

2013 Lake Superior Youth Symposium - Student Feedback Survey

1 What is your school?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Chassell High School	8.3%	4
Ashland Middle School	10.4%	5
Burt Township School	0.0%	0
Corunna High School	2.1%	1
Dollar Bay High School	0.0%	0
E.B. Holman School	0.0%	0
Grand Rapids City High School	0.0%	0
Island City Research Academy	14.6%	7
Duluth East High School	0.0%	0
L'Anse Middle School	2.1%	1
Lighthouse Learners	0.0%	0
Marquette Senior High	0.0%	0
Millington Jr. High	4.2%	2
Hancock High School	0.0%	0
Harper Woods High School	8.3%	4
Houghton Middle/High School	14.6%	7
Jeffers High School	0.0%	0
Lake Linden-Hubbell Middle/High School	12.5%	6
Nah Tah Wahsh PSA	0.0%	0
Seeds After School / Benzie Central High School	6.3%	3
Sir Winston Churchill Collegiate & Vocational School	0.0%	0
Washington Middle School	0.0%	0
Watersmeet School	8.3%	4
West Middle School	8.3%	4
<i>answered question</i>		48

2 What is your grade?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
7	26.0%	13
8	36.0%	18
9	4.0%	2
10	12.0%	6
11	20.0%	10
12	2.0%	1
<i>answered question</i>		50

3 List everything you liked about the symposium.

1 On a campus, fun, lots of activities, good food, got to meet some new friends, got to know friends better.

2 The field trips and presentations were great, the people were spectacular as well.

I loved the Mineral trip, the drumming was cool, It was interesting to learn about just how important the water is to us., I got to spend time with

3 other intelligent people, making intelligent decisions, and posing interesting questions. I made new friends

i liked the way everything was organized and how fun everything was. i was fun to stay in the dorms which was almost like staying in college. the food

4 was really good.

5 The Amazing water thing, the frog thing, the gym, and the dollar bay automobile thing.

6 I thought that the activities were well planned.

7 food & dorms, SDC, French man

8 Meeting other people learning about water and its quality starting a stewardship project for our school

9 It was fun meeting new people.

10 Everything

11 Meeting new people and all the activities that we got to do!

12 all of it

It was fun meeting new people and learning new things. It was also kind of like experiencing what college life would be like. I thought that was pretty cool.

13 I also really liked the t-shirt.

14 meeting new people

15 The variety of presentations and field trips as well as the stewardship events where students got to give something back.

16 I liked going out on the boat and testing the water.

I personally liked that it was a variety of schools participating, one downside was that they were all younger grades.. But I Loved staying in the dorms.

The distances weren't too bad. I Really liked the food, but downside was that everything was scheduled. I would have liked a little more free time between

17 events. I liked that we got to do many things. and Meet new people. I also learned how to play poker :)

18 People SDC open night Ample free time Unlimited food

19 I learned a lot from the presentations and I enjoyed helping the community. I also liked that it was an opportunity for responsibility :)

20 the sturgeon ecology the movies planting trees meeting new people having fun

21 the food, the other students that attended, the free knowledge

22 I really liked how everyone was welcoming and nice . learned a lot of things from all of my presentatiions and field trips.

23 Meeting new people, the food, going on the Agassiz, the field trips, dissecting fish stomachs

24 I really enjoyed the high ropes course, it was a new experience. Meeting new people is always a plus also. I also have a new appreication for our water.

25 I liked that we got to learn about lots of cool things. I liked our rooms and the showers. I also liked all the great food and oppertunities to meet new people.

I liked how everyone there was friendly and helpful.I also liked the stewardship projects and how the leaders for those knew their stuff and were sure of

26 themselves... In short I liked everything.

27 The chance to learn about Lake Superior and how to protect it for the future and to help the community.

28 Fun classes, dorm time, activities, almost everything. Only problem is organization wasn't very good.

29 I liked the food, the stewardship projects, and some of the presentations.

List everything you liked about the symposium.

- I liked that we could stay in a college dorm and sort of live the life of a college student. I also liked the fact that I got to meet so many new people from many different schools. The presentations and field trips were also very fun too. One thing that I really liked was how polite and how nice people were to you. I didn't meet a single person there who was being disrespectful to anybody and it was just really great to see that
- 30 The professors and experts that volunteered his/her time toward making the symposium the best it could be.
- 31 I loved the symposium! My favorite part of the opening ceremony was the combining of the water. I loved the field trips and presentations. The stewardship projects were a lot of fun too. Even being in the cafeteria was fun!
- 32 Too much to list.
- 33 Meeting new people, staying in a dorm, learning about the value of the hreat lakes, making friends, And making plans to help our community.
- 34 It was fun. Meeting new people. The food. The sdc. Rockclimbing. Kayaking.
- 35 Rock wall, field trips-fish ecology, staying the dorms, the food, playing poker
- I loved all the presentations! They were very informative and a lot of fun! I also enjoyed the field trips that I attended. The free time and the SDC time was
- 37 also a ton of fun! I got to meet plenty of new people and learned a lot!
- 38 Learning about the great lakes and other things related to them, making new friends, and eating ice-cream for breakfast.
- I loved working in the rain and mud. The labor was really refreshing and fun. I also like the calm, quiet lectures though. The dorms were nice, although I would've liked to be able to pick our roommates. I thought the ceremonies were too hard to sit through. They were interesting but we're kids and we can't sit still. I really liked our team projects. It helped us with leader ship skills, and gave us more experience with what being on a team is really like. Taught us
- 39 how to take action on projects.
- I loved going on the Stewardship projects. My specific one was at E.B. Homan and it felt great to go and make gardens for all the little kids there. It was a
- 40 really nice feeling doing something for someone else.
- 41 Meeting new people The variety of classes The awesome trips and presentations The great group leaders The Campus
- 42 food rooms classes
- 43 Pretty much everything
- 44 I Liked the verity of different presentations, and the hands on activities.
- 45 The people The classes The FOOD
- 46 the food the people the presentations
- 47 meeting new friends and the bananas! :)
- 48 EVerything
- 49 I Liked Every Thing!
- 50 cool fun learning experience
- 51 Beautiful college Fun learning

4 List your favorite presentations and field trips.

- 1 The drumming, boat ride and fish dissection.
- 2 I forget what it was called, but the one where you go out onto the lake to collect samples and you'd go to the lab to look at them as well.
- 3 -the mineral trip! -the wind-energy presentation
- 4 i like the wind energy presentation and going to drum with the people.
- 5 Amazing water, thew dollor bay auotmobile thin and the frogs as bioindicators.
- 6 The chocolate chip mining The fish shocking The ROV's
- 7 monitoring fish populations, SOAR, Look Out Below,
- 8 food webs---dissecting trout stomach and going out on the research vessel aquaponics
- 9 Drumming Mother Earths Heartbeat was the only one I liked.

List your favorite presentations and field trips.

- 10 The very last presentation we did about the Great Lakes before we all left.
- 11 My favorite presentation was the wolf ecology and my favorite field trip was mountain biking.
- 12 spotted knapweed
- 13 The fish population monitoring was very fun. I liked the project after the wind energy one also. But fish monitoring was my favorite.
- 14 sturgeon ecology
- 15 Going out on the Aggasiz and the Entomology presentation.
- 16 My favorite field trip was how scientists assess the Great Lakes.
Presentations were really boring..I had 5 of them. Not too impressed. The one field trip i went on, was with 7th graders..not to fun. Like at all...I did not
- 17 enjoy any of those activities. Joan even fell asleep during a presentation..that speaks clearly how 'fun' it was.
- 18 Wind Energy|||Stewardship project|||Kayaking
- 19 The one about runoff and the high ropes course :)
- 20 planting trees and the first presentation
- 21 I had other people sign me up for things so I didn't get to do what I would've liked to do so I know what I need to do next time.
- 22 Drumming For Mother Nature|||Photography|||Agriculture Farm Tours
- 23 Wolf Ecology, How scientists assess the health of the great lakes
- 24 Again, the high ropes course. Working at the Marsin Center was also a great field trip.

My favorite presentation was the one about 3-D printing called "Engineering our Sustainable Future". I also liked the be a forester for a day feild trip (the bus didn't come and get us from the tech trils so we had to walk back), although I wish I could have gotten botanical drawings or rock wall climbing.
- 25 bus didn't come and get us from the tech trils so we had to walk back), although I wish I could have gotten botanical drawings or rock wall climbing.
- 26 I liked all of them; Botanical Drawing, Invasive Plants, Poetry of the Great Lakes, Ports of the Great Lakes, and others
- 27 3D Printing|||Geology
- 28 kayaking and engeneering our sustainable future.
- 29 I enjoyed the Great Lakes Economy/Ports one, and the windmill one.
- 30 My favorite field trip was "How to assess the health of the great lakes". I completely loved going out on the boat, I had an amazing time overall.
- 31 The lab and boat ride. Climate change presentation with Sarah Green.
My favorite presentation was the Wolf Ecology in the Great Lakes. It was very informative. I loved the field trip to the Paavola Wetlands. We ran around
- 32 the area a lot, but it was fun.
- 33 I liked the Insect workshop and the waters without borders presentations the best.
- 34 I really enjoyed the kayaking fieldtrip and the presentation with the underwater robots the best.
- 35 How do scientists asses the heath of the great lakes?|||Paddling.
- 36 field trip- Fish ecology, Engineering for a better future
- 37 My favorite presentation was the Engineering for a Sustainable Future. My favorite field trip was Botanical Drawing.
- 38 Non native invaders of our forests and designing a sustainable future (3-D printers)
Measuring the carbon in trees was very interesting. I liked the hands on aspect, but I also thought it was just amazing how much carbon is in those trees. It made me want to know more about carbon and how we can manage it, as well as what a huge, fascinating problem it is. Building the raised beds for the
- 39 calumet elementary kids was my favorite field trip. I liked all the mud and rain and labor. It felt good helping the community.
- 40 I really liked the Recycling IQ, and Aquaponics.
- 41 I LOVED the stewardship project at Torch lake!
- 42 suisanable building and site design
- 43 Forester for A Day, Great Lakes Ports and Urban Economy
- 44 My favorite presentation was A-Mazing-Water and my favorite field trip was The agriculture farm tours.
- 45 Lichens as bioindicators|||Is wind part of our energy future?

List your favorite presentations and field trips.

- 46 amazing water
- 47 Paddling on the Portage Waterway
- 48 All Were Fun!
- 49 All presentation but not my Be A forester for a day because we did not a lot of foresting things
- 50 Drumming

5 Did you think the 75-minute presentations were:

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
too long	23.5%	12
too short	2.0%	1
just right	74.5%	38

- 2 Some of them were not as interactive as I would have liked.
- 3 Some were too long, others too short. It depended on the subject and the capabilities of the teacher.
- 4 I would of liked them if they were 100 min long this would give time to present for 50 min and then do something for the other 50.
- 5 Loved all the options!

6 Did you think the 3-hour field trip sessions were:

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
too long	22.4%	11
too short	20.4%	10
just right	57.1%	28

- 1 We were doing all of this fun stuff, but then we had to leave in order to get to our next thing on time.
- 5 Felt a little rushed on some of them

7 Please check all topics that you learned about or experienced:

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Pollution threats facing Lake Superior and the Great	70.6%	36
Ideas on what you can do to protect Lake Superior and	66.7%	34
People with new ideas	72.5%	37
Different careers	66.7%	34
How to work in a team	49.0%	25

- I really liked learning about what was going on in the Great Lakes, and I am concerned about them.. But some people's thoughts on the subject seemed
- 1 like it was a bit irrational and extreme. Such as changing people's lifestyles quit a bit in ways that would affect them greatly to save some fish.
 - 2 I liked how the people presenting knew what they were talking about.
 - 3 I live too far from the great lakes to go there everyday. I do have ideas for local lakes.

8 Which activities do you plan to do (or have done already) after the symposium?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Tell my family about what I learned at the symposium	80.4%	41
Tell my friends about what I learned at the symposium	74.5%	38
Continue learning about Lake Superior and the Great	54.9%	28
Get involved in efforts to protect Lake Superior and the	51.0%	26
Be careful that my activities do not cause water pollution	70.6%	36

- 1 As President of my school's Green Club, I will do everything that I can to protect the Great Lakes that are easy to do.
- 2 I already did mos of these before I went to the symposium.
- 3 I am not in the great lakes water shed but I do live by a lake in the Mississippi water shed which we will be restoring next fall.
- 4 I live too far from the great lakes to go there everyday. I do have ideas for local lakes.

9 What do you feel that you gained the most by attending the Symposium?

- 1 Knowledge about what is facing the great lakes

I feel that what I gained most from the symposium was a great experience that widened my view of what is going on around me that I didn't even think twice about, as well as the pleasure to meet and spend time with some really great people.

- 2 I think that the Symposium was a spectacular experience for me across the board. I learned so many new things, met a wide variety of interesting people, and got to have hands-on experiences with many of the things being discussed. One thing that I gained the most in, however, was a look outside of my little community. I saw how Lake Superior can effect so many people, and I got to see the amazing works of the Lakes, the glaciers, and volcanoes in an area I've never sen before, and even if that sort of experience doesn't necessarily take immediate full effect on a person, it can ripple throughout their life, changing who they are, where they stand, and the decisions they will make as a whole.
- 3 i gained a lot of knowledge and responsibility
- 4 Howe polluted are water is.
- 5 A better understanding of the Great Lakes and the problems facing the lakes
- 6 information about the wildlife, the great lakes, other peoples adventures
- 7 that we can actually make a difference
- 8 Not to litter
- 9 A closer relationship with some of the people at my school that have the same views as me on this type of subject
- 10 More education about the Great Lakes. I actually learned a lot.
- 11 that we can still help the great lakes

I feel like I gained some good knowledge about what other people are out there doing to try and protect our Great Lakes. It exposed me to some job opportunities that I never even knew existed. I wish there was some more of it though!

- 12 to stay green and help keep the great lakes clean
- 13 I gained knowledge about the Great Lakes and what I can do to protect them.
- 14 Learning how to play poker.
- 15 Perspective!
- 16 A sense of responsibility.
- 17 knowledge of the great lakes
- 18 experience
- 19 I think I gained knowdgedge on how bad water pollution is affecting our country.
- 20 Knowledge of Lake Superior
- 21 A new appreication of our access to clean, healthy water.
- 22 Knowledge!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

- 25 A better understanding of the Great Lakes watershed and its environmental issues.
- 26 A respect for nature.
- 27 Knowledge of the great lakes.
- 28 Knowledge.
- 29 I feel like I gained a sense of pride that I live in such an important watershed and I feel like I should do everything I can to protect it.
- 30 I have gained true knowledge about Lake Superior. The scientist I met were fun to connect to and listen to their words of wisdom.
- 31 I feel that by attending the symposium, I gained the knowledge I need to further my work in protecting the Great Lakes.
- 32 Friendship.
- 33 A better, more educated outlook on the environment.
- 34 I learned how badly the great lakes are affected by pollution.
- 35 A better idea of the Great Lakes and how much it has influenced me.
- 36 I feel that I gained an awareness of our area and the threats that affect it. Maybe now I can do something about it.
- 37 There wasn't one thing that I gained the most but rather gained lots of things.
- 38 I exposed the inner leader inside myself. I had an opportunity to take charge and be involved.
I feel like I learned that everything is not what it seemed. Just few months ago I assumed the lakes were perfectly fine and didn't really think about it too much. After the Symposium I realize that is not the case and I feel like, as someone who was born and raised by Lake Superior, it's my job to help make
- 39 sure what makes my small town so special, stays special.
- 40 Getting to meet inspirational people that have changed my life!
- 41 good that i learned alot
- 42 Knowledge and ideas for local projects
- 43 I Think that I learned many different lessons but what I gained the most was that we have a big impact on the Great Lakes.
- 44 New friends, and new knowledge.
- 45 Knowledge
- 46 more friends
- 47 Learning
- 48 I Gained That This Was A Wonderful Teaching Experience That I Would Love To Do Again In The Future!!

10	How well do you feel that you could	How well do	How well do	How well	How well	How well do
Answer Options	Not at all	A little	Pretty well	Very well	Response Count	
Identify an environmental issue in your community?	1	2	16	13	32	
Find the right person to give information on a community or environmental issue?	1	9	14	8	32	
Identify community or environmental issues that are important to your school or community?	1	1	18	11	31	
Make phone calls or conduct interviews to gather information on a school or community problem?	1	11	15	5	32	
Find information on public policies that are related to an environmental issue in your school or community?	4	3	15	10	32	
Talk to people you don't know about an issue you think is important?	0	5	16	11	32	
Use a democratic process like voting to make decisions with others in a group?	2	3	11	15	31	

Work with other youth and adults to identify and solve a community or environmental problem?	0	5	17	10	32
Use the skills that are needed to make a team work well together?	2	0	15	15	32
Change what you are doing on a project to make it work better?	2	1	10	18	31
Identify the steps you need to take to put a project into action?	2	3	13	14	32
Manage your time so that you can get all of the steps in a project completed?	2	7	13	10	32
Write letters, emails, brochures, or stories to inform people about a community or environmental issue?	4	5	17	6	32
Compare the pros and cons of different solutions to a community or environmental issue?	2	3	12	14	31
Make a decision based on clear criteria or standards?	2	3	13	14	32
Evaluate your project to figure out what worked and what didn't?	1	4	12	14	31
<i>answered question</i>					32

11 How could the Symposium be improved in future years?

1 I didn't think that it need to be improved.

Make sure that the it's a bit more well organized, it was great, but it was rather evident in many parts that it just wasn't as well organized as it could have been, schedules weren't quite right, and the worker bee project went way over time, just make sure that everything is on time.

2 It would be nice if there were more outside presentations.

3 I don't think it really needs to be improved. it was a good experience.

4 I would help me with pollution.

5 More activities

6 slightly more organized

7 give more freetime

8 Better classes

9 More hands on activities and learning experiences.

10 More interactive presentations.

11 have more feild trips

I wish it prepared the students more as to what they are going to be doing in years after high school. I wish it explained more some careers that you could go into that would really make a difference in the community.

12 not forcing us to do stuff we don't want, like watching the movies... i didn't really enjoy any of the movies

13 Maybe add presentation or two about specific science careers as they relate to the Great Lakes.

14 More science, less history.

15 All the same grades attend.

16 Shorter presentations. More opportunities, not limited to 5 the whole weekend.

11 How could the Symposium be improved in future years?

17 Not getting up as early.

18 i dont know it was pretty cool

- 21 give us more free time and don't be so strict!
- 22 I think that it improve by connecting with people from around the world instead of just in one state or country.
- 23 More high schoolers for sure!
The organization could be SO much better... they had different names for different presentations which confused me and a lot of other students. we could
- 24 have more free time and be allowed to go to the bathroom at night (seriously)!
- 25 The symposium needs better organization and scheduling, along with more freetime for students to unwind at the end of the day.
- 26 By having a better organised schedual.
- 27 Orginize it better and give more freetime options like not force people to go to a movie, less crabby chaperones.
- 28 It could have more varied subjects and topics. Less presentations---those got boring fast.
- 29 Have better whole group activities. The sports and speaker at the SDC and the movie night was alright.
- 30 I think the symposium is great and needs no immediate improvement.
- 31 Be longer.
- 32 Longer amount of te spent at the symposium.
- 33 Less boring presentations.
- 34 Not so many long speeches, more outside activities
I think that the Syposium can be improved in future years by letting people know where to go a lot better. I got lost quite a few times and was thankful for
- 35 a guide. But, there was really not many signs that pointed in the right direction.
- 36 Actually getting on the great lakes.

How could the Symposium be improved in future years?

- The ceremonies are too long. We should be able to go to more presentations too, and less field trips. They kept us up too late with the movies and sdc. It
- 37 was a very successful attempt to wear us out, but not to get us to have a good night's sleep. We should be able to choose our roommates.
 - 38 Less just sitting there listening to people talk and more active physical work.
 - 39 More time!
 - 40 do it every year
 - 41 More people!
 - 42 I'd Like to have a longer symposium in the future.
 - 43 More gym time
 - 44 give more time between classes
 - 45 do more hands on things
 - 47 More Focus On The Great Lakes
 - 48 If there is a time change put it on the sheet

12 Anything else you'd like to say about the 2013 Symposium!!

- 1 It was amazing! I'll try to attend in 2015!
- 3 I was amazing! (3)

- 4 it was really fun and i hope to go again in 2015
- 5 It was fun. (5)
- 6 I enjoyed it very much
- 7 It was amazing & I hope to go again in 2 years
- 8 It was kinda boring and the movies weren't good
Thank you to all the Volunteers and Faculty that helped put all this together and make it a reality, I sure had tons of fun at the Youth Symposium, and I'm
- 9 sure all of the other people that went had a lot of fun too. Thank you again and I hope to see you all in Thunder Bay!
- 10 It was great!
- 12 The food was delicious and I hope I can chaperon for my school in two years as I will be graduating next year.
- 13 it was alright.
- 14 I had a great experience and look forward to many more!
- 17 Fun! Thanks a lot!!! Student presentations rocked.
- 19 I really had a great time. (2)
- 21 Thank you for hosting, it was a great experience and I will definitely look back on this.
- 23 All around, it was a great experience despite the organization issues.
- 27 I wish the Symposium in Thunder Bay was this year so I could have gone to Canada! I'm graduated now. It was an unforgettable experience!
- 28 It was amazing! I'll try to attend in 2015!
- 29 It was AWESOME!!!!!!!!!! (7)
- 33 It was a lot of fun! I met some really awesome people and learned so much information.
- 35 good food
- 37 I loved that it was at a collage and we got to have a collage experience before even being in collage.
- 40 I'll be coming back in 2015 because it was a great educational experience!

13 After attending the 2013 Symposium, are you interested in attending in Thunder Bay?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes, definitely	56.0%	28
Yes, maybe	22.0%	11
No, probably not'	8.0%	4
Definitely not	0.0%	0
I'll be graduated	14.0%	7