



THE REPORTER

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REVIEW AND PREVIEW: STATE CONVENTION

BY SIDNEY ROPP

This past May, IASC Member Schools throughout the state of Illinois came together to celebrate leadership and the organization they all have in common: student council. The three-day event was filled with endless opportunities for student leaders to connect with like-minded peers all throughout the state, as well as for them to learn from many of the esteemed speakers featured in the general sessions.

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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

MADELEINE BRASS

Greetings IASC! I hope the school year has run smoothly for you all so far! Whether it be Homecoming, another event, or even just becoming organized, I hope you and your council's years are progressing well—and will continue to do so. On behalf of the rest of the Executive Board and myself, I would like to thank you all for placing your trust in us. We are excited to be serving you, and we have already been hard at work in order to make this a successful and impactful year.



Thus far, our IASC Workshop Director has put on several wonderful drive-in workshops, where students were challenged through exercises to grow and expand their leadership. Coming up later this year, in January, is our annual Advanced Workshop. This experience is like no other. Student will receive the chance to truly dive into their personal leadership while also working with students from across the state to develop their teamwork skills. To make the weekend even more fun, there is a high ropes course to further advance teamwork, communication, and perseverance. Out of personal experience with this workshop, I highly recommend it if you are looking to advance yourself as a leader and form wonderful bonds with students throughout the state! Whether this is your first year in council or your last, please consider attending!

My personal challenge for the members of the IASC is to remember that there is no peak in leadership. So often people become stagnant with their work—they think that because they reached one success, they should settle and stay there. However, as leaders, I believe we are called for more. Whether its attempting to reach a higher service project goal, adjusting the way you've done something in the past, or even looking at yourself as leaders and thinking about how you can add to your leadership tool belt, we should all be looking for growth even where we don't expect it. As a community, school, council, or individual, we can all do something to be better. Even the best leaders know that they are not done growing. Thus, I hope throughout the year, we can be conscious about what we do and how we do it in order to look for ways to improve and evolve. This is how we create success, and this is how we make an impact.

On behalf of the IASC Board, I would like to say again that we are so excited to be working with you all, and of course, if we can ever help you in any way, please feel free to contact us! Have a wonderful year and good luck to you in all that you do!

MEET YOUR 2019-2020 IASC OFFICERS

PRESIDENT - *Madeleine Brass*

Hello IASC! My name is Madeleine Brass, and I am humbled to be serving as your 2019-2020 IASC President! I am a Senior at Byron High School, which is in a small town in Northern Illinois with about 103 people in my graduating class. Leadership has been a passion of mine ever since I was little, and thus Student Council has been a monumental aspect of my life since 6th grade. The idea of creating new leaders and helping others become the best leader they can be has always been my greatest mission. However, although Student Council is my number one love, I am involved in several other organizations in my high school. I am my class president, the president of our student council, a peer mentor, a wrestling statistician, an FCA leader, an NHS member, a band section leader, and a freshman mentor. When not doing one of these activities, I enjoy spending time with my family and friends, calligraphy, painting, and working with those with special needs. Because of the IASC, I have grown and developed so much in my leadership, met amazing friends, and gained invaluable lessons. For the opportunities the IASC has brought me, I am forever grateful. Thus, I couldn't be more excited to serve this organization as its president. I am eager and excited to meet more of you throughout the year! Always feel free to email, message, or call me if you need my assistance for whatever reason! As we go on with this year, I challenge us all to keep reaching and exceeding full potential as we continually grow through the IASC.



FIRST VICE PRESIDENT - *Kristen Costa*

My name is Kristen Costa. I am a senior at St. Joseph-Ogden High School and I am so honored to serve the IASC as First Vice President for the 2019 - 2020 year. I have served as class president, student body president, and a KDASC officer. I am also involved in theatre, National Honor Society, Spanish Club, and my school's We the People Congressional Hearing team. In addition, I have a job at American Eagle. I am proud to represent my school, community, family, and friends and to take advantage of the opportunities they provide for me. While I have loved all of these positions, I am most proud and excited to work with leaders from all over the state. I am so passionate about student council and truly believe that it can help to form great members of society for our future. There is no other organization that I would rather spend my time working for. The IASC has grown me as a leader and a person already, but still has more in store for me. I cannot wait to see where the organization goes and the impact it has on others that follow me.



MEET YOUR 2019-2020 IASC OFFICERS

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT - *Kendall Plummer*

Hi, I'm Kendall Plummer and I am the 2019-2020 Second Vice President. I'm from Cumberland High School and am a senior this year. I am involved in a multitude of activities such as band, Spanish Club, choir, SADD Club, Kindness Club, Drama Club, and of course Student Council. Last year I was my own Student Council's president—an experience I will never forget. I was also the Eastern District's District-State Liaison. In addition to Student Council, I have found a passion for the arts. I have been in our school musical for five years, yet ceramics and painting are some of the things I enjoy doing the most. I have enjoyed drawing and art for a very—and I mean very—long time. I used to make small comic books for my parents; they normally had a guest appearance from my dogs. I also enjoy reading. I have a wide array of books in my room ranging from satire to science fiction. Although I am, as I see it, average, I work hard for the affairs that I am passionate about. Like the famous Albus Dumbledore said, "Happiness can be found, even in the darkest of times, if one only remembers to turn on the light."



RECORDING SECRETARY - *Paige Julius*



I have been an active member of student council since my freshman year, and I have loved it. This year, I also serve as Junior class President and Executive Board Treasurer. As I have become more involved, I have realized how important Student Council is, not only to our schools, but our communities too. Student council members place a lot of time, work and dedication into their schools and communities, and this is something to be proud of. I hope to recognize this through the Honor Council Book program, and increase school involvement at the state level as a whole during my time as Secretary. Aside from student council, I am also involved in several other organizations. I am Reporter for my school's HOSA team, Speech and Acting Team captain, a Drama club representative—at large, a member of the National Honors Society and the National Thespians society. I also love performing in my schools theatrical productions and I enjoy spending time with my family and friends. Above all of these is my relationship with God. I am so blessed to have been given these opportunities and I am dedicated to serving him in everything that I do. I look forward to working with you all this year and I cannot wait to see what this year holds! Let's have an amazing year IASC!

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR - *Hannah Sheahan*

Hello everyone! My name is Hannah Sheahan, and I am honored to serve as your 2019-2020 IASC Membership Director. I'm a senior at Triad High School. To say student council is a big part of my life is an understatement. I feel it's only fitting that I'll be spending my last three days of high school at our state convention this spring! I chose this position because I want as many people as possible to experience all the great things IASC has to offer. This would not be possible without the support along the way from Mrs. Tammy Frey, my middle school advisor, and Mrs. Kelli Barbour, my high school advisor. In my own community, I serve as student council treasurer, president of the Madison County Youth Board, captain of the debate team, and participate in many other activities. I love to spend time with friends and family, as well as watch sports (Go Blues!). I cannot wait to see where this year leads us! I have already got to talk to so many great leaders, and I hope to learn more about all of you! We are all leaders, and each one of us make a difference with the IASC, no matter how big or small.



MEET YOUR 2019-2020 IASC OFFICERS

CONVENTION SECRETARY - *Anna Grace Weil*

Hello world changers! My name is Anna Grace Weil and it is a pleasure to serve as your 2019-2020 Convention Secretary. I'm a senior this year at Collinsville High School and I am the proud president of my school's Student Council. In addition to that, I am the president of Key Club, vice president of the Multicultural Club, and member of multiple other organizations. Although I love service and see it as one of the biggest ways to make the world a better place, I am a firm believer that being kind is the best thing that someone can be in this world. I also consider myself a fairly funny human being so please do me a favor and laugh at my jokes at State Convention (even if they aren't that funny). I hope to see all of your beautiful faces at this year's State Convention and always remember: it's cool to be kind.



PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR - *Sidney Ropp*



Hi! My name is Sidney Ropp, and I am a senior at Tremont High School in Tremont, Illinois. I have been a member of my school's student council for four years, and I served as Second Vice President and First Vice President in the Hopewell District during my sophomore and junior years respectively before running for my current state position. Outside of student council, I am a member of my school's National Honor Society chapter, our scholastic bowl team, Tazewell County Youth Board, and the Central Illinois Ronald McDonald House Teen Council. When I'm not busy with one of the organizations I'm involved with, I can most likely be found spending time with my friends and family, writing, playing piano, or cheering on the Turks at all of our sporting events. While I'm very undecided about my plans following high school, I hope to pursue a career that manages to incorporate public speaking, writing, law, and personal communications. Thank you so much for electing me as your Public Relations Director, and I cannot wait to see what this year is going to bring!

COUNCIL CHRONICLES

hancock's school year preparation

piece submitted by hancock student council executive board

Student Council began their school year this summer! Members accepted several challenges in support of our school community. Student Council students took on the task of creating the yearly video that covers the expectations of academic lab, designing posters related to the expectations of the student body, and pre-planning for homecoming. Not only that, the group organized an overnight leadership retreat at the Loyola University Retreat and Ecology Center.

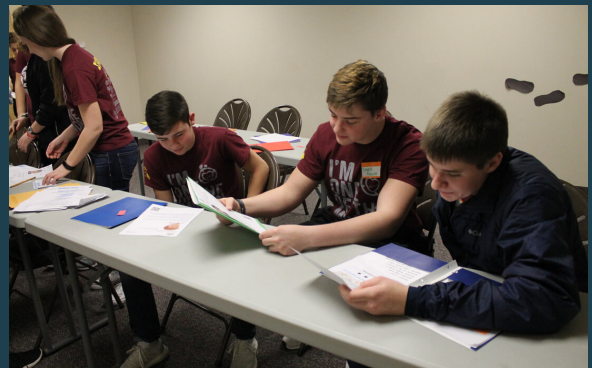
Every other year, Student Council attends this leadership retreat in Woodstock, Illinois during August to energize its leadership for the

upcoming academic year. Members of Student Council attended this two-day event along with eight incoming Freshmen that Student Council recruited and interviewed from Freshman Connection. This unforgettable experience was enhanced by the excitement of the incoming freshmen and their ambition to grow as leaders. At this retreat, council members learned more about themselves and what leadership qualities they carry and can improve. Overall, this trip helped our council grow as leaders and will allow them to apply leadership qualities to the Hancock community this year. An added benefit was bringing students from different grade levels together to share their perspectives on our community.

piece written by iasc public relations director sidney ropp

hopewell district fall workshop

On Wednesday, November 6, 2019, the Hopewell District hosted their annual Fall Workshop at Northfield Fellowship Church in Tremont, Illinois. The day allowed for several high schools in the area to come together and grow as leaders. The day began with a warm welcome from Hopewell Executive Board members followed by a keynote speech from a professor in the Communications department at Bradley University and an IASC update from State President Madeleine Brass, who was in attendance herself at the workshop. Then, following an afternoon snack break, participants engaged in two different discussion group sessions. Each of these discussion groups were lead by current high school students and allowed those in attendance to further explore their leadership styles and apply this information to their councils in the future. The workshop concluded with recognition of all honor delegates.



COUNCIL CHRONICLES

eastern district's busy fall!

submitted by 2018-2019 eastern district president jaykob archer



The Eastern District had an eventful fall season. Member schools gathered for their Fall Workshop on October 16, 2019. They had many informational discussion groups and fun team building activities. Also, candidates for the 2019-2020 executive board were interviewed, and all were deemed highly recommended. In addition to the workshop, the EIDASC hosted their annual District Convention, which was put on by Cumberland High School. Member schools who attended enjoyed our guest speaker Joshua Routh, who not only entertained but taught about self growth and overcoming hardships. Finally, the District said farewell to the 2018-2019 officers and welcomed the new 2019-2020 officers. Overall, the EIDASC had a successful fall season.



submitted by o'fallon high school stu-co advisor, brandi hitzemann

o'fallon's suicide prevention week

O'Fallon High School Student Council partnered with the H.O.P.E. club to put on a schoolwide suicide prevention week. Events and activities during this awareness week included the sale of bracelets--bracelets that had been made by student council members themselves--where the profit benefited a local organization called the Karla Smith Behavioral Health Foundation, which works to provide support and therapy opportunities for individuals affected by mental illness and trauma. O'Fallon Student Council also focused on creating an environment of positivity for all students. They encouraged their peers to wear purple, the color of suicide and depression awareness, throughout the duration of the week, and encouraging quotes were placed on lockers in addition to the gratitude gifts that school social workers were given.



WHAT'S NEXT?

your guide to all things IASC

december 20, 2019:

advanced workshop applications due

january 11, 2020:

**state board meeting at the ihsa office
in bloomington**

january 17-19, 2020:

**advanced workshop at lake williamson
center in carlinville**

february 10, 2020:

honor council applications due

may 6, 2020:

**state board meeting at wyndam
springfield city centre in springfield**

may 7-9, 2020:

**state convention at wyndam springfield
city centre in springfield**

REVIEW AND

PREVIEW: *State Convention*

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Now, looking forward, the upcoming IASC State Convention, scheduled for May 7-9, 2020 at the Wyndam Springfield City Centre in Springfield, is just a mere few months away. The convention will be hosted by Collinsville High School with the theme of "Your Happily Ever After." Cost is \$35 per person, and all schools are permitted an unlimited number of both delegates and honor delegates. We are excitedly anticipating another great time this year.



Thank you so much for your participation in last year's State Convention, and we cannot wait to see you once again at this year! Be sure to register soon. With any questions, please contact Convention Secretary Anna Grace Weil at conventionsecretary@illinoisstuco.org.