

The Idaho School Counselor Association is the only professional organization that represents and advocates solely for Idaho's school counselors. Thank you for being a member! We would like to give you a quick run-down on some of the things ISCA has done during the past year.

In **October**, ISCA held its annual conference at the Owyhee Plaza in Boise. Over 140 counselors from across the state attended this event. Author Stephen Sroka and former American School Counselor Association President Brian Law were the keynote speakers. At the awards luncheon, Laura Cromwell of the Boise School District was named the high school counselor of the year and Judy Herman of the Meridian School District was named the elementary counselor of the year.

In **November**, two ISCA board members presented a breakout session at the Idaho School Board Association's annual conference. The counselors spoke to school board members about how school counselors can impact schools reaching their overall school improvements goals.

Also in **November**, an ISCA board member met Governor Otter and attended his proclamation for Career Development Week at the statehouse. ISCA is committed to supporting school counselors in their endeavors to promote career awareness.

In **January**, ISCA teamed with our parent organization, ASCA, to unveil a new format for our on-line newsletter (the one you're reading right now). The new, professional layout gives members national and state-wide articles and will be sent out electronically four times per year.

In **February**, ISCA sent a proclamation to the statehouse to be read by Governor Otter for the celebration of Idaho School Counseling Week.

In **April**, ISCA board members put on a one day school counseling conference in Idaho Falls. The event, which was free for ISCA members, was very well attended and provided professional development activities for local counselors.

In **May**, ISCA joined with ASCA and NACAC to send a letter to Idaho's lawmakers emphasizing the need for an appropriate amount of school counselors to be working in schools. The letter was in reference to the state's push to increase its number of students who attend post-secondary schooling.

In **June**, ISCA awarded three \$250 scholarships to graduating high school seniors whose parent is an ISCA member. This annual scholarship is an added benefit to ISCA members who have children finishing high school and heading toward higher education.

In **June** and **July**, ISCA board members attended state (Cascade) and national (Minneapolis, Minnesota) leadership trainings to improve leadership skills and learn ways to better assist their members. Some of the information gained at these trainings will be presented to ISCA members via breakout sessions at this year's conference in October.

Again, thanks for being a member of ISCA. If there is anything else you would like to see ISCA do on your behalf, please let a board member know. And of course, if you are interested in volunteering in ISCA, we would love to have you.