

## Minutes of the 2020-21 IHSA Student Advisory Committee Meeting

April 18, 2021

The IHSA Student Advisory Committee met virtually on Sunday, April 18, 2021 beginning at 12:00 p.m. Committee members present were: District 1 Sammi Coleman, Chicago (F.W. Parker); District 2 Mahdi Muhamad, Chicago (Acero/Garcia); District 2 Vanessa Diaz, Chicago (Instituto); District 4 Alexandra Makowiec, Franklin Park (Leyden); District 5 Conner Mogge, Carpentersville (Dundee-Crown); District 6 Trevor Abbott, Lincolnshire (Stevenson); District 7 Yasmine Jones, Maywood (Proviso East); District 7 Ivy Ho, Westmont; 8 Josie Canellis, Orland Park (Sandburg); District 9 Delaney Balmer, Peotone; District 10 Payton Volz, Stillman Valley; District 11 Damian Martinez, Aledo (Mercer County); District 12 Kammie Hess, Peoria (H.S.); District 13 Gentry Howard, Georgetown (Ridge Farm); District 14 Levi Dickerson, Robinson; District 15 Luke Sauser, Normal (University); District 15 Matt Sauser, Normal (University); District 17 Brennan Tomhave, Pittsfield; District 18 John Blumeyer, Deer Creek-Mackinaw; District 18 Keshon Singleton, Springfield (Sacred Heart-Griffin); District 19 Olivia Goodman, Bethalto (Civic Memorial); District 20 Jackson Harre, Okawville; District 20 Rylee Bloomer, Olney (Richland County); District 21 Rece Roper, Marion; District 21 Amayah Doyle, Carterville; IHSA Asst. Executive Director Beth Sauser and Dr. Scott Pierce, ISU. Not in Attendance: District 3 Grace White Chicago (Mother McAuley); District 16 Bryn Bahnks, Knoxville; District 17 Cade Tomhave, Pittsfield.

### RECOMMENDATION FOR BOARD ACTION:

1. **Recommendation:** The committee recommends the annual Student Advisory Committee retreat be held on August 1 and 2, 2021, or on August 1, 2021, for a one-day meeting.

**Rationale:** During the retreat, members will have time to meet with each other outside of the IHSA office, prepare for the Student Leadership Conference, record PSA's, attend workshops for growth in leadership skills and public speaking skills and create a bond to strengthen our committee before the school year begins. The retreat will also serve as the first scheduled meeting for the 2021-22 committee members. It has been challenging and not as productive when only meeting virtually for the past year.

Approved by Board of Directors

2. **Recommendation:** The committee recommends hosting the statewide virtual IHSA Student Leadership Conference in September of 2021

**Rationale:** Continue to offer IHSA member school students the opportunity to attend a statewide leadership conference conducted by the SAC. This conference enables the IHSA and SAC leadership to interact with member school students and administrators directly.

Approved by Consent

### COMMITTEE DISCUSSION AND ACTIONS:

1. SAC Senior Members met virtually with Beth Sauser from 12:00–1:00 p.m. for an exit meeting and to discuss the new member/parent orientation meeting.
2. SAC Senior Members and Beth Sauser met virtually with new members and their parents from 1:00–2:00 p.m. During this meeting, the senior SAC members conducted a mini-SAC orientation session.
3. SAC members met as a whole from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. SAC members approved the SAC Mission Statement for the 2021-22 school year:

“The Student Advisory Committee is a group of students who participate in diverse interscholastic athletics and activities. The SAC promotes the sportsmanship and integrity ideals of the Illinois High School Association. We focus on providing leadership and communication between participants, administrators, and fans of IHSA activities. The IHSA SAC is made up of 21 students from high schools throughout Illinois.”

The Student Advisory Committee is creating student leaders for tomorrow, today.

4. The committee reviewed details of the NFHS National Student Leadership Summit:
  - a. July 19, 20, and 21, 2021
  - b. SAC attendance is optional
  - c. Online application is due May 7, 2021
  - d. Pick up and drop off at the IHSA office or in Champaign
  
5. SAC members approved the SAC Member Requirements for the 2021 -22 school year.

<b>Offense</b>	<b>Consequence</b>
Miss 1 meeting	Warning
Miss 2 meetings	Dismissal from SAC
Serious School Violation, Suspension etc.	Review and vote by SAC members
Sport/Activity ejection	Case by case review
Substance abuse or break a law	Immediate dismissal
Members who do not serve on at least 1 State Final Sportsmanship Committee per year	Dismissal from SAC

6. Dr. Scott Pierce, from Illinois State University, led the committee through a leadership training session based on survey feedback the students completed prior to this meeting.
  
7. The committee discussed how they have been communicating with their teachers, coaches, and teams. Some students were using one consistent platforms and others were using different platforms for different groups to communicate. The following is a list of platforms used: emails, Hudl, GroupMe, Remind, Google Classroom, Zoom, Teams and texts.
  
8. The group was subdivided into smaller groups and were asked to describe a positive and a negative experience from the past year:

Positives:

Enhanced time management skills.

Communication utilizing technology forced people out of their comfort zone and to learn new skills. Some teachers understood that students are in a challenging situation and worked with the students to succeed.

Had to be more patient and listen to others and understand others.

Negatives:

Productivity is slower when working in virtual groups. The comfort level is not the same, especially when meeting or working with others the first time.

Students faced lots of uncertainty and felt unaware of what was is going on. The academic pressures remained constant.

More was expected from students even through the unknowns and lack of communication or structure.

Too many various platforms used for academics, athletics, and clubs to communicate and work with daily.

9. The group was subdivided into smaller groups and asked, 'what support do you need from Teachers, Coaches, Parents?'

Be understanding. Students are trying to navigate the "usual" growth as a teenager in a setting that no other generation since 1919 has experienced.

Understand that students are carrying an additional load in the pandemic with school demands, family situations, sports uncertainty, and economic situations.

Kids are mentally and emotionally exhausted.

Ask coaches to understand that not playing well does not mean the player is lazy; it could demonstrate that the player is having a rough time.

10. The group was subdivided into smaller groups and were asked 'how do you support your teammates and friends?'

Work as a team to individually keep your head on straight.

Lots of student lost motivation; establish goals to encourage structure individually and as a group.

Work to bring people up, understand the situation and be aware of your surroundings

11. The committee will schedule virtual mini "touch base" meetings throughout the year to keep in touch on Sunday evenings. These meetings will be 30-60 minutes.

12. 2021 SAC Virtual Leadership Conference Discussion:

Topics:

- Mental Toughness
- Body Language
- Strengthening Trust
- How to communicate clearly
- Sportsmanship
- Ethics and Integrity
- Inclusion
- Communication tools to use with teachers, coaches, parents, peers
- Leadership skills

Session Criteria:

- must be interactive
- nothing past an hour
- multiple days
- record sessions
- keep the situations specific
- include guest speakers who speak from experience and help students understand
- host break out rooms
- continue with different group options monthly
- comprise the breakout rooms with students from different schools, and rooms with students from the same schools.

13. The committee would like to continue working with the SOILL-YAC on another leadership project. The 2020-21 Youth Leadership Certificate program finished with over 800 students completing the course.

**14. Small Group Assignments for 2021-22 (Names in bold are liaisons to the IHSA Office)**

**Northwest:**

District 1 Sammi Coleman, F.W. Parker  
District 4 Aleksandra Makowiec, Leyden  
District 5 Connor Mogge, Dundee-Crown  
District 6 **Trevor Abbott, Stevenson**  
District 10 Payton Voltz, Stillman Valley

**Northeast:**

District 2 Vanessa Diaz, Instituto  
**District 3 Grace White, Mother McAuley**  
District 7 Ivy Ho, Westmont  
District 8 Josie Canellis, Sandburg  
District 9 Delaney Balmer, Peotone

**Central:**

**District 11 Damian Martinez, Mercer Co.**  
District 12 Kammie Hess, Peoria H.S.  
District 13 Gentry Howard, Georgetown-Ridge Farm  
District 15 Matt Sauser, UHigh  
District 16 TBA  
District 18 Keshon Singleton, SHG

**South:**

District 14 Levi Dickerson, Robinson  
District 17 Brennan Tomhave, Pittsfield  
**District 19 Olivia Goodman, Civic Memorial**  
District 20 Rylee Bloomer, Richland County  
District 21 Amayah Doyle, Carterville

**15. Meeting Dates 2021-22**

Sunday, June 20, 2021 Conference Check-in Call

Sunday, August 1, 2021 SAC Retreat @ IHSA Office/Double Tree Hotel, Bloomington 3– 10 p.m.

Monday, August 2, 2021 SAC Retreat @ IHSA Office 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Augusts – September Conference planning and recording conference content

Sunday, October 3, 2021 Conference Check-in Call

Sunday, November 21, 2021, Meeting @ IHSA Office 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Sunday, January 9, 2022 Conference Check-in Call

Sunday, February 6, 2022, @ IHSA Office 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Sunday, March 20, 2022 Conference Check-in Call

Sunday, April 24, 2022 @ IHSA Office 10:00am – 3:00 pm

Note: Virtual Meetings begin at 7:00 p.m. If we cannot meet in person at the IHSA office a few additional meetings may be scheduled.