

Montana 2010 Conference

10.15.2010

If you didn't come to the 2010 NJOMA Conference in Montana, you missed a very special time. The weather tried it's best to stop people from coming but just try to stop JOM parents, students and tribal leadership. Even the Muscogee (Creek) Nation tribal bus came all the way from Oklahoma and weathered the storms. As Harold Dustybull would say, "JOM is alive and kicking".

I want to thank everyone who stepped up and volunteered their time to assist the NJOMA Board is making the 2010 Conference such a success. You have to admit that the NJOMA Conference is like no other education conference. Everyone is family, everyone offers to help, and everyone shares information without hesitation. Workshops were full, the hand games participants got a little out of hand in daring the opposition, the students had a great time on their field trip and with "SMOKE" as their keynote speaker and having Chief Earl Old Person as our host made the event complete.

The NJOMA newly elected Board hit the ground running in preparation for the funding battle on the "Hill" and to prepare for the 2011 conference in Tulsa, Oklahoma. The NJOMA Board is without a doubt one of the hardest working Boards that takes your vote of convince serious. It has been an honor working with this group of people and I look forward to working with the newest members. Our hope is to be available to you as experts in the field of JOM and to provide you with the best possible technical training.

As a result of the Montana Conference, the NJOMA Board has designed a much needed segment to be implemented at the 2011 Conference. You will now have an opportunity to sit down with a NJOMA Board member on a one on one consultation to assist you with your individual program needs. I encourage you to bring your program information for review by a NJOMA Board member at the 2011 Conference. We are here to serve. Your children are our children and our children are yours, we need to take care of each other for the sake of the children. The theme of the 2011 conference is "The Future is in Our Hands". Without each and every one of us working together to form a united voice the future will slip right through our hands and into the hands of those to want to eliminate JOM. Don't let this happen, get involved.

For those who came to the 2010 conference, I hope that you walked away with a renewed spirit and ready to apply your new found knowledge in your own program. Expect no less at the 2011 Conference in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Look forward to see you there.

Virginia