# ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION of STUDENT COUNCILS

# **THE REPORTER** ~ VOLUME 60 ~ ISSUE 3 ~ May 2024 ~

# - Spring Report -

#### **BY DANIEL DOWNS**

Hello IASC! We have had a blast this year and we were so pleased to serve as your 2023-2024 State Board

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### President Kaleigh Brumley



"We think you should run for the President position." These were the very words that came out of my advisors' mouths we discussed about my run for the IASC state board. "Do you think I can do it?" I replied One year later, serving on the IASC has definitely been the experience of a lifetime and one I will never forget. Although the presidency takes dedication and responsibility, it has strengthened me in so many other ways. Being part of the IASC is already a dream endeavor, and serving on the Board has taught me leadership, quality, and commitment. All of these traits have strengthened me as an individual and will carry me far.

Through gaining great attributes, I could not have done it alone. First, to my advisors, Dr. VanZandt and Mrs. Andrews: You were here when I needed it most. Whether this had anything to do with Student Council or not. Words will never be able to describe how much I appreciate you guys, and your assistance over this past. To my Executive Directors and Board members, you all were extremely helpful and assisted me in anything I needed at any time. Your commitment and excellence made this year unforgettable. Despite the fact that times can be demanding, the outcomes and possibilities when finished are incredibly worth it. Having a unique perspective on ideas has pushed me far in everyday life. Working with the IASC Board has expanded my thoughts on certain situations and new ideas. As students, we will have to be advocates, and use our voices to make positive change. We will have to be engaged in our communities. We will have to work together to lead and create a future for generations to come in order to achieve success. Serving on the IASC Board has only strengthened my drive to succeed. With that being said, I encourage you to step out of your comfort zone. Whether this is for your district, the IASC, or a position at your own school. I want you to **honor** this opportunity and run with it. I appreciate all of your support and dedication this year. Always remember, "You are stronger than you believe and you have greater powers than you know." These words were stated by Wonder Woman herself in the film Wonder Woman 1984, and although we all WONDER, and doubting ourselves occasionally, this quote reminds me I can overcome anything with determination and perseverance!

Good evening everyone, My name is Kaleigh Brumley, and I'm signing out as YOUR 2023-2024 IASC President.

Thank you.



#### **1st Vice President Parker Johnson**



#### Though this year has been filled with some of the greatest ups and downs of any

extracurricular commitment that I've ever made in my life, I cannot say that I would trade the experiences or the things that I've learned for anything. I've learned a number of organizational skills and I'm something of a wizard with Google sheets at this point. More than tangible practical skills, I've learned lessons in leadership, communication, and taking ownership of your mistakes. In an organization such as this where you get one year, one shot to get it right, It's inevitable that you make some mistakes. I'm sure everyone on this board would admit to making some mistakes, me more than others. My challenge for our future leaders are to take this organization from what it is and turn it into a more supportive, communicative, and empathetic association. I would like to say a special thank you to Mr. Tyler McDowall, as he helped and supported me through this role like none other. I would also like to give the world's biggest thank you to both Mrs. Mitchell and Dr. Martin, my advisors who put up with more this year than many people ever come to know. Finally, I'd like to thank my family and my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, for both supporting me and giving me the abilities necessary to fulfill this position. I wish next year's board the best of luck and thank this year's board for everything. Thank you!



### 2nd Vice President Alaina Askins



#### Dear IASC,

As I stand before you today, my heart is filled with so many mixed emotions as I bid farewell to each and every one of you. This position as 2nd Vice President has been constant work and stress, but I can say that I am a better leader and person because of the IASC. It has been an incredible journey working alongside such talented and dedicated individuals, and I am grateful for being able to work with such a great board. This past year, I've been extremely lucky to be able to have unconditional support from my family and friends. Especially my Mom, Dad, Heather, Courtney, Hope, and Carly. Thank you for always being there for me and listening to me stressing and ranting. It has meant the world to me. Also, I want to express my deepest gratitude to Miss Sauder. I would not be able to fulfill this position without your support and guidance. Throughout my high school career you have always supported me with everything that I've wanted to accomplish. From me first saying that I wanted to run for a position to me filling out all of the documents, and carrying out this task your support has not gone unnoticed. Your kindness and encouragement have meant the world to me, and I am truly blessed to have had the opportunity to have you as a teacher and as well as an advisor. Leaving the IASC is not easy, but I am excited for the new adventures that lie ahead. I am confident that everyone will continue to thrive and succeed in your respective roles, and I have no doubt that the future is bright for this organization because of Mr. Gordon's and Mr. Clark's profound efforts. As we move on to new opportunities, I will always cherish the time we spent together working for a common goal of a great 2024 State Convention. Thank you for everything, for being an incredible team, and for making my time here truly unforgettable. I wish you all the best in your future endeavors and hope our paths will cross again someday. Farewell, and may success and happiness always be yours. And as cheesy as it sounds, take it from someone who would just live through it: if you put your mind and heart to something, you can and will achieve it. With that said your 2023-2024 2nd Vice President, Alaina Askins out. pg.4



## Secretary Taylor Tieman



#### Hey IASC!

It has been an honor to serve as your secretary this year! I remember attending my first IASC convention freshman year and hoping one day I would be a state officer. The experiences and opportunities the IASC has provided me with are some that will benefit me for the rest of my life. I am extremely grateful for everyone who has helped me throughout this journey!

First, to my fellow board members. It has been a privilege to work with you

guys. I have had so much fun getting to know you all and you welcomed me with open arms. To my advisor, Mrs. Lisa Quandt. When you came to me with the idea of being on the board...I thought you were crazy. You have been by my side throughout this whole journey, and I feel like we have both grown as leaders! I appreciate your support and encouragement through everything I chose to do!

To my lovely parents who are here tonight! When I told you guys I was adding another leadership position to my already busy schedule you guys did not even bat an eye. You guys have always pushed me to be the best me I can be. I love you both, and I am so grateful for you! To my Belleville West stuco members. Thank you. You all are extremely dedicated and always challenge me everyday to be a better leader. Finally, thank you IASC. I have had such an amazing time coming to conventions and meeting so many amazing people. I cannot wait to see everything the IASC will continue to accomplish!



#### Membership Director Cole McClusky



Good evening, it's only appropriate to start this by saying thank you. Thank you to my family who is here tonight, thank you to my classmates and fellow student council members, but especially thank you to Mr. Gordon and Mr. Clark who have been instrumental in providing all of the opportunities that I've been blessed with. In a way, Student Council has raised me, it's taught me invaluable lessons, given me amazing friends, and memories I'll never forget. If I had the ability to leave you all with one thing it would be this: Seek Discomfort. I was lucky enough to hear this right before coming into my freshman year and it's stuck with me ever since. It's one of the main reasons I'm up here talking to you today. For all of the underclassmen here, as you go through the rest of your high school career, be uncomfortable. Go introduce yourself to someone new, take the harder classes, apply to the tougher schools, try out public speaking, run for an officer position like we did! I promise, the only thing you'll regret after graduating is not being more involved. To my fellow seniors, as we cross the threshold of childhood into adult life, it seems discomfort has found us! Many of us are moving away for the first time in our lives. It's scary, but instead of worrying and being scared about it, embrace it. Use this discomfort to thrive, break out of your shell, meet new people, apply for that job, explore this crazy world we live in, but most importantly, use this discomfort to find yourself and your purpose in this life. You are not an ordinary group of people. You are here because you want to make a difference. You are here because there is something deep down inside of you that desires more than average and ordinary. You want to be extra...ordinary. Well, there's only one way to start that journey... Seek Discomfort. Thank you!



### Convention Secretary Addison Brush



Hello IASC. It's hard to believe that it has been a whole year since the last convention. This year serving as one of your state officers will be one that I will never forget. I have made so many memories over this past year at all of our meetings and at national convention. Everything I have accomplished this year wouldn't be possible without the people who have supported me through this journey. First, I would like to thank my parents for supporting me through everything. I am grateful for everything they have done for me over this past year. I would also like to thank my advisor, Mrs. Kirby, for helping me through this whole process. Organizing all of this took so much work and without her help it would have been nearly impossible. I would also like to thank my council for helping with this whole process, from decorating to registration, this convention would not be possible without you guys. To my fellow IASC officers, I have had the best time with all of you over the past year. You have gone from people who I barely knew last year, to people I now can call my friends. After everything we have been through, I know that we will stay in touch after this convention. My year of serving as your IASC State Convention Secretary has been one to remember and I will never forget it. All good things must come to an end and it is now time for me to pass over my duties to the next convention Secretary. I wish the best of luck to all of next year's IASC officers and I hope you all have a great rest of convention.

## Public Relations Director Daniel Downs



Good evening IASC. My name is Daniel Downs and I have served as your Public Relations Director for this past year. I have ran all the social media and created three issues of the Reporter this year. However, my job has not only been keeping up with reports and engagement on Instagram, but also creating a family in the IASC. Growing up, family was the only thing I had to rely on to keep me going. Now, I strived to create that here in our state. I want to thank my mother, Melissa Nichols, this evening for making me possible. I also want to thank all of the advisors present for giving us students the opportunity to attend this great convention. I also want to thank Mr. Kyle Gordon, Mr. Gary Clark, and Mr. Tyler McDowall for keeping our executive board running smoothly. I also want to thank all of you. Whether I see you everyday, have said one word to you, or this is your first time knowing of my existence, you have all become my family. If any of you take one thing away from this convention, let it be that failure is necessary. Failure is how we as a people grow and change for the better. No matter where you find yourself in this world, or how many times you find that failure, understand you will rise to face the day. I am beyond proud to have served you all and I cannot wait to face my future having learned from this once in a lifetime experience. Thank you all and I hope you enjoyed this convention.