



MEMO TO: IHLS Board of Directors
FROM: Ellen Popit
DATE: November 14, 2016
RE: Advisory Councils and Membership Input

In July of this year, the board packet contained a document on “Members Matter Meetings,” which was attachment 15.3. In that document, Leslie Bednar outlined the plans for the Members Matter Meetings which were implemented to replace and improve upon the IHLS Member Advisory Council (IMAC). To date, three Members Matter Meetings have been held and it appears that the format is working well. The one challenge is to attract more representation from the school library community.

Because the formation of an Advisory Council is included in the IHLS bylaws, it is time to revise that language. For several months, the Policy and Membership Committee has worked on replacing that language and is prepared to bring a revision to the full IHLS Board. For your consideration, the original language in the Bylaws read:

Article VIII Advisory Councils

The Executive Director shall form Advisory Councils to serve as an effective liaison between the librarians of the System and the Executive Director.

The purpose of the committee is to:

- 1. Promote System development.*
- 2. Provide input and review of changes to System policy and membership criteria.*
- 3. Initiate suggestions to the Executive Director and the Board.*

Members of the Advisory Councils shall serve three-year terms.

The above language would be struck and replaced with:

Article VIII: Membership Input

The Executive Director shall hold six meetings for system members at rotating sites throughout the system.

The purpose of these meetings is to:

- 1. Gather input and feedback from members regarding current System services and initiatives.*
- 2. Offer an additional opportunity for communication and networking with and among membership.*
- 3. Provide a forum in which suggestions can be made for the consideration of the Board of Directors and the Executive Director.*

These meetings will be held on a bi-monthly schedule at geographically diverse locations throughout the system. Videoconference sites will be open to enable members from

throughout the system to attend in several locations. As they become available and effective, other electronic methods of connectivity will be implemented to offer other meeting options for members.

Thank you for your consideration.