



# Indiana Association of Student Councils' High School Division

## Division Guide

### IASC Structure and Contacts

#### Information about the IASC's Divisions

The IASC is organized into the following divisions: *Elementary, Middle, High School, Adviser Programming, and Alumni*. Each division has its own Associate Director who oversees the operation of the respective division. Each division has its own Executive Committee, which consists of representatives from each district in the state. The Executive Committees work with the Associate Directors to provide programming and services to member schools in their division. The High School Division is distinct in that both students and adults serve on the committee; whereas, only adults serve on the others.

Overseeing these divisions is the IASC, Inc. State Board. The State Board is made up of the IASC Executive Director, each Division's Associate Director, and elected or appointed representatives from each division. The State Board meets approximately four times per year to consider proposals from each division, decide on policies for the organization, and monitor the fiscal interests of the IASC.

#### Contacts

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### IASC History

#### History of the IASC

The Indiana Association of Student Councils has been in existence for over sixty years. The first leader of the IASC was Thomas Sterling, principal of T.C. Howe High School in Indianapolis. Since its inception, there have been 5 executive directors: Don Weeks, principal of Columbia City High School (late 1960's-1978); Larry Stoner, principal of Oak Hill High School (1978-1981); Sandy Hillman, currently assistant principal at Center Grove High School (1981-1998); Kathy Rinsch, current Director of the Knox County Community Foundation (1998-2008) and Rob Zeider, Director of Music at Kouts High School (2008 - present).

Over the years the IASC has grown into a dynamic organization that provides a variety of programs that develop leadership in councils throughout the state. It currently has five divisions: Elementary Level, Middle Level, High School, Adviser Programming, and Alumni, which were created between the years 1993-2003.

Each division has its own Executive Committee, which oversees programming for that level. The first Executive Committee, formed in 1978, consisted of three people—Don Weeks, Gene Haney and Sandy Hillman. Today the Executive committees contain at least 6 representatives, one from each of the 6 geographical districts in Indiana.

Currently, the IASC is an independent organization. In the past it has been closely tied to one of the state principal's organizations, the Indiana Association of Secondary School Principals. From 1981-1991, the IASC operated under the Division of Student Activities of the IASSP. Beginning in 1992 and ending in 2001, our organization operated under the Department of Student Activities of the Indiana Association of School Principals. In 2002, the IASC struck out on its own and became known as the Indiana Association of Student Councils, Inc. (IASC, Inc.).

## **State Convention & Representative Assembly**

### **HS Division State Convention**

State convention is a two-day opportunity for member schools across Indiana to attend leadership workshops presented by fellow students, hear national caliber inspirational and motivational speakers, network with students and adults in their district and the state, and receive information and tools that will strengthen them as leaders, as well as their councils.

Each school can bring an unlimited number of student and adviser delegates. Some of these student delegates may be workshop presenters, helping deliver the leadership curriculum of this event.

All students and advisers will stay at local hotels or other venues secured by the IASC.

### **HS Division Representative Assembly**

Representative Assembly is a one-day meeting in March where member councils gather to elect the State President, District Representatives, and District Directors. In addition, students have the opportunity to hear national caliber inspirational and motivational speakers, network with students and adults in their district and the State, and to receive information and tools that will strengthen them as leaders, as well as their councils.

## **District Workshops & Meetings**

### **District Workshops**

District Workshops are generally held during the months of October or February. District Schools are invited to attend one-day or half-day meetings that provide further opportunities to strengthen councils through leadership training, idea swaps, share time, and more.

Any school in the district may apply to host the district workshop. Additionally, a school may attend a workshop in a neighboring district if it is closer to their school.

### **District Meetings**

District Meetings are much more informal than district workshops. A typical district meeting might include icebreakers and mixers, information on IASC programs, discussing district issues, and idea sharing. Many districts hold District Meetings in the season of the year opposite their District Workshop.

### **District Socials**

District Socials are even more informal than district meetings. These events are primarily for students from IASC District Schools to socialize and share with each other. District Socials may include hayrides and/or bonfires, ice cream socials, bowling, movies, etc.

## **Honor Council, Scholarships & Awards**

### **IASC Honor Council Program**

Any member council may apply to become an IASC Honor Council. Councils that successfully document their activities according to the established guidelines and make submission on or before April 1st of each year will be certified as IASC Honor Councils. Notification is made in April/May, and Honor Councils are recognized at the HS Division State Convention in November.

The Honor Council Award recognizes councils that 1) Excel in their local council projects; 2) Participate in district and state activities; 3) Provide an opportunity for their members to expand their leadership skills; 4) Readily cooperate with other organizations within their school and within the community; 5) Participate in at least one IASC-sponsored event during the calendar year of application; 6) Are actively involved with the IASC State Project; and 7) Are actively involved with the IASC Adopt-a-School program.

### **IASC Scholarships**

The IASC may award scholarships each year to attend SLI and the NASC's Star Leaders Conference. Both applications are available at the IASC website – [www.iasc.us](http://www.iasc.us).

### **HS Division Awards**

The HS Division sponsors the following awards: Adviser of the Year, Administrator of the Year, Help Hungry Kids, Young Indiana Hero, and the Kathi Green Outstanding Service Award. Member schools may nominate candidates. Applications are available on the IASC website— [www.iasc.us](http://www.iasc.us).

## **Adviser & Student Leader Training**

### **IASC Advisers' Conference**

The Annual Advisers' Conference is held in the early fall of each year. This Conference provides the following opportunities to advisers: 1) national caliber keynote speakers, 2) breakout sessions, 3) roundtable discussions, 4) networking opportunities, 5) division level meetings, 6) project planning, 7) training for new advisers and more.

### **Student Leadership Institute (SLI)**

SLI is the IASC's high school summer leadership camp. Students actively discover what good leadership encompasses. SLI offers opportunities for student leaders to develop their leadership skills as well as their personal maturity. SLI embodies the basic philosophical belief of IASC – through the empowerment of student leaders, we instill lifelong leadership skills. Registration information is available at [www.iasc.us](http://www.iasc.us).

## **NASC Star Leaders Conference**

### **NASC Star Leaders Conference**

The National Association of Student Councils (NASC) sponsors its yearly conference in June of each year. This conference is an opportunity for students and advisers to 1) Meet and network with other leaders from across the U.S. and around the world; 2) Gain new ideas from enlightening speakers and workshops; 3) Participate in a service learning project; and 4) Visit area attractions.

Participants will come away with renewed enthusiasm for student council involvement at their schools and new projects and ideas to implement. In addition, both student and adviser delegates from the United States and other countries will share diverse ideas and lifestyles, thereby developing stronger leadership skills and friendships.

The IASC annually takes a delegation of students and advisers to this conference.

The IASC application for the NASC Star Leaders Conference is available on the IASC website– [www.iasc.us](http://www.iasc.us) in November.

## NASC LEAD Conference & RSVP

### *NASC LEAD Conference*

Leadership Experience and Development Conferences (LEAD) are for Student Council leaders and advisers. Energize your leadership by attending one of the weekend LEAD Conferences with leaders and advisers from around the United States. LEAD Conferences offer national-level leadership training in areas such as team building, fundraising, and project planning. Because they are weekend conferences, loss of class time is minimal. Registration information is available on the NASC website - [www.nasc.us](http://www.nasc.us).

### *NASC RSVP (Raising Student Voice & Participation)*

NASC's RSVP program provides a method for student leaders to engage their peers in working for solutions to the problems they see in their school and community. By providing a process that allows students to expand involvement in school and to become an effective voice for creating visible changes, RSVP is a program with wide-reaching benefits. Not only can students experience increased satisfaction, but also serve as a voice of reason and a catalyst for change in their schools, communities, and beyond. More information is available on the NASC website - [www.nasc.us](http://www.nasc.us).

The IASC provides RSVP Training. Contact Rob Zeider - [rob.zeider@iasc.us](mailto:rob.zeider@iasc.us).

## NASC Councils of Excellence & Certified Student Leaders

### *NASC National Councils of Excellence Award*

The NASC National Councils of Excellence Award provides national recognition for student councils that consistently provide quality leadership activities and service to their schools and communities. The National Council of Excellence is awarded to student councils that meet the minimum number of criteria. The National Gold Council of Excellence is awarded to the student councils that demonstrate the highest levels of leadership and activities as illustrated by the greater number of criteria they meet.

### *NASC Certified Student Leader*

The NASC Certified Student Leader designation will provide the motivation and means for students to demonstrate their personal leadership abilities and will recognize those who successfully meet the standards and criteria. This award gives member schools a tool to enhance and improve the development of student leaders. It challenges students to demonstrate their leadership abilities, skills, and knowledge for the right to earn national recognition.