

23RD ANNUAL LEAD MONTANA CONFERENCE TIPS FOR A SUCCESSFUL CONFERENCE

LOCATION: RADISSON, HELENA, MT DATE: OCTOBER 25, 2016

THEME: EMPOWERMENT



This year's theme is **Empowerment**. JMG provides you with tools that will **empower** and positively impact your future. Empower means to give the ability to; enable or permit. The set of tools needed to achieve a goal is the "equipment" that JMG provides for the JMG student: career development, attaining and retaining a job and leadership and self-development. It is the goal that each JMG student become proficient using the equipment and/or skillset that JMG empowers.

TIPS FOR HAVING A GREAT LEAD MONTANA EXPERIENCE

- Get to know your JMG classmates and teacher(s) – they are incredible people with a lot to offer.
- Network with students across the state – you'll be seeing them again at IGNITE in April!
- Participate in the morning leadership training - the more you put in, the more you'll get out of it!
- Work hard to grow as a leader and as a person – be open!
- Celebrate the accomplishments of your peers, your teachers, and YOUR personal accomplishments too!
- Network with business, government, and nonprofit professionals who are interested in helping YOU achieve your professional and personal goals.
- Make a plan for how you're going to share what you learned with your JMG classmates back at school.
- Go home inspired and motivated to have a great year with JMG!

NETWORKING TIPS

- Practice making proper introductions, greetings, and interviewing techniques with other students. Role play different situations. Use your G.N.A.P. (**G**reeting, **N**ame, **A**ffiliation, and **P**urpose) skills!
- Always wear your name tag (and make sure it is turned the correct way, so people can read it).
- Present yourself in a positive and confident manner.
- When someone approaches you...
 - Stand up.
 - Smile.
 - Shake hands firmly, regardless of gender.
 - Make eye contact.
 - Repeat the other person's name and use it at least once during the conversation. (If it is a difficult name to say, ask her/him for the correct pronunciation - they're likely used to being asked!)
- When someone addresses you by the wrong name, DON'T pretend you didn't hear the person. Politely correct them, with a smile, and help them pronounce it correctly.
- Address adults by his/her last name until the person asks you to do otherwise. Ask students what they prefer to be called.
- Be intentional about your body language and speech...
 - Smile – be enthusiastic!
 - Maintain proper posture and eye contact.
 - Stay alert.
 - Avoid nervous mannerisms such as playing with your hair or jewelry.
 - Lean forward slightly to express interest and be comfortable in your seat.
 - Speak in a clear voice, using good grammar, and avoiding slang.
- Always say "please" and "thank you."
- Remember: everyone matters. Each person you interact with deserves your attention and respect, whether it's the hotel staff, teachers from another school, or the Governor of Montana.
- Consider writing a thank you letter or email to one of your new contacts so that you can add them to your network! Ask a teacher for help if you need it.



NOT SURE HOW TO STRIKE UP A CONVERSATION WITH OTHER CONFERENCE ATTENDEES, OR WHAT QUESTIONS TO ASK?

HERE ARE SOME IDEAS.

| ADULTS | STUDENTS |
|--|--|
| • Tell me about yourself. | • Tell me about yourself. |
| • What do you do for work? | • Where do you go to school? |
| • What kind of education did you need to get where you are today? | • What classes are you taking this semester? |
| • What does your typical work day look like? | • How are you balancing all your school/sports/personal activities so far? |
| • What motivates you in your work? | • Why are you in JMG this year? |
| • What are your short-term goals? | • What projects do you want to do in JMG this year? |
| • What are your long-term goals? | • What do you think you might do after you graduate? |
| • What are you most proud of in your career? | • Which of your accomplishments are you most proud of? |
| • How do you spend your spare time? Do you have any hobbies? | • What are you involved in at school? |
| • How do you define success? | • How do you define success? |
| • What advice do you have for me as I start this school year? And life after graduation? | • What's the best thing you've learned so far today? |
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**BRAINSTORM SOME OF YOUR OWN IDEAS WITH CLASSMATES
AND TEACHERS!**