



THE REPORTER

VOLUME 58 • ISSUE 3 • MAY 2022



A FAREWELL FROM THE 2021-2022 BOARD

BY: MADALYN
PERRY

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Claire Jackson Farewell
page 2

Emma Kidwell Farewell
page 3

Kasey Sharpe Farewell
page 4

Emma Accomando Farewell
page 5

Nathan Austin Farewell
page 6

Daniel Sloan Farewell
page 7

Madalyn Perry Farewell
page 8

IASC PRESIDENT

Claire Jackson



What a year it has been... Throughout my high school career, student council has always been one of my highest priorities. From learning about leadership, to making new friends, and all the memories in between, I knew my journey through student council would be a large one. When the Covid-19 pandemic first hit, I never thought that we would lose two whole years of all the activities that normally occur, but it is my honor and blessing to be the President of the IASC at the first in-person state convention since my freshman year of high school. Back then, looking at the officers on the stage, it seemed out of proportion to be able to accomplish something so large and important; however, with hard work, dedication, and the support of my friends, family, and advisors, it was possible.

For many StuCo members, this will be the first state convention they have attended. I would like to emphasize the importance of community in high school and throughout the rest of life. Within StuCo, the bonds I have made have been absolutely stellar; through the many conventions and meetings I have attended I have made connections that will last a lifetime. To those of all ages (especially freshmen) I urge you to find a positive community in which you share a common flame of passion. Without passions like these, life loses all value. Everyone is told that "life is what you make it" and while sayings often lose meaning with repetition, enjoying the fruits of creativity and determination will enhance your experience in high school, college, your career, and all paths that follow.

Thank you,
Claire Jackson
2021-2022 IASC President



IASC FIRST VICE

Emma Kidwell



Dear IASC,

If you don't already know, I am Emma Kidwell, your current IASC First Vice President. Over my time as your First-Vice President, I have had the opportunity to serve one of the most unique states. I've had the honor to work beside some of the nation's brightest individuals and meet many of you. Sadly, I have to say goodbye. I have known that I wanted to be a state officer throughout my high school career. I remember my Freshman year at the state convention and the fire I felt in my heart. I told my advisors that one day I would be sitting up on that stage as a member of the IASC board. This year I can say that I reached that goal. I achieved this goal thanks to many people. I want to say thank you to my advisors. Mrs. Will and Mrs. McNeely pushed me to accomplish my goals in the student council. To Mrs. Walker, who saw the spark in Freshman me and told me that I would do great things.

I want to thank my principal Mrs. Probst and the JCCU #1 school district for being all in when I decided to run for a state office. Thank you to every member of the Newton Community High School student council for supporting me all the way to my state office. I also want to thank Claire Jackson, the current President, personally for being my ride or die throughout the student council. You were there, whether it was running for a district position, late-night Walmart runs, or talking about our crazy lives. Lastly, I wanted to thank my amazing parents, Steven and Rachel Kidwell.

Without them, I wouldn't be the person I was today. You both supported me from the beginning, quite literally when I got home from the State convention my Freshman year and said I was all in for student council. For the past four years, I have loved student council. I'm not sure if it was the opportunities I was given, the inspiring people I met, or just a way for me to help others, but I loved every minute of it. The Illinois Association of Student Councils opened new doors for me and allowed me to step outside of my comfort zone. I was given opportunities that I could have never imagined. The memories I have made will forever be with me, and I will cherish all the accomplishments we have achieved as a team. With each meeting I attended and every officer activity, I felt like I was getting to know some of the world's most amazing people. Whether we were laughing about being picky eaters or joking about being Swifties, we always were able to make each other laugh. Thank you for a year of success, laughter, and, most importantly, family!

Thank you,

Emma Kidwell

IASC First-Vice President

IASC SECOND VICE

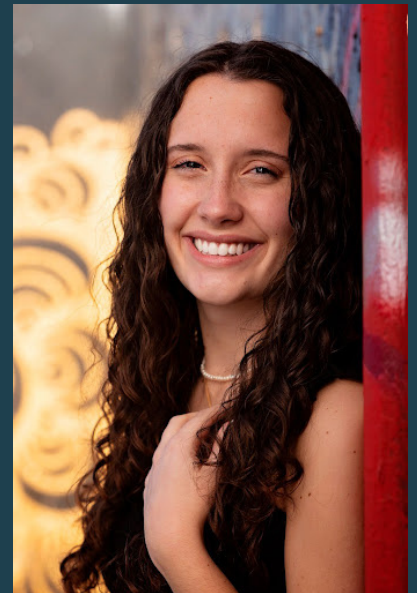
Kasey Sharpe



As the end of our council and school year approaches, I would like to thank all of the state board members and my advisor for this amazing experience. I walked into my position with zero expectations. My advisor, Mrs. Brandi Hitzemann, had informed me that there was a position that needed to be filled, and I jumped at the opportunity. Despite the lack of preparation I had when I applied for the position, I was overcome with support and encouragement. I was so excited that I was able to work with and learn from so many different districts around the state. I brought new ideas and plans back to my own council while also sharing some of our own successes and failures.

As the second vice president, I was given numerous responsibilities to fulfill, but I always had the first vice president to go to with my questions and concerns. Emma helped me feel more comfortable as a state board member and was always willing to talk me through a new procedure or duty. I am very grateful for the support she offered to me; however, Emma was not the only individual who made my time on the state board so meaningful. I greatly appreciate the kindness that our president Claire constantly expressed and her ability to make anyone feel welcome and loved. Daniel and Nathan were always ready to make people laugh, and they constantly dissolved any tension during the meetings. Our secretary, Emma, has a calm yet powerful spirit that ensured every task was completed quickly and correctly, and Madi worked hard to keep the state informed and updated while leaving time to connect with each of us. I am so grateful for the wonderful people I was able to work with on the state board this year, and I hope that the next state board will be filled with similar, hard-working individuals.

I encourage whomever may be reading this to never doubt yourself or your abilities. Even though trying something new may be daunting or terrifying, you will never know what you could have learned or who you could have met. So, I challenge you to branch out and try something new this summer or the following year. I hope that you always work towards becoming a life-long learner and do not allow any obstacles to slow you down.



Thank you for everything,
Kasey Sharpe
IASC Second Vice President

IASC SECRETARY

Emma Accomando



Hello IASC,

This is one of many goodbyes I have had to give this year as a senior. This is the hardest goodbye yet. I am very grateful that we all get to be in person this year, face-to-face. Serving as your IASC Secretary this year has been amazing to say the least. I'm so thankful for all of the opportunities I have been given through this amazing organization. Without a doubt, Student Council has shaped me into the person who I am today. Since my very first State Convention my freshman year, to this year's Convention, so many memories and growth has happened. Student Council has given me an endless amount of opportunities and has given me an endless amount of friendships.

I am very thankful for everyone who has helped me throughout this journey. First, my board. Claire, I love hearing your plant stories and talks about Taylor Swift. Emma, you always have the cutest outfits Kasey, I love hearing your dance stories and your abilities amaze me. Nathan, you're the only high school hockey guy I know, and that's pretty cool. Daniel, thank you for always moving or seconding motions, it saves me some typing because your name was already down from the last meeting! Madi, your coffee advice is always the best. And to all of our advisors, thank you for all of the support, advice, and encouragement you have given us.

To my advisors, Mrs. Watts and Dr. VanZandt, thank you for all of your endless support and advice. Thank you for always pushing me to do my best, and printing an endless amount of papers for me.

To my council, I'm very grateful and proud of every single one of you. Thank you for always striving to do the best for our council and showing up time in and time out for activities.

To my parents, thank you for all the support you have given me throughout these years. From driving me around everywhere, to trying to figure out what activity I am at because you can't keep up, I am thankful for you and that you allow me to participate in organizations.

Most importantly, thank YOU, the IASC, for allowing me to serve as your 2021-2022 IASC Secretary.



IASC MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR

Nathan Austin

First off I would like to thank Mr.Gordon for everything he has done for me during my high school career, more specifically helping me get to my position as the IASC Membership Director. Secondly, I would like to thank my parents for pushing me all of my life to be a good student and a good person. If it were not for them I would not be where I am today. Finally, I would like to thank Collinsville High School for opening up tons of opportunities for me and shaping me into a better student and a better person.

Thank You,
Nathan Austin
2021-2022 IASC Membership Director



IASC CONVENTION SECRETARY

Daniel Sloan



Hello Everyone!

I know it sounds cliché, but this year really flew by. I still remember walking into Collinsville High School back in August for the first executive board meeting and participating in all of the cool, team-building ice breakers. Right when I entered the door, I could tell that IASC was a well put-together, productive organization, and I will forever be glad I had the opportunity to take part in it!

As Convention Secretary, I spent a majority of my time on the board helping to prepare the annual State Convention, among other duties. I was thrilled for the Disney theme, and I knew I chose the perfect year to be on the executive board.

However, for those of you who don't know, I actually ran for President in 2020. I ran against Jaykob Archer, and ended up losing, but I was confident that IASC was in good hands, and Jaykob did an excellent job as President. Plus, if I had won then, I wouldn't have had the chance to meet the amazing people on this year's executive board! So, it was a blessing in disguise, in a way.

All of us board members hit it off, becoming friends instantly. We were a creative group of strong-minded individuals, and I am honored to work by their sides. I'm sure we will keep in contact long after we vacate our positions at the end of our terms.

Above all, I owe a special thanks to two very important people who helped me at every step of the way: Mrs. Julia Crowe and Mr. Kyle Gordon. These two advisors went above and beyond to make sure that I had everything I needed to fulfill my duties, and they never hesitated to work alongside me. I will always be grateful for them, as this year's State Convention would not be of the same caliber if they were not on the board!

If any of you remember the legendary Evan White, then you have my heart forever.

All the best,
Dan Sloan



IASC PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR

Madalyn Perry

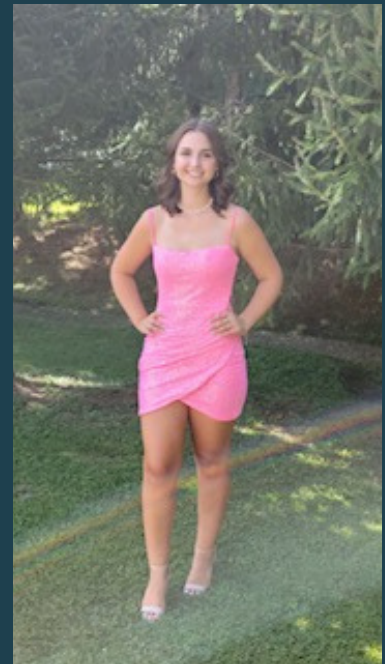


Dear IASC,

It is the end of the school year, which means summer is right around the corner. Although I'm ready for junior year to be over I am sad to have to say goodbye to the IASC board. This year has flown by, but it still feels like yesterday my old student council advisor introduced me to this position. I did not know what to expect but I went in with a positive outlook and in return this has been one of the best experiences I could have ever asked for. From all of the amazing people I have gotten to know, to growing my own leadership skills, this board position has made a big impact on my life.

I would like to say thank you to Mrs. Barbour for pushing me to apply for the public relations director position. I would have never thought to try to hold a board position without her help. Also I would like to thank Ms. Keller. This is her first year being the student council advisor for Triad High School. She was a tremendous help with figuring out how to write the issues for The Reporter and overall guiding me through this whole year. Finally I would like to thank all of my friends in student council who have been there by my side throughout this whole process.

To anyone who is wanting to run for any kind of leadership position, take the opportunity. There is so much that can be learned from the new experience along with life long lessons the position will teach you. Once again, thank you for allowing me to be your 2021-2022 IASC Public Relations Director!



Thank you,
Madalyn Perry
2021-2022 IASC Public Relations Director