



# CREEK CONNECTIONS

## Teacher's Memo

To: Creek Connections teachers  
From: Creekers  
Re: April 19 Symposium Information

April 11, 2024

Good luck with final  
Symposium Preparations!

### ARE YOU READY?

We look forward to having you and your students at Allegheny College next week. We are excited about the event and look forward to some spectacular creek research, presentations and fun activities. Below is some useful event day information. Arrival and set up 9-9:30AM.

### BRING LUNCHES!

Lunches for you and your students should be brought with you. Bring them into the campus center with you and store under your tables. We will eat lunch in the bleachers at the Wise Center gym. If you have coolers that need to come back to the campus center – label them with your school name and we will return them to your tables in the campus center for pick up at the end of the day.

### WE WILL NEED YOUR HELP

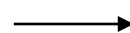
Creek Connections will appreciate your assistance in making this event very successful and meaningful for your students. We do ask that you clearly outline your expectations of them prior to attending the event. We welcome everyone to Allegheny as our guests and hope to make it an enjoyable, safe, and incident-free experience.

***Other events are happening on campus the same day, with other school groups in attendance. Their day ends about the same time as ours. Please ask your bus driver to refrain from lining up on Highland Avenue very early. When they do come for pickup, if they can stay near the top of the hill, it would be helpful. The other group will tell their buses to try to stay at the bottom of the hill. If you have a school van – you can park in the campus center parking lot.***

### Some things you should mention to students PRIOR to attending:

- This is still considered a school event; so all school rules/policy still apply.
- Please have students show respect to all teachers, other students, Creek Connections staff, and afternoon activity facilitators. Please follow instructions from any of these people.
- Please show respect to the Allegheny College facilities (no damage, no theft, no smoking in restrooms, etc.)
- Please remain in the event locations. Students should NOT be allowed to wander around campus on their own. Teachers may elect to take the entire class around campus prior to 9:30am or after 1:45pm.
- Students are expected to attend all parts of the symposium. Students are not permitted to skip afternoon activities or dismiss themselves early, unless directed to do so by a teacher.
- Students should make the most of this educational day.

Over



You will enter the campus center from the Highland Avenue side and stop at the registration table at that entrance (2<sup>nd</sup> floor-balcony). There will be signs! Displays will be set up on the first floor and the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor balcony (your tables will be labeled).

### ORAL PRESENTATIONS

**Larger groups (Maplewood, Northwestern, Conneaut Lake, Creative Learning Christian School, Fort LeBoeuf and Dr. MLK, Jr. Mentoring Program):** we would like you to split your group in half for attending oral presentations. This will allow your poster displays to always have students with them.

**Smaller groups (North East MS, North Hills):** North Hills should stay for the first round of oral presentations and North East should attend the second session of oral presentations.

### FOCUS GROUP ACTIVITY TICKET DISTRIBUTION

A list of focus group activities that your students have been assigned to is included in this email. We have assigned each school "tickets" to a variety of activities (but not all. Teachers should determine who will go to which activity in advance of the Symposium using whatever method you want. **THE TICKETS WILL BE GIVEN TO YOU THE MORNING OF THE SYMPOSIUM. Students need the ticket to get into the activity.** Our goal is to mix students from different schools within each activity. It is our hope that after the Symposium, students can share and compare with each other what they learned as participants in the different activities.

- Students need tickets at the time of the focus group activity sorting in the Wise Center
- Please remind students assigned to OUTSIDE activities to dress for the weather and to wear shoes and clothes that they don't mind getting a bit muddy. Activities are rain or shine. Those in the gym should wear non-marking soled shoes – otherwise they will need to remove their shoes.
- Please note that **you have been assigned** to attend and assist with a specific focus group activity. It is critical that you attend the activity indicated to ensure adequate supervision of students at all times. **Some of your additional teachers have also been assigned to attend an activity.**

### SYMPOSIUM STUDENT WORKSHEETS

We will have work sheets available for your students to fill out as they visit other school research displays. Use of these is *OPTIONAL* by teachers. If you feel they would help facilitate the learning process and allow your students to obtain more information from displays, environmental organizations, and other school students – then we hope you use them. You can view this worksheet on the symposium webpage. We will have copies on hand – you do NOT need to print and make copies.

**TEACHER EVALUATIONS** are in your packet this year – please turn in before you leave.

Additional information pertaining to the symposium can be found on our website:

<https://sites.allegheny.edu/creekconnections/symposia/allegheny-college-student-research-symposium/> Do not hesitate to contact Wendy with questions about the Symposium – 814-332-5351.