High School Summer Nandagikendan (Seek to Learn) Academy Report
June 7th-9th, 2022 (In-Person)

The 2022 High School Summer Seek to Learn Academy had ten participants. The Academy was reduced to three days and two nights, which participants expressed they preferred. The first day focused on building rapport and relationships among the participants while also providing a tour of campus to allow for them to feel comfortable on campus. Participants learned about each other and the general information about the Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College. Participants also learned about college applications and were given support in writing and introduction essay that can be used in the future as a guideline for college application essays or scholarship application essays.

The second day of the Academy focused on providing a “mock day at college” experience where participants engaged in several “classes” provided by FDLTCC faculty. Participants also met with several staff members at FDLTCC to learn more about programs and opportunities at FDLTCC. During the evening, participants started on their projects.

The final day of the Academy allowed students to tour UM-Duluth and learn more about that campus. Participants enjoyed a show at the planetarium and learned about the Center for American Indian Medicine. The Academy ended with a family dinner in which participants shared their projects while enjoying dinner with their families.

Participants completed Pre- and Post-Surveys:

Students were asked what their favorite part of the Academy was, and the responses were:

- Visiting Jay Cooke State Park
- Meeting new people
- Getting the “college experience” and staying in the dorms

The final question of the Post Survey was “What is one thing you would tell other students about the Academy?” and students stated:

- It was a fun, welcoming, and a good choice.
- “It will help you get a better idea on what you might want to do or at least where you might go to college. Also, nice to get to see what dorm life could look like and getting to experience that.”
- “It's a fun experience and that you get to meet new people and help you get out of your comfort zone in certain ways.”
Pre-Survey: How do you feel about applying for colleges?

- Uncomfortable: 22%
- Neutral: 11%
- Comfortable: 67%

Post Survey: How do you feel about applying for colleges?

- Uncomfortable: 10%
- Neutral: 30%
- Comfortable: 60%

Pre-Survey: How do you feel about college classes (difficulty/work load/expectations)?

- Uncomfortable: 0%
- Neutral: 100%
- Comfortable: 0%

Post Survey: How do you feel about college classes (difficulty/work load/expectations)?

- Uncomfortable: 0%
- Neutral: 50%
- Comfortable: 50%