

## Lake Superior Stewardship Initiative Celebrates Accomplishments on May 6, 2010

120 people turned out to learn about the Lake Superior Stewardship Initiative (LSSI) on May 6<sup>th</sup> for the 1<sup>st</sup> annual LSSI Celebration & Sharing event. Fifteen participating teacher teams and their community partners showcased the work to the community, school boards, families, and potential funders. In addition, LSSI school-community teams had the opportunity to learn about what other LSSI teams are doing.

The LSSI school teacher teams represent elementary, middle and high schools in seven school districts in Houghton and Baraga counties with more than 1150 students, 73 teachers and 40 community partners involved.

Each school-community team had an exhibit displaying their project work in partnership with one or more community partners. For example, Washington Middle School (WMS) had exhibits that spilled over onto four tables with multiple display boards in order to communicate about their "Adopt-a-Beach" and school forest program through photos, flyers, and student work. WMS partners with the Calumet Township and Alliance for the Great Lakes. Lake Linden-Hubbell Elementary School showed their portable "frisbee disc" golf basket that is being used to introduce Lake Linden-Hubbell Elementary students to the game as a warm-up to the new disc golf course that the LLH 5<sup>th</sup> grade is developing for the Lake Linden Village Park. They are partnering with Lake Linden Village and The Bike Shop (in Houghton). C.J. Sullivan Elementary School has designed and built a nature trail at their school forest for the community and other classes to enjoy and learn from. They are partnering with the Village of L'Anse.

The event started with the "premiere" of the new LSSI video (available on LSSI webpage) that describes the history, purpose, activities, and benefits of the **Lake Superior Stewardship Initiative.** Event participants then had the opportunity to visit and talk with individual school-team project representatives---teachers, students, and community partners.

The Lake Superior Stewardship Initiative (LSSI) has been bringing together teachers, students and community organization to implement stewardship projects in their communities since January 2008. The goal of the Initiative is to prepare K-12 students to become knowledgeable citizens, concerned about the Great Lakes and actively engaged in stewardship activities that will contribute to the recovery, restoration and future protection of the Great Lakes and their watersheds. LSSI is a regional hub of the Great Lakes Stewardship Initiative and funded by the Great Lakes Fishery Trust and Wege Foundation.

Learn more about the Lake Superior Stewardship Initiative and view Celebration Event photos at <a href="http://lakesuperiorstewardship.org">http://lakesuperiorstewardship.org</a>

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The Lake Superior Stewardship Initiative is part of the Great Lakes Stewardship Initiative, which was established by the Great Lakes Fishery Trust with the support of the Wege Foundation.