



Leelanau School



The Leelanau School Exploratory Trips

It is our mission at The Leelanau School to discover and develop the potential of the whole individual. Learning happens everywhere, not just in classrooms. It happens in the houses, in clubs, during Councils and on trips. We want all of our students to become lifelong learners and develop the ability to grow and meet whatever challenges they may encounter in their lives. Many of our students learn differently, which requires them to learn about themselves and develop strategies to be successful in academic settings. We help them develop strategies and teach them to push themselves appropriately to excel.

Our trips are an integral part of the learning experience at Leelanau. Whether they are going to Stratford Ontario, Guatemala or the Manitou Islands, students learn to be resilient by working in unfamiliar - which for many, translates to uncomfortable - situations. We are careful to present the students with challenges they can meet and overcome. Our expectation is that when members of our community encounter a challenge, we will not avoid it, but work together to resolve the situation.

One of the hardest parts of beginning a new school year or starting at a new school is the initial transition into the social environment. No matter how comfortable and socially confident a person is, there is always some anxiety associated with a new social setting. One of the functions of our Exploratory trips at the beginning of the school year is to help students transition socially. By travelling and working together on these experiences students learn about each other and interact with each other in safe, controlled settings. They will be more connected and know more about each other after a three day Exploratory experience than they would after three weeks of classes.

During the Exploratory experiences, students will be introduced to The Leelanau School values and will become familiar with the norms and expectations of our community. We have worked hard to craft trips that will be fun as well as appropriately challenging. We understand that many students may be uncomfortable or have some anxiety, but we promise that these trips are very realistic and there will be more than adequate adult support available at all times. We believe that one of the best ways to deal with anxiety is to be prepared. A packing list is provided on the following pages for each class to make sure that students have the right clothing and equipment for the Exploratory Trips. We are really looking forward to this coming school year and are excited about getting started with a positive experience. Registration is on September 5th for seniors and September 6th for underclassmen.

Freshmen: Explore Yourself within The Leelanau School Community

The Leelanau School values the development of the whole person, not just a student's academic skills. Over the course of the school year we participate in a tradition known as Council, which is a way to communicate, connect, and learn about ourselves, each other, and our place in the world. For freshmen, we call this "Leelanizing." In other words, exploring what it means to be a part of this special community in this beautiful place.

Some of the skills that we will help our ninth graders develop include effective communication skills, healthy conflict resolutions, and resilience.

The freshmen will be introduced to Council during their Exploratory trip. They will leave campus on Thursday, September 7th and will travel a short distance to the Leelanau Outdoor Center (LOC). They will spend three days and two nights learning about each other and becoming familiar with the outdoor environment. The first night will be spent in a cabin at LOC and the second night will be spent tent camping. The LOC staff will work with the students doing group initiatives, including a ropes course, and will provide camping gear while teaching the students how to use it. The ninth grade Council team will be present at all times to help the students pack for the trip, provide support and encouragement, learn about each student as an individual, and provide supervision and support overnight. The students will return to campus on Saturday, September 9th.

Here is a packing list for the ninth graders:

OUTER WEAR	2 pairs of shoes are needed should one get wet Rain gear – top and bottom Water shoes or shoes that can get wet
CLOTHING	1 heavy sweatshirt, sweater, or fleece pullover 1 long sleeve shirt or sweatshirt 2 tee shirts 1 pair warm, long pants 2 pairs of cotton socks 2 pairs of shorts Pajamas Daily change of underwear Swimsuit
TOILETRIES	Towel and washcloth Toothbrush/toothpaste Shampoo Comb/brush Shower shoes (if desired)
BEDDING	Sleeping bag and sleeping pad Pillow and pillow case
GENERAL EQUIPMENT	Flashlight Camera (optional) Water bottle Sun Screen Bug Spray Sun Glasses
DO NOT BRING	Radios, knives, food, candy, lighters/matches, soda, personal gaming devices

Sophomores: Venture Forth into the Community

The Leelanau School values the development of the whole person, not just a student's academic skills. Over the course of the school year, we participate in a tradition known as Council, which is a way to communicate, connect, and learn about ourselves, each other, and our place in the world.

Some of the skills that we will help our tenth graders develop include thinking beyond oneself, taking healthy risks, collaboration, and courage.

The sophomores will practice the tradition of Council during their Exploratory trip. They will leave campus on Thursday, September 7th and will travel a short distance to the Leelanau Outdoor Center (LOC). They will spend three days, two nights learning about each other and becoming familiar with the outdoor environment. The first night will be spent in a cabin at LOC and the second night will be spent tent camping. The LOC staff will work with the students doing group initiatives, including a ropes course, and will provide camping gear while teaching the students how to use it. The tenth grade Council team will be present at all times to help the students pack for the trip, provide support and encouragement, learn about each student as an individual, and provide supervision and support overnight. The students will return to campus Saturday, September 9th.

Here is a packing list for the tenth graders:

OUTER WEAR	2 pairs of shoes are needed should one get wet Rain gear – top and bottom Water shoes or shoes that can get wet
CLOTHING	1 heavy sweatshirt, sweater, or fleece pullover 1 long sleeve shirt or sweatshirt 2 tee shirts 1 pair of warm long pants 2 pairs of cotton socks 2 pairs of shorts Pajamas Daily change of underwear Swimsuit
TOILETRIES	Towel and washcloth Toothbrush/toothpaste Shampoo Comb/brush Shower shoes (if desired)
BEDDING	Sleeping bag and sleeping pad Pillow and pillow case
GENERAL EQUIPMENT	Flashlight Camera (optional) Water bottle Sun Screen Bug Spray Sun Glasses
DO NOT BRING	Radios, knives, food, candy, lighters/matches, soda, personal gaming devices

Juniors: Quest for Independence and Responsibility

The Leelanau School values the development of the whole person, not just a student's academic skills. Over the course of the school year, we participate in a tradition known as Council, which is a way to communicate, connect, and learn about ourselves, each other, and our place in the world.

The juniors will practice the tradition of Council during their Exploratory trip. They will leave campus on Thursday, September 7th and will travel to the Manistee National Forest. They will spend three days, two nights hiking, canoeing, and camping along the Manistee River. Staff from the Leelanau Outdoor Center will join them to provide gear and teach the students how to use it. The LOC staff will also work with the students doing group initiatives. The eleventh grade Council team will be present at all times to help the students pack for the trip, provide support and encouragement, learn about each student as an individual, and provide supervision and support overnight. The students will return to campus Saturday, September 9th.

Some of the skills that we will help our eleventh graders develop include understanding and demonstrating one's personal gift to the community, conscious awareness of self, and the development of leadership.

Here is a packing list for the eleventh graders:

OUTER WEAR	2 pairs of sturdy walking shoes are needed should one get wet Warm cap Rain gear – top and bottom Water shoes or shoes that can get wet
CLOTHING	1 heavy sweatshirt, sweater, or fleece pullover Long underwear top and bottom 1 long sleeve shirt or sweatshirt 2 tee shirts 1 pair of warm long pants 3 pairs of cotton socks 2 pairs of shorts Pajamas Daily change of underwear Swimsuit
TOILET ARTICLES	Towel and washcloth Toothbrush/toothpaste Comb/brush
BEDDING	Sleeping bag in a stuff/compression sack Sleeping pad
GENERAL EQUIPMENT	Flashlight Camera (optional) Water bottle Sun Screen Bug Spray Sun Glasses Large Dry Bag
DO NOT BRING	Radios, knives, food, candy, lighters/matches, soda, personal gaming devices

Seniors: A Time for Introspection

The Leelanau School values the development of the whole person, not just a student's academic skills. Over the course of the school year, we participate in a tradition known as Council, which is a way to communicate, connect, and learn about ourselves, each other, and our place in the world.

The seniors will practice the tradition of Council during their Exploratory trip. They will leave campus on Wednesday, September 6th and will travel to Leland to board a ferry to South Manitou Island. They will spend three days, two nights camping on the island. The twelfth grade Council team will be present at all times to help the students pack for the trip, provide support and encouragement, learn about each student as an individual, and provide supervision and support overnight. The students will return to campus Saturday, September 9th.

Some of the skills that we will help our twelfth graders develop include the awareness of self, making informed decisions, awareness of individual potential and place within the community.

Here is a packing list for the twelfth graders:

OUTER WEAR	2 pairs of sturdy walking shoes are needed should one get wet Warm cap Rain gear – top and bottom Water shoes or shoes that can get wet
CLOTHING	1 heavy sweatshirt, sweater, or fleece pullover Long underwear top and bottom 1 long sleeve shirt or sweatshirt 2 tee shirts 1 pair of warm long pants 3 pairs of cotton socks 2 pairs of shorts Pajamas Daily change of underwear Swimsuit
TOILET ARTICLES	Towel and washcloth Toothbrush/toothpaste Comb/brush
BEDDING	Sleeping bag in a stuff/compression sack Sleeping pad
GENERAL EQUIPMENT	Flashlight Camera (optional) Water bottle Sun Screen Bug Spray Sun Glasses
DO NOT BRING	Radios, knives, food, candy, lighters/matches, soda, personal gaming devices