troop that will help you gain your ample portion of this special knowledge. Take custody of the Flame." [Places candle in the closest boy's hand.] "Hold this sacred Flame for a moment and then transfer this Flame to the next Webelos Scout. Hand it around from boy to boy until it reaches the last one of you in line who will return it to me."**

As the Flame is transferred from Scout to Scout, the SM continues talking to the assembly, saying: **"Knowledge, once gained, must be shared. Each Boy Scout must pass on to other Scouts what he has learned. As you grow more experienced in Scouting, we will ask you to begin to return to Scouting some of what you have received from it. Work diligently as you pass down your Trail to Eagle Scout and you will learn much that you can share with the others who come after you. Remember, you will receive from Scouting only what you put into it. I challenge you to work hard so that you will have much to give back."**

When the candle has made it's way back to the SM, he places the second candle in a holder that was placed well away from the original Flame. After a moment, he blows out the second candle. *NOTE:* The Flame of Knowledge is left burning as long as possible.

SM: **"See how easily that Youth's Flame was extinguished by the Breeze of Laziness? Don't let Laziness extinguish the Flame of Knowledge that burns in your own mind. Cherish your Flame by doing your best, by asking questions when you don't understand, and by living up to the Scout Oath and Law." [Pause for effect.] "But, notice how the Flame of Knowledge that burns in the mind**

of Humankind is still lit? From it you may always re-light your own flame should the Breeze of Laziness blow too hard and snuff out your own Flame. Never stop learning. Never give the Breeze of Laziness a chance to blow."

Now the Troop's SPL, who has been standing in the middle of a plywood bridge with an ASPL, calls across to the Webelos Scouts and their parents, **"Troop ____ invites the Webelos Scouts and their parents to join us on the Boy Scout side of Scouting by crossing over this symbolic bridge."**

As the Webelos reach the middle of the span the SPL and his assistant stop him to remove the boy's blue shoulder flashes and replace them with red ones his parent offers up behind the boy's back. After the red flashes are in place, the SPL then places the Troop's neckerchief OVER the boy's Webelos version, removes the boy's slide, puts it on the Troop neckerchief, and then slides away the old neckerchief. [Handing it and the blue flashings off to a parent.]

As the SPL removes the FIRST neckerchief the SM says, **"Notice that we removed the Webelos neckerchief after we've placed the Boy Scout neckerchief on the Scout. We do this to be sure that there is no break in a boy's Scouting career."**

As the new Boy Scout exits the bridge, he is welcomed by his new Troop's Assistant SM who's in charge of the New Scout Patrol, and by as many other boy leaders as the Troop can muster that evening. The parents are likewise greeted.

When all have bridged over, the SA asks the new Boy Scouts to take hold of the Troop flag with their left hand and raise the Scout sign with their right. He leads them in the Scout Oath, and the ceremony is over.

Webelos cross-over ceremony
Characters: Akela, Baloo, Baghera

Akela: Fellow Scouts, I am Akela, leader of the Cub Scouts. Since your beginning on the Bobcat trail, you have followed me. I have seen your pack “Do its best.” Tonight, we will recognize Webelos, who have done their best. They have worked hard along the Cub Scout trail. Now, as they look down, they have reached the summit. Yet, this summit leads to another trail. The trail that is Boy Scouting, and at its summit the Eagles fly free. Before beginning this new trail, let us recall that which we have already followed.
Baghera: When you started the Cub Scout trail, I was there to help you. You did not yet know the meaning of “Do your best.” In time, however, you learned. With that you also learned many other things. These led to the achievement of your Bobcat rank. I then helped you along the wolf trail. I taught you the ways of the Wolf. After completing 12 achievements, you were ready to be accepted into the wolf clan. There you had the opportunity to complete electives. As you completed these, you earned arrow points to point the way for others. Now, you could begin the trail of the bear.
Baloo: The trail of the Bear, was not easy. Once again you had to complete 12 achievements. These tested you, yet you completed them. You could then join my clan the clan of the Bear. You also, earned arrow points on this trail. An arrow point, like a trail marker, kept you straight and helped you follow my trail. I helped you, and watched as you “Did your best.” I helped prepare you for the next challenge, the trail of the Webelos.
Akela: The trail of the Webelos presented you with more obstacles, in the form of 20 activity badges. As you earned them, you proved that you knew what it meant to be a Webelos. It means “We’ll Be Loyal Scouts,” and that is just what you were. I prepared you for your greatest challenge, The Arrow of Light. With this elite award, you learned how to be a Boy Scout. And now, you have reached that summit. As we recognize those scouts who have completed this award, I will ask for the parents to come with the boys.
Baghera: Parents, you have been a constant source of information for your boy. Without you, they would not be where they are today. You are to be commended.
Baloo: Boys, we challenge you to attain that which is truly the summit of Scouting, the rank of Eagle Scout. As we call your name, you will be welcomed into your new troop. Remember, the trail that leads to the Eagles is not solid. You may fall, but depend on your parents. They are still your best source of advice.
Akela: (Call names of scouts) Cubs, I challenge you to one day achieve this same honor. Then you to will be eligible to cross onto the adventurous trail that is Scouting. Good night!

Webelos cross-over ceremony
Characters: Akela, Spirit

Akela: Fellow Scouts, I am Akela, leader of the pack. Since your beginning on the Bobcat trail, you have followed me. I have seen your pack "Do its best." Tonight, we will recognize Webelos, who have done their best. They have worked hard along the Cub Scout trail. Now, as they look down, they have reached the summit. Yet, this summit leads to another trail. The trail that is Boy Scouting, and at its summit the Eagles fly free. Before beginning this new trail, let us recall that which we have already followed.
Spirit: I am the spirit of Cub Scouting. When you started the Cub Scout trail, I was there to help you. You did not yet know the meaning of "Do your best." In time, however, you learned. With that you also learned many other things. These led to the achievement of your Bobcat rank. I then helped you along the wolf trail. I taught you the ways of the Wolf. After completing 12 achievements, you were ready to be accepted into the wolf clan. There you had the opportunity to complete electives. As you completed these, you earned arrow points to point the way for others. Now, you could begin the trail of the bear. This trail, was not easy. Once again you had to complete 12 achievements. These tested you, yet you completed them. You could then join the clan of the Bear. You also, earned arrow points on this trail. An arrow point, like a trail marker, kept you straight and helped you follow my trail. I helped you, and watched as you "Did your best." These experiences helped prepare you for the next challenge, the trail of the Webelos. This trail presented you with more obstacles, in the form of 20 activity badges. As you earned them, you proved that you knew what it meant to be a Webelos. It means "We'll Be Loyal Scouts," and that is just what you were. You were now prepared to conquer your greatest challenge, The Arrow of Light. With this elite award, you learned how to be a Boy Scout. And now, you have reached that summit. Parents, you have been a constant source of information for your boy. Without you, they would not be where they are today. You are to be commended. Boys, we challenge you to attain that which is truly the summit of Scouting, the rank of Eagle Scout. As we call your name, you will be welcomed into your new troop. Remember, the trail that leads to the Eagles is not solid. You may fall, but depend on your parents. They are still your best source of advice.
Akela: As your name is called, please line up in the front. (Call names of scouts) Scouts, before beginning the new trail, please repeat the Scout Oath so that all may know that you are joining the Boy Scout trail. (Repeat Oath: On my honor, I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country. To help other people at all times, and to obey the Scout law. To keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight.) Webelos, as you cross the bridge you will be greeted by members of your new troop. Pack ____ wishes all of you the best of luck on the Scouting trail. (Scouts cross one by one. Parent on one side, den leader on the other. Halfway across, 2 scouts from the troop meet and help the boy the rest of the way across the bridge.) Cubs, we challenge you to one day achieve this same honor. Then you to will be eligible to cross onto the adventurous trail that is Scouting.

Crossover Ceremony
(The Cub Scouts that are to be crossed over to the Boy Scouts are told to meet in the center of the campsite at dusk. They are formed in a single file line, with the members of the troop lined up in single tile on either side at right angles, leaving an open-ended hollow square. Kichkinet enters the square from the open end and moves to the center.)
Kichkinet: We are gathered here in the great forest to help you find a new trail to follow. Until now you have followed the Cub Scout trail, lived by the Cub Scout promise and the Law of the Pack. I will lead you onward. No one can walk alone through life, you must always have the help of others. Each of you will have help on the trail you are seeking. You will begin the search as we began life; blind, speechless, and needing the help of others. (Cub Scouts are then blindfolded using their neckerchiefs.) You must now keep strict silence as you start the new trail. (Lead the Cub Scouts by placing A Scout on each side of them to guide them. They are then led to the area you are using, where a campfire is burning.)
Meteu: Brother Kichkinet, who are these stangers who have come seeking the scouting trail?
Kichkinet: They are young men who have been Cub Scouts and are seeking a new trail to follow.
Meteu: Have they learned the Laws that govern our trail?
Kichkinet: They have Meteu, but they need to be instructed as to their meaning. (At this point Meteu reads the portion of the Scout Handbook that describes each point of the Scout Law)
Metue: You may remove your blindfolds. (pause while they are removed). You know our Laws and the meaning behind them. If you feel you cannot live up to these Laws, you may turn your back here - no one

will hold it against you, for these are hard laws to live up to. (Ritual team turns away from the Cubs, then turns back to face them.)
Meteu: I am glad to see that you are steadfast in your resolve to follow the new trail. Follow me now, as I lead you to the mighty chief (Meteu leads them further down the trail, with Kichkinet bringing up the rear.)
Allowat Sakima: Brother Meteu, who are these strangers who have come seeking our trail?
Meteu: These are former Cub Scouts who see a new trail.
Allowat Sakima: Do they know are laws?
Meteu: They do.
Allowat Sakima: Then place them in position to receive further instruction. (Place the Cubs in single line in front of the fire, Meteu stands on one side of the tie behind six candles, Kichkinet stands on the other side bebind six candles.)
Allowat Sakima: Before we go further, we must remind ourselves of the law that govern our trail. Brothers, repeat the Scout Law for these young men who wish to join us. (Scouts from the troop say the law, one point at a time; Meteu, and Kichkinet light a candle for each one.)
Allowat Sakima: You have learned our law and meaning. You are about to take a solemn oath to live by these laws. (Allowat Sakima reads the oath.)
Allowat Sakima: Now raise your hand in the Scout sign and repeat with me the Scout Oath. (Cubs repeat the oath.)
Allowat Sakima: Follow me across the bridge. (Allowat Sakima and the Cubs cross the bridge.)
Allowat Sakima: My brothers, you have now embarked on the Scouting Trail, you have learned the laws and taken a solemn oath to live by them. We will now give you a token to represent your membership in our brotherhood. (Have the Scoutmaster explain the neckerchief and slide, and how to wear it.)
Allowat Sakima: We will now present you with your neckerchief (Ritual team places the neckerchief on each Cub Scout and gives them the Scout handclasp.)
Allowat Sakima: Brothers, welcome these new Scouts to our troop.

Crossover Ceremony
Needed: four 4"x4"x5' posts and five 12"x2"x5' planks. Paint one plank blue, one gold, one red, and one BSA green. Leave one unpainted. Paint the posts brown.

Ask the Webelos Den Leaders to place one of the posts on the ground in a N-S direction. Then ask the Scoutmaster to place a second post on the ground about four feet away and parallel in a N-S direction. Anounce that this is symbolic of the foundations of Scouting that these leaders have laid through outings represented by the natural brown color. Then ask each set of leaders to place an E-W post over the N-S posts about three to four feet apart, pointing out that by building on Scouting's foundations these leaders have set the stage for bridging the boys from Cub Scouting to Boy Scouting. Have Webelos #1 and his parents bring the unpainted plank forward and place it across the E-W posts. State that this represents the boys as the arrived in Cub Scouting full of potential but unfinished. (If they were in Tigers use a plank painted orange and make a statement about how they were on fire to learn about Scouting). Ask Webelos #2 and parents to bring the blue plank forward and place it snuggly against the unfinsihed plank. State that this represents the Wolf and Bear years where with the help of their parents the Scouts became true blue and loyal friends. Next Webelos #3 comes forward with his parents and places the gold plank next to the blue to represent their golden years in Cubbing as Webelos learning important skills through activity badges culminating in the Arrow of Light. Webelos # 4 comes forward with his parents and the green plank. Announce that this represents their new beginning as Boy Scouts who will soon be green Tenderfoot Scouts, anxious to begin the Boy Scout trail to Eagle. Finally, Webelos #5 and parents put down the redplank. Comment that this plank is red like the predominant color in the Eagle badge and represents the beginning of their journey to become Eagles. Webelos are assembled at the unfinished board side of the now completed bridge and presented graduation certificates and a patch board of their Cub Scout badges and awards (many use a large piece of plywood cut in the shape of a Scout emblem and covered with blue felt on which are mounted the badges earned by the Scout). When these presentations are over, the Scoutmaster invites each boy in turn to cross the bridge. Once over, he is welcomed into the Troop. His Webelos neckerchief is replaced by the Troop neckerchief in a presentation. Same thing for each boy. Say some personal words about how proud you are of their accomplishments and how you know they will work hard and succeed in whatever they try in Boy Scouting (Positive expectations = positive results). End of ceremony. Go home and cry tears of pride and joy at seeing them grow up so fast and well.

Ceremony
Equipment: An Arrow for each boy, two council fires, awards Setting: Cubmaster at first fire, boy scouts at second. Award is attached to arrow.
Akela: Will (Read names) and their parents please come forward and take their place of honor at the Council Fire? Tonight (Read names) have achieved two high honors. They will receive the Arrow of Light award and graduate from Cub Scouting into Boy Scouting. I hold in my hand an arrow. As you can see, it is straight and true, for only an arrow that is straight and true will hit its mark. (Hold up arrow so Scout can see its shaft.) In order to fly straight, it must also have at least three feathers. These represent the first three ranks of Cub Scouting you achieved; Bobcat, Wolf and Bear. With these awards in place you began to ascend along the shaft, toward the tip of the arrow, the Arrow of Light Award. This is the culmination of all your Cub Scouting efforts. Without a hard, sharp tip, the arrow is not a very effective weapon. Since you have achieved this, the highest rank in Cub Scouting, you will now be a more effective Boy Scout as you take with you the things you've learned and continue to progress along the Scouting trail. Please stand. I now present you with this arrow, to which is attached your award. Parents, please pin the Arrow of Light on your son. now give your parents the proper salute. (The proper salute to a mother is a kiss.)
Since you are graduating form Cub Scouting tonight, you will no longer be a Cub Scout, except in memory. Because this arrow represents the path along which you have come, but not the path along which you must now go, I will ask you to return the arrow. (Take the arrows and break them over your knee, just enough to crack, but not completely in two.) This broken arrow will now be forever a reminder to you, that you achieved every rank in Cub Scouting, and graduated with honor. It will no longer fly, just as you will no longer be a Cub Scout. But you will always wear the Arrow of Light symbol on your uniform, as a reminder of your accomplishment. You now may keep this broken arrow for your trophy skin. I give you one last salute before you leave our council fire to join your new Boy Scout brothers at their council fire. (Salute.) Always be straight and true! Now walk to your new council fire.

Bear to Webelos –

Equipment: An Arrow per boy with their name on it. Notch each arrow on the top and bottom about 3" apart.
Call Bear Scouts and their parents forward.
CM: You and your family have worked together to develop the skills of the Wolf and Bear. Together, you have strengthened your family and the Scouting Family. You will now start on the Trail of the Webelos, your goal is the Arrow of Light. This group of arrows represents you, your family, your adult Scouting Leaders, the Pack, and the Chartering Organization. Without any of these people, Scouting would not be strong. Take this group of arrows. Together, as a group, the arrows are strong. As you have noticed, your names are on the arrows. When your arrow remains in the group, the strength of the group is added to it. Without any of the other members, Scouting will break as easily as I break this arrow. (Break each boy's arrow over his shoulder. Hand the point to the parent s and the fletched end to the boy.)

Parents, you have received the head of the arrow. This signifies that you and the Webelos Leaders will guide these scouts over the next two years. New Webelos, you have received the flight feathers. This signifies your travels during the next two years. your journey will end in two years with most of you reaching the Arrow of Light. At the end of that journey, you will have enabled this arrow to fly straight and true again. When the time for their Arrow of Light ceremony comes, collect the arrows, fit the notches back together and with glue and twine wrap them to become whole again. Present them to the boys at their Arrow of Light Ceremony.