



2011-2012 PROJECT ADVENTURE NEWS

**BPMS 8TH GRADE PROJECT
ADVENTURE PROGRAM**

**6TH EDITION
JANUARY 2012**

WHAT IS THE BPMS PROJECT ADVENTURE PROGRAM?

The Project Adventure Program has been a staple at Broadalbin-Perth Middle School for many years. Project Adventure is the name given to a variety of activities and climbing elements which challenge our students physically, mentally, and emotionally.

Our eighth graders participate in eight days of after school activities and attend a weekend-long field-trip to the SUNY Cortland Outdoor Education Center at Camp Huntington on Raquette Lake. The eighth grade program takes place during the winter months.

While at Raquette Lake, students and staff enjoy a weekend away from technology and take pleasure in all that nature has to offer. The students are challenged to step out of their comfort zone and try new things through participating in team building initiatives and physical activities. These activities include: playing broomball, learning how to cross-country ski, star gazing on the ice road, partaking in a night vision lesson, completing a night solo walk, hiking to St. William's Church and Camp Kirby, walking across the ice road, and contributing to Kitchen Patrol duty, just to mention a few. Participants learn a great deal about themselves and others while on the trip.

As the weekend draws to an end, the students write "Raquette Lake Reflections" about their field trip experiences. Excerpts from their reflections can be found in the pages that follow.



ENJOYING THE VIEW OF RAQUETTE LAKE



Walking across the ice road



HISTORY OF CAMP HUNTINGTON AT RAQUETTE LAKE

The Huntington Memorial Camp Outdoor Education Center is located in Raquette Lake, N.Y.

The facility is named for Collis P. Huntington, President of the Southern Pacific Railroad and owner of the camp in the late 1800's. Huntington had purchased the camp from William West Durant in 1895 and resided there every summer until his death in 1900.

After his death, the site remained vacant until the Huntington family sold it in 1949 to the State Teachers College at Cortland for \$1.00.

The site is now a National Historic Landmark and is part of the SUNY Cortland Outdoor Education Center. Many of the original buildings still stand, highlighting the start of Adirondack Architecture from that era.

The Raquette Lake facility is used by many SUNY and non-SUNY groups throughout the course of the year for numerous outdoor education programs.



I had a super great time on this trip and wish I could go again.

The night walk may have been the best part of the trip!

I really enjoyed going on this trip and I will always remember all of the memories I made here.

My weekend at Raquette Lake was one of the best experiences of my life.

I think this trip is worth it. It will teach kids how to have responsibility but also have fun learning a lot.



FASHIONISTA

I enjoyed being waited on during meals. I also kind of had fun serving people. It made me happy to make them happy.

This trip was just plain AMAZING!



Taking a break

I had a great trip that I will remember forever.

During the night vision lesson, I was fascinated by how our eyes adjusted to the darkness.



To see all the beautiful views, historical buildings, and learning about Raquette Lake was outstanding!

The walk across the ice road is fun because it is like walking on water.

This weekend changed the way I view things. Everything is so mind controlling and you start to think things through more than you would before this trip. It will make you think and take responsibility.

I am so glad I joined Project Adventure. This experience has been so amazing. There was pain, there was fun, there were fears, and there were tears. I have never felt so close to all my friends. Not to mention I made a lot of new friends. I honestly can't explain how much I enjoyed these three days, although my legs and feet hurt like crazy from the hike to Camp Kirby and the walk across the ice road.



A broomball breakaway

I liked learning new things about myself, I made new friends, and attempted to conquer my fears.



Gliding on our skis

The things I liked about this trip were the games we played in the classroom, for each of them made you think of some sort of strategy to win. Everything was so funny. People were about to step outside of their shell and let other people see who they really are. The skits let us use our imaginations, and make other people laugh.



Colby takes pride in tiring out the teachers!

I like how we got to learn about one another.



My time at Raquette Lake was amazing. The food was delicious! We did so many fun and interesting activities.

Cross-country skiing was fun, but I realize I'm more of a snowboarder.



Dressing for the weather

“Fun is fun until it’s done and then it’s just memories.”

-Michael Schebel



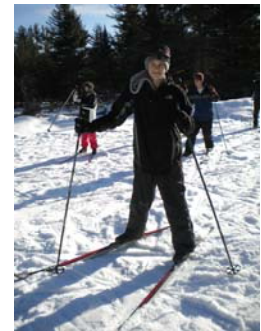
I've fallen and I can't get up!

This trip was an amazing experience for me and it really showed me that some things in life, like electronics, aren't always necessary.

The nuclear waste game was a game about communication, balance, and teamwork. It was a great game.

I really enjoyed this weekend. I don't want to go home it was so fun.

I wish I could do this again next year because it was a great experience and I learned new things. I learned how to cross-country ski, take care after my messes, and set up a table.



Star gazing was spectacular. You could see Orion, the Big Dipper, the Little Dipper, Jupiter, Polaris, a satellite, and so many more.

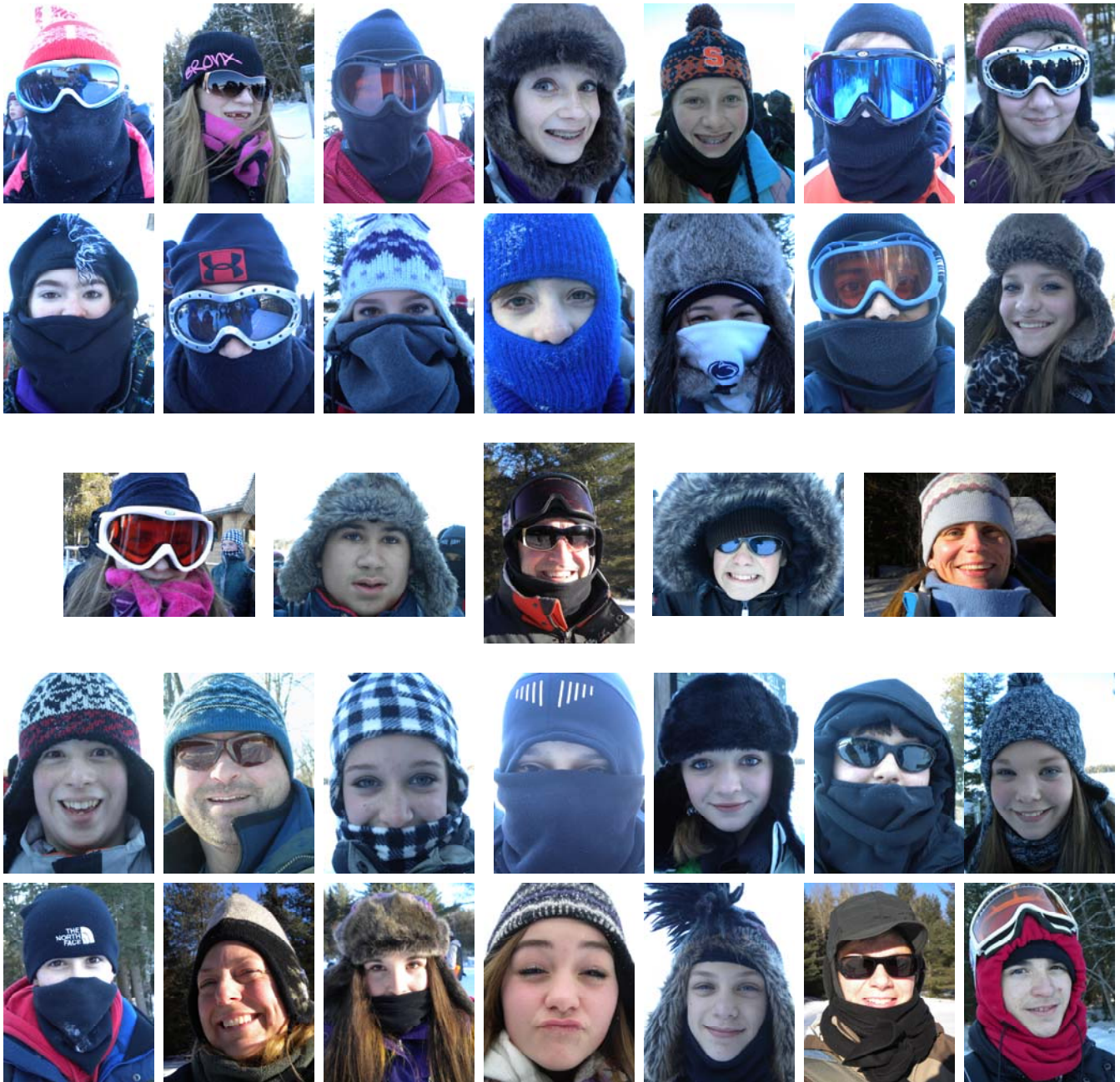


Broomball was my favorite activity. It was so much fun.

I was really nervous to go on this trip, but I had an amazing time.



THE MANY FACES OF PROJECT ADVENTURE



THANK YOU TO EVERYONE INVOLVED FOR
MAKING PROJECT ADVENTURE A WONDERFUL
EXPERIENCE!