

Candidate Bio:

My name is Sheryl Cline; I am in my 5th year as a school counselor. I decided to become a school counselor after working as a remedial (BHIS) counselor in Eastern Iowa and seeing the needs of children and adolescents. I graduated from the University of Iowa's School Counseling program in 2012. The first two years of my career, I was K-12 school counselor at Central City CSD. In my third year, I was fortunate enough to have the district hire a second counselor and serve grades 4-12. This is my second year at Linn Mar High School as a 9-10 counselor. My role also includes collaborating with our counselors and high school TAG teacher to plan and implement college and career readiness activities for the high school. I previously served on the ISCA board for 1 year in the K12 Vice President position and currently work with the advocacy committee.

My passion is helping students learn about all of the post-secondary training opportunities available to them and ensuring that all of our students have access to career exploration activities. This year, I am working on getting more students out into job shadows and career site tours in manufacturing, trades, and other careers that require less than 4 years of college. I also have had the opportunity to provide professional development to our teachers about the growth mindset and work with classroom teachers to provide lessons to high school students. I believe that in order to truly help all of our students succeed, we have to understand the physiology and psychology behind brain development and achievement and maximize students' potential.

Candidate Statement:

I am interested in serving as the President Elect-Elect in order to collaborate with other school counselors and advocate for school counselors across Iowa.

As a previous board member and current member of the advocacy committee, I found that the opportunity to collaborate with school counselors across the state has allowed me to learn and grown as a professional. The school counselors across Iowa are innovative and can leverage each other's knowledge to ensure we are serving our students in the best way possible. Being a part of the ISCA board allows me to learn about what is happening around the state and help other counselors connect. I am also able to take the ideas other counselors offer to change my practice to better serve our students at Linn Mar.

I believe professional school counselors play a key role in advocating for our positions at all levels. We have had a lot of exciting developments in Iowa and across the nation over the last 5 years. Being elected as President Elect-Elect would allow me to continue to be an advocate for our profession at the local, state, and federal level. I currently take the time to present to our school board and participate in listening sessions and other state-level meetings for a more formal form of advocacy. However, I believe advocacy happens day-to-day in the work we do in our buildings and how we collaborate with staff, administrators, parents, and students. Our daily work is vital to continuing to move our profession forward and in advocating for our students. I hope that as the ISCA President Elect-Elect, I am able to work with our Iowa counselors to develop stronger relationships with our stakeholders, including state-level officials.