



Lunch will be at the Chamber of Commerce with the Chamber President, Mr. Eric Godet and his colleagues on January 13th. Ten students will be dining at The Chamber

Here are some tips when sharing a meal in a professional environment.

1. Brush up on your dining etiquette. Your table manners should be impeccable. Know how to hold the silverware correctly and where to place the utensils on the plate in between bites or when you're finished. If in doubt, mirror your boss' dining etiquette (if it's good!). Dip your soup spoon away from you when eating soup, and only butter one bite of your roll at a time. And, of course, don't talk with food in your mouth or smack your lips.

2. Follow the lead of your boss. Do not sit down until your boss indicates to you where to sit, since others may be joining you. Or, you may ask, "Where would you like me to sit?" Place your napkin in your lap after your host does, and at the end of the meal place it loosely folded to the left of your plate only after your host. Begin eating each course only after your host begins. Be prepared to make small talk as you settle in at the table (the weather, weekend plans, sports, etc.). Let your host initiate and guide the conversation, which is normally after you've ordered. Answer questions succinctly and allow your host to introduce any new topics of conversation.

3.. Make wise menu choices. Your host may indicate items from the menu that he or she enjoys. Don't feel obligated to eat those items. Order easy-to-eat foods such as grilled meat and veggies. Avoid awkward or messy items such as spaghetti, French onion soup, or a large burger. You don't want to be distracted by the food (or splattering marinara sauce on your tie) when your host is trying to talk to you. Stay away from carbonated beverage to reduce possible burping through a conversation.