



# ALLEGHENY COLLEGE

## Creek Connections

520 N. Main Street • Meadville, Pennsylvania 16335

February 21, 2024

Creek Connections Teachers:

The symposium is coming! This information is to help you and your students prepare for the Pittsburgh Area Student Research Symposium, scheduled for **FRIDAY, APRIL 12, 2024**.

The following can be [found on our website](#):

- Online registration. Please register by **Friday, March 8**
- **NEW THIS YEAR:** [Online waiver for each person attending](#) (parents/guardians must complete for each student and adults need to complete for themselves)
- Symposium schedule
- Directions to Camp Kon-O-Kwee, parking information
- Suggestions / Hints for successful displays

**Resources to use to inform your students about what happens at the symposium:**

- Our website – <http://creekconnections.allegheny.edu/> look under symposia tab
- A presentation so they know what to expect at the symposium:  
<http://creekconnections.allegheny.edu/resources-modules/teacher-resource-center>

**Bring to the symposium:**

- LUNCHES – again this year, bring lunches for yourself and your students
- Students who have participated in sampling and research this school year – YMCA Camp Kon-O-Kwee is requiring specific adult-to-student ratios depending on student age.
- Students 9-14 years: 1 adult for every 10 students
- Students 15-18 years: 1 adult for every 12 students
- YMCA is also requiring every adult (18 years+) attending to register ahead of time
- Faculty colleagues at your school, or in your school district, who might like to participate in some capacity next year (e.g., biology, earth science, chemistry, geography, environmental science, English, art, etc.)
- School administrators
- Chaperones / parents

**Provided by Creek Connections for the symposium:**

- Substitute reimbursement to your school (Case-by-case basis if your school won't pay for it)
- Busing money to symposium (Case-by-case basis if your school won't pay for it – send in as quickly as you can after the event)

- Tri-fold Display/Presentation boards (cardboard) – let us know how many you need NOW
- You can buy art supplies and other display supplies with your equipment stipend money – submit receipts by May 1<sup>st</sup>
- PRINTING: If your students have created some kind of handout, brochure, or visual aid for their display; we can help with printing if it cannot be reproduced at your school. This work must be submitted to Creek Connections at least 1 week before the event.

**Focus Group Activity Information:**

Presented by Allegheny staff and students and environmental organizations, these are hands-on, field or laboratory activities about various watershed topics. We plan to have over 20 again this year. They are held all over the Camp Kon-O-Kwee grounds and most will be outside (have students dress for the weather). Students from various schools are mixed for these activities (your school does not all go to the same activity unless there is a reason that your group needs to stay together – if so, let Wendy/Laura know). Each activity will be chaperoned by a teacher; you will be assigned to one. After your attendance information is submitted, you will be assigned an assortment of colorful focus group activity tickets to distribute to your students – they have some choice in which activities they would be interested in attending. The actual tickets won't be given to you until the day of the symposium. But we will send you the focus groups and numbers of students assigned ahead of time. *We must receive all your information by March 8<sup>th</sup> to plan the focus group activities.*

**In future memos regarding the symposium, you will receive:**

- A finalized schedule
- Information about focus group activities (including ticket allotment)

Good luck preparing for the SYMPOSIUM! Let us know how we can help.

Sincerely,



Wendy Kedzierski  
Director