

2019 Dorm Student Nandagikendan
(Seek to Learn) Academy



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2019 DORM STUDENT NANDAGIKENDAN (SEEK TO LEARN) ACADEMY

The New and Returning Student Academy was held from August 19th, 2019 through August 23rd, 2019. Students attending the Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College in the fall were invited to attend the Academy, which goes beyond the typical orientation by providing introduction to classes, workshops on financial literacy and holistic wellbeing, and even fun activities that help them build relationships with their peers, staff, and faculty. 36 new students, 17 returning students, and 5 transfer students attended the Academy.

Monday, August 19th was a welcome and move in day for the students. A barbeque was held outside the dorms to introduce students to staff and faculty. In the evening, students worked on art projects to reflect on what FDLTCC's values mean to them personally as a way to connect students' backgrounds with the values of the school. Students also had the opportunity to visit Canal Park to experience Duluth and activities they could enjoy.

Tuesday, August 20th was an orientation day to the basic resources, tools, and web services students would need to know to be successful. Staff and faculty provided workshops to teach students about the resources and how to use them while also answering any additional questions.

Wednesday, August 21st started with off-campus presenters. Students also had a tour of Cloquet and were shown important locations, such as the post office and Ruby's Food Pantry, before stopping at Walmart for students to grab any last minute items they needed for their dorms. In the afternoon, students had their choice of one of three team building activities: canoeing, Escape Room, or white water rafting.

Thursday, August 22nd focused more on services and resources that are on campus: from TRIO to tutoring and mental health services to financial aid, students were informed on all of the resources and services FDLTCC provides to support student success. In the afternoon, students participated in introduction courses that not only allowed them to meet the faculty members, but it gave them some insight as to what a typical college class on campus is like.



Friday, August 23rd was a more relaxed day with a community service project that got students out in the community to clean up the local gardens throughout Cloquet. Many of the students remarked that the week-long academy supported them academically and socially, as they met many friends during the Academy and it helped them to feel supported on campus.