

January 2026

Dear Student Council Advisor:

I hope you and your council have enjoyed a wonderful and productive year so far! It's that time of year when we begin preparations for the IASC Convention. This year's convention will be held Thursday, March 26, 2026, through Saturday, March 28, 2026, at Abraham Lincoln Springfield Doubletree in Springfield, Illinois. We strongly encourage you and your students to attend this convention to obtain and share ideas with other student leaders, as we walk the red carpet to "Lights, Camera, Leadership!"

Every year during the banquet held Friday night at Convention, a special awards ceremony is dedicated to recognizing our student leaders. This year, we will be hosting an awards ceremony, known as the Pillar Awards. Within Student Councils, we know collaboration is essential to success. Every student brings something unique to their Council. This award is meant to recognize those students who go above and beyond, specifically within one of these four pillars: *Leadership, Community Service, School Pride, and Dedication*.

We would like to invite you to nominate **one** student from your Council for **one** of the Pillar Awards. The student you nominate should demonstrate traits of one of the four pillars. **Each school can only nominate one student to one pillar and your school must be present at the banquet to qualify for the prestigious award.** Schools cannot nominate one student *per* pillar. Attached, you will find the application, as well as an explanation of each of the pillars.

If you wish to nominate an outstanding student, please fill out the attached application. It includes a short statement (no more than three sentences) about your nominee, explaining why you have chosen to nominate him or her, and how he or she has contributed to your school council, your district, or the IASC within the pillar for which she or he is being nominated. **Please scan and email your application to kgordon@cusd.kahoks.org along with a photo of the student** by March 1, 2026. If you prefer, you can also have your nomination postmarked by March 1, 2026, mailed to Collinsville High School, c/o Kyle Gordon, 2201 South Morrison Avenue, Collinsville, IL 62234.

If you have any questions or concerns about the nomination process or your nominee, do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you so much for your participation in the IASC. I look forward to seeing you at the Convention!

Sincerely,

Kyle L. Gordon

Kyle L. Gordon
IASC Executive Director
Collinsville High School
2201 South Morrison Avenue
Collinsville, Illinois 62234

Pillar Award Nominee Application

Please circle which Pillar you would like to nominate your student for:

<p style="text-align: center;">Leadership</p> <p>A cornerstone of Student Council is the ability to demonstrate extraordinary leadership skills. Students awarded with this pillar ceaselessly act as good role models, inspire others to achieve their highest potentials, while earning the respect of both students and staff.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Community Service</p> <p>Student Councils are founded with the goal of serving others. Students honored within this pillar have put forth amazing effort to better their communities — both within their schools and beyond — as their example inspires others to serve as well.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">School Pride</p> <p>A foundation of all Student Councils is the promotion of school spirit. Students honored under this pillar exhibit exemplary school pride as they also work tirelessly to strengthen school spirit among students and staff alike.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Dedication</p> <p>Often, the most hardworking, committed students are the ones who do all the work behind the scenes without seeking recognition. Those students are honored with this pillar because of their continual support of all aspects of their Student Councils.</p>

Student Name:_____

School:_____ Advisor Name:_____

Student Email:_____

Advisor Email:_____

Why would you like to honor your student under this Pillar? (Please, 2-3 sentences ONLY.)

Please scan and email completed application, along with a photo of the student, to kgordon@cusd.kahoks.org by March 1, 2026.