

Hannah Bradt

ISM 3A

Mr. Speice

October 6, 2016

### Business Symposium

#### Weekly Report 10/3-10/7

Throughout the past week in Independent Study and Mentorship, there was a rushed feeling as students and teachers involved in the ISM program hurriedly prepared for the upcoming Business Symposium, which took place on October 5 at Independence High School. In order to prepare for this event, students were required to wear their professional dress, and to have a business folio with a small pad to take notes in, as well as copies of the professional resumes that were created previously. Although I was nervous for this experience, once we arrived and began to meet and network with the professionals who volunteered, I was able to relax and be more involved in the event.

Ultimately, the Business Symposium was very successful and helpful in my opinion, because it allowed us to gain more experience based around what an interview should be like, as well as providing us with a chance to exercise and increase our skills in networking and communicating with professionals, whether they were or were not involved in our specific fields of study. During the specific stations, we went through three separate interviewing processes. Through these interviews, we were able to get both positive feedback and constructive criticism from professionals based on our communication skills, and most importantly, our resumes. Personally, the feedback that I received was all very positive. I heard that my resume was very

professional, easy to look at, and ‘fresh and modern,’ as stated by one professional that I had the opportunity of speaking with. This information was quite reassuring, as I had not been fully certain of the overall appearance of my resume.

I found the Business Symposium to be very eye opening, as it showed the ways in which we will be expected to interact with professionals at other times as well. Being able to hear from the ISM alumni provided a great amount of insight specifically for this program, allowing me to form a more solid foundation of understanding based on what will eventually be required of us as we move closer to the second semester, and eventually, final presentation night. Above all, I learned that I am one in five students who are studying the field of education. Thus far, it is my understanding that I am the only student planning to study elementary music education. This information made me slightly nervous, as I now feel obligated to represent my field much more strongly; however, I feel very proud to have the opportunity to stand out as a future teacher in a crowd of future doctors, finance workers, and businessmen and women.

From this wonderful and informational experience, I was able to form a much stronger idea as to what will be required as we continue through the course that is Independent Study and Mentorship. Over the next few weeks, I will begin to create a ‘plan of action’ for my current ideas for my original work and final product that will be presented on final presentation night. I am both anxious and excited to begin formulating new ideas, which will now utilize the positively influential information that I received from the professionals who spoke with me.