

Tips for Youth

(Actually, this is good advice for everyone...)

1. Show up on time. Call ahead if you're going to be late or if you cannot attend.
2. Always be respectful. Establish expectations with adult liaisons to ensure mutual respect. Apologize if you've been disrespectful.
3. Pay attention.
4. Be assertive in sharing your knowledge. Also be assertive in asking questions - its ok if you don't know everything!
5. Be honest and trustworthy - maintain confidentiality, if required.
6. Avoid "Group Think" (going with the first opinion/solution/suggestions without considering other options). Encourage the group to explore additional options before making a decision.
7. Pick your "battles". It may be better to retreat on a particular issue than to stake everything on winning your point of view.
8. Be careful about taking sides. Discuss issues on their merit, ask for information on both/all sides of an issue and seek to understand all points of view. Keep an open mind so your own point of view may be influenced/changed.
9. Show a willingness to learn - seek mentoring from an adult and let them teach you something new.
10. Know and respect differences in perceptions, preferences, and personalities.