High School Summer Nandagikendan (Seek to Learn) Academy Report
June 11th-13th, 2024

The 2024 High School Summer Seek to Learn Academy had twelve participants from throughout Minnesota and one from Wisconsin. Figure 1 illustrates the grades that students will entering come Fall 2024 and Map 1 displays the high schools represented at the three-day, two-night Academy.

The first day introduced the students to campus, staff, and each other. Students toured campus after lunch and explored potential careers that they may be interested in based on their skills and life goals. In the evening, students visited Jay Cooke State Park, many of which expressed that the visit was one of the highlights of the Academy.

The second day of the Academy provided a “mock day at college” experience where participants attended classes provided by FDLTCC employees, including Ojibwe Language and Multimedia Production. In the afternoon, students researched a college or a career they were interested in having in the future. Students wrapped up the second day by participating in traditional hand games in collaboration with the Scrubs Camp that was also taking place at the Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College.

On the final day, students went Whitewater Rafting on the St. Louis River with Swiftwater Adventures. The final day wrapped up with a family dinner and the presentation of the research projects and the short films that students had created during the mock Multimedia Production class.

Map 1: Nine schools were represented in the 2024 High School Summer Seek to Learn Academy. Two students were within 50 miles from the Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College while the other ten traveled over 100 miles to attend the Academy.
Participants completed Pre- and Post-Surveys and the results of the surveys are compared via pie charts and qualitative feedback. In the Post Survey, students were asked what their favorite part of the Academy was, and the responses were:

- Whitewater Rafting
- Visiting Jay Cooke State Park
- Meeting new people/making friends
- Hand Games
- Creative Activities (vision boards and creating short films)

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

- It’s fun and students should attend.
- There are new experiences.
- “The staff is super friendly.”
- “It is the best camp experience ever. I totally recommend it.”

![Figure 2 (Pre-Survey)](image)

**Figure 2:** Student responses as a percentage to the Pre-Survey question “How do you feel about applying for colleges?”

![Figure 3 (Post-Survey)](image)

**Figure 3:** Student responses as a percentage to the Post-Survey question “How do you feel about applying for colleges?”

![Figure 4 (Pre-Survey)](image)

**Figure 4:** Student responses as a percentage to the Pre-Survey question “How do you feel about college classes (difficulty/workload/expectations)?”

![Figure 5 (Post-Survey)](image)

**Figure 5:** Student responses as a percentage to the Post-Survey question “How do you feel about college classes (difficulty/workload/expectations)?”