

Kathleen Rock, President

Hello IASC Student Leaders and Advisers,

It has been a great honor to serve all of you as State President this year, and as my term is rapidly coming to a close, I look back on my term with pride and happiness in what this organization accomplished.

This year, I had the privilege of selecting, organizing, and advertising the State Service Project, Let it Be Us. And, I am proud to announce that it was a tremendous success: 331 bags were donated and over \$3,000 in monetary donations as well. That means, the IASC donated a total of over \$30,000 worth of supplies and money to Let it Be Us! I am grateful to have spearheaded this project, thrilled that the IASC has made a significant difference in the Illinois Foster Care System through our generous donation, and I am confident our impact will only grow in the future.

During my term, I am proud to have attended IASC event and nine out of the 13 districts. For fun, I decided to tabulate how many miles I've travelled during my time and came up with 5,891.8! I absolutely loved travelling to the different districts because it was awesome to see the different traditions and passionate executive board members that are the backbone of our institution. Seeing their energy and dedication was inspiring and kept me going. It also helped me remember why I was in student council in the first place: to network and team up with other student leaders to make our community, state, country, and world a better place.

In the end, I leave the position of IASC President with a heavy heart. I am so humbled that I had the opportunity to work alongside six of the most talented and hard working individuals I have ever met. I am going to miss my fellow board members and our adventures more than they imagine. I would also like to thank Mrs. Ebens for everything that she has done for me--without her guidance and support, I would not be the person I am today. So, IASC, thank you for entrusting me to serve you this year. I am confident that I left this organization better off than when I started—because it certainly has done the same for me.



Mark Maddock, 1st Vice President

It is very difficult to quantify the gratitude I have for everyone who allowed me to be a significant part of this organization. So let me begin with a thank you to everyone who put their faith in my at this time last year. I had aspired to be a part of this board since my freshman year and being able to fulfill my wish has been more rewarding than anyone could believe. The service this board was able to promote and accomplish impresses me greatly and I have high hopes that next year's board is just as successful. This organization has endless potential to serve, it just needs dedicated leaders to make that happen. My wish is that we will be able to unlock our potential for wild successes for the state of Illinois with the continuation of hard working students similar to the many I got to work with this year.



Working with these board members was a wonderful experience that inspired me greatly. I cannot wait to see what the future holds for them, as I can see every single one of them going far. As for myself, now I cannot help but anticipate the next time I run for an elected position. The excitement of running for an office and the joy and fulfillment I got from serving have inspired me to continue serving my fellow Illinoisans.

Thank you all for all for allowing me to experience this last year.

Bri McAloon, 2nd Vice President

Serving as the 2017-2018 IASC Second Vice President was an honor. From the moment I lit that gleaming white candle I knew I was a part of a movement bigger than myself. In my position I took a front row seat witnessing the talent and potential of IASC members across the state. At events I met spectacular students and advisers. They taught me even more about leadership and the perseverance of their councils. On top of it, I had the opportunity to work alongside a group of board members who showed me the true meaning of hard work and persistence. From these experiences, I learned most of all that this organization thrives because of the dedication shown by its student leaders, fantastic advisers and all the member schools that support the IASC. Without that dedication, the executive board would not possess the ability to provide the opportunities we do. The IASC provides student councils with the opportunities to fine tune their leadership skills and to strengthen themselves and the communities they surround. I know the Illinois Association of Student Councils will continue to grow and prosper because of the heart and motivation of student councils across Illinois. I believe in the message the IASC represents and I cannot wait to see how it evolves in the future.



Gatlin Miller, Secretary

It is often stated that, “all good things must come to an end.” And as my term as your IASC State Secretary comes to its final conclusion, this statement has indeed rang true. This past year has been filled with such extraordinary experiences that I can say have truly shaped my life. From attending Summer Leadership Camp this past summer to this State Convention here in Springfield, I have cherished each and every moment and have learned so much. I have learned how to take initiative on my goals and allow my visions to actually come true. I have learned how to effectively work with a group of individuals to achieve a common goal. And I have also learned how to overcome barriers and not let fear deter my ambitions. But these few learning experiences are only part of the reason why this position has played such a significant role in my life, as the friendships made and memories created will truly be a part of me until the day I die. Serving as your IASC State Secretary and being a member of Student Council has been the highlight of my high school career thus far, but I know that this is only the beginning. This is only the beginning because I am certain that we will be the generation that finds the cure for cancer and becomes the solution to world peace. We will be the generation to end poverty and discrimination. We will be the generation that leads with passion and with truth. And I know this to be true because of each of you - the members of the IASC. This is OUR time, so let’s make sure to make every second count. Thank you all for this experience and for electing me your IASC State Secretary for this past year. I am forever grateful that you have trusted me with this important job and I am looking forward to how we will continue to progress as a state this upcoming year. This has truly been an unforgettable experience.



Connor Davis, Treasurer

As senior year dwindles down for me, it is about that time to say goodbye to this amazing organization. In about a month, my life with student council will come to an end. I don’t think I can that there is anything else that has changed me more than the IASC and Collinsville Student Council have. It has brought me one of the best role models a student council could have in Mr. Gordon. Without Mr. Gordon, I definitely would not be the student I am today. Student Council has allowed me to meet strangers that are now friends. But most importantly, It



truly has made me to be the person I am today. From the advisors, to the responsibilities, to life long bonds, I appreciate what Student Council has done for me. Without Student Council, I would not be the leader I am today at all. Lastly, my parents. Without them, I would have never had the opportunities I had with Student Council. For all of this, I simply want to say thank you IASC.

Annie Grasse, Assistant Communications Director

I remember in 8th grade filling out my application for Student Council solely on the basis that my so much cooler older sister was in it during high school. Walking in my first day, I was overwhelmed by the sheer amount of upperclassman and was apprehensive about my future in Student Council. My sophomore year, due to a vacancy on the board, I was named the Communications Chair and the rest is history. It has been a pleasure to be able to serve on the IASC board this year as your Assistant Communications Director, and I have truly enjoyed the lessons which I have learned throughout the year. I would like to thank my advisors Mr. Moran and Ms. Fleming for all the help they have given me, not only this year but all of the years I have been in student council. Thank you IASC for letting me serve as your Assistant Communications Director!



Tanner Allen, Convention Secretary

“Always leave a room in better shape than what you found it in.” Ever since I was told this by A’ric Jackson my freshman year in high school, I have made this mantra an everyday thought. If someone is in a bad mood, I don’t leave them until I know I have made their day a little better. The reason I give this quote is because the IASC has left me in better shape than what it found me in. Being a shy freshman, I found it hard to fit in and step up to the levels that I wanted to be on, but the IASC pushed me to go further than any level I ever set for myself.



In addition, the IASC has taught me how to lose; a lesson that could not be taught within the confines of a classroom, but rather taught by sticking myself out in front of the world and becoming vulnerable. While it hurt a lot when I came face to face with my loss, time brought self-reflection which then encouraged self-improvement. I am thankful for the experiences and

lessons given to me from the IASC, and I appreciate the IASC for giving me a platform to practice my leadership on.