2026 IASC State Convention

Hosted by Taylorville High School

When   March 26-28, 2026

Where   President Abraham Lincoln Springfield Doubletree

Cost
- Registration: $50 per person
- Advisor Luncheon: $30
- Banquet Dinner: $35
- T-Shirts: $10
- Hotel: $135+tax per night (up to 4 students per room)

Highlights
- Keynote speakers
- Several large group workshops
- Student-led discussion groups and roundtable discussions
- Friday night dance after the banquet

ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION
OF **STUDENT COUNCILS**

Keynote Speakers

Ted Wiese

Known as one of America's best youth leadership development speakers, Ted Wiese works with thousands of students every year to teach and enhance their leadership skills. Ted is in the business of making students believe they can make a difference - and he teaches them how to do it! From starting his career with Junior Achievement to establishing Wiese Training and Development, Ted's dynamic and engaging programs have gained him a strong reputation for delivering results. For years, the students at Ted's presentations have laughed while they learned. His fun-filled keynotes contain contagious laughter coupled with a strong message, while his activity-oriented workshops develop student leadership skills in an energetic, highly interactive, humorous and effective manner. With wit, wisdom, real-life stories and a whole lot of fun, his programs leave students with information and skills to take back to school, ideas to put into action, and something good to talk about in the days and months ahead. Ted lives in Carmel, IN with his wife and two children.

Sue Schafer

Mrs. Sue Schafer has dedicated 29 years to agricultural education, including 27 at Taylorville High School, where she emphasizes work-based learning, career readiness, and leadership development through hands-on experiences and community engagement. Recognized with numerous honors, including the 2021 Nationwide Golden Owl State Winner, 2023 National Association of Agricultural Educators Outstanding Teacher of the Year, and 2025 ISBE Those Who Excel in Teaching, she considers her greatest achievements to be those of her students, who have earned top honors at state, national, and international FFA competitions. As a keynote speaker, she shares her own journey to show how confidence, resilience, and purpose can empower the next generation of leaders and inspires audiences to live boldly, embrace challenges, and pursue careers fueled by passion!

Sandy Ginger

Sandy Ginger is an integral leader within the state of Nevada; sharing her expertise and enthusiasm of leadership as the Southern Nevada Executive Director and retired Clark County School District Student Activities Coordinator. Mrs. Ginger has dedicated her life to the field of leadership. Leading by example, she puts students and the opportunity for students to participate in activities at the fore-front of her actions. She gathers materials from her daily life and enthusiastically shares those experiences with advisors and students. Leadership is a part of who she is and encompasses all that she does. Recognizing the value in her experiences, she creates lessons that are true to life. She uses these life lessons to inspire adults and students involved in high school and middle school student council, National Honor Society, National Junior Honor Society, speech and debate, ROTC, cheerleading, graduation, and academic clubs. Teachers and advisors lean on her for advice, instruction, encouragement and inspiration. To say that Mrs. Ginger is instrumental in leadership training is an understatement. She is leadership training! She enthusiastically participates in training and volunteers to share her leadership and teaching experiences on both the local and national levels. She is always available to teach a leadership lesson, present a key topic, share her ideas, give her time and support. Mrs. Ginger is an amazing person who gives of herself for the benefit of others. Advisors and students have come to rely on Mrs. Ginger for her strong, consistent character and work ethic.