

## IgniteSTEM Team Leader Guide 2016

As a team leader, you will be the guide and mentor for a group of about ten attendees who are educators in the field. Throughout the day if the team has any questions or is looking to gain some perspective, you will be their first contact. Below we have included some suggestions to be an effective team leader.

### Share your background

One of the main reasons you were selected as a team leader was because of your extremely strong background. Take the time to share your experience with your team throughout the day so that they can gain insight from your own work. In addition to sharing your background, it is important to gain an understanding of the challenges that your team is particularly interested in and talk about them throughout the day.

### Keep the conversation going

It is important that as team leader you are taking the charge to constantly stimulate the group with new ideas and challenges.

### *Sample Conversation Starters/Questions:*

- Did you know that companies such as Twitter and GroupMe were born from hackathons?
- What are your major interests in terms of education?
- Did you know that the White House recently hosted a leadership and policy hackathon?
- Tell me more about your school
- Has your school ever run a hackathon?

### *Design Thinking Workshop*

During the conference we will be hosting a design thinking workshop in which we tackle the question of how to best integrate technology into the classroom. As team leader, it will be your responsibility to lead the discussions and gather everyone's opinions in the brainstorming process.

### Stay in touch

One of the predominant reasons we formed teams at the conference was to create mini-communities that can remain in contact following the conference. It is your responsibility to either create an email chain, group chat, google group etc. so that the team remains in touch following the conference. It will provide an opportunity to bounce back ideas with each other and motivate all the participants to actually host a hackathon in their respective schools. A great resource to keep the conversation going is to effectively utilize our Hack-In-A-Box online portal ([hackinabox.io](http://hackinabox.io)) where attendees can get a customized how to guide on how to put on their very own hackathon.