



Jeffers High School

Learning by Doing and Serving the Community

Jeffers High School 2010 - 2011

- 12 Teachers
- 205 Grade 7-12 students
- Classes:
 - Biology
 - English
 - Environ. Science
 - Math
 - Social Studies
 - Wood Shop
 - Technology

"Our Lake Superior Stewardship Initiative grant provides teachers, students, and the community an opportunity to work together to enhance a local recreation resource and protect a unique wetland ecosystem. The students are able to access the Lake Superior watershed for education, stewardship and building sustainable connections to the land."

Mike Benda, Science Teacher



Student Learning Outcomes

Located just three miles away, Lake Perrault and the Robert T. Brown Nature Sanctuary provide an outdoor classroom for Jeffers High School students. In partnership with the MI Department of Natural Resources, students are enhancing local recreational and nature study opportunities by creating an interpretive trail around Lake Perrault. Students have also constructed two boardwalks and two viewing platforms at the Michigan Nature Association's adjacent 18-acre Brown Nature Sanctuary. Students in grades 7-12 spend time at these two sites involved in a variety of activities--trail design and construction, interpretation, ecosystem monitoring, writing--while meeting Michigan content expectations in science, math, English, and social studies. Classes are also conducting research for the Sarah Sargent Paine Historical Society.

Many of the students' activities meet the needs of their community. As students become active participants in authentic community projects, they will become valued citizens, taking ownership in protecting the place where they live in the Lake Superior watershed.

- ◆ **Biology** - plant ID, beach clean-up
- ◆ **English** - writing for the public: brochures, newspaper articles, school newsletter
- ◆ **Environmental Science** - analyze lake water, wetland sampling, amphibian monitoring
- ◆ **Math** - set GPS points for trail around Lake Perrault
- ◆ **Social Studies** - local historical research
- ◆ **Wood Shop** - boardwalk & sign design, construction



Community Partners:

- MI Dept of Natural Resources
- Michigan Nature Association
- Adams Township
- Sarah Sargent Paine Historical Society
- Copper Country Trout Unlimited

Donations Received:

- Elliott Kangas' family
- Michigan Assoc. of Retired School Personnel
- Joe Arens Family





A special place for learning
in all seasons for
students and the community

2010-2011 Project Activities



Plan new boardwalk and viewing platform for Brown Nature Sanctuary



Begin construction of new trailhead.

Conduct water equivalency snow sampling at Lake Perrault



Students research and compose text for trail signs; 18 trail signs made.

School field day at Lake Perrault & Brown N.S..

2010 Sept Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb March April May 2011



Biology class conducts beach clean-up at Lake Perrault.

Conduct stream monitoring at Salmon-Trout R.

Conduct historical research for Adams Twp. Historical Society.

Environmental Science class conducts frog deformity survey at Lake Perrault.

Skills Learned:

- ◆ Civic & community responsibility
- ◆ Stream/lake monitoring
- ◆ Trail building & mapping
- ◆ Wetland studies
- ◆ History & cultural studies
- ◆ Water equivalency snow analysis
- ◆ Interpretive sign-making
- ◆ Journaling/creative-writing
- ◆ Construction of benches, boardwalk, and viewing platforms



Student Quote

"LSSI and the Lake Superior Youth Symposium have sparked my passion for Lake Superior and provided a real push for me to get out there and take care of the Lake Superior watershed."

by Cecilia Burton, grade 9 student

Haiku

by Jacob Keranen, grade 9 student

Lake Superior
It's dangerous, yet gentle.
It makes you think twice.

Interpretive trail signs
created by the *Biology,*
Environmental Science, and
Wood Shop classes