

# ICCTA Board Highlights

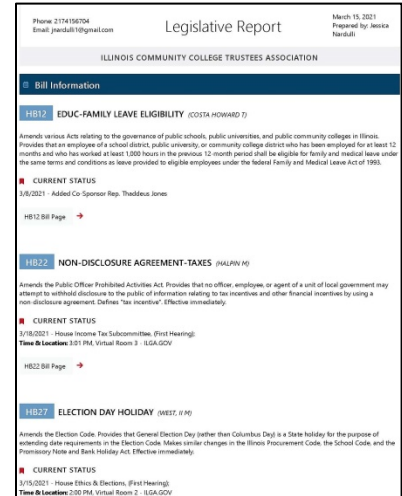
from the Illinois Community College Trustees Association’s March 12, 2021 meeting, held virtually via Zoom and in-person at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Schaumburg

## ADVOCACY

- Received an update on the Illinois General Assembly’s spring 2021 session. Two bills of special interest to community colleges include:
  - House Bill 2867**: Sets aside 15% of Illinois Monetary Award Program grant funds for community college students
  - Senate Bill 1832**: Allows community colleges to confer bachelor of applied science degrees in early childhood education and Professional Educator Licenses with endorsements in early childhood education and early childhood special education under certain conditions;

- Learned that ICCTA is collaborating with the Illinois Council of Community College Presidents to advocate for a larger funding increase than the 2 percent included in the Illinois Board of Higher Education’s Fiscal Year 2022 request;

- Were informed that the federal [American Rescue Plan Act of 2021](#) includes \$39.6 billion for higher education, with 50% allocated for students in the form of emergency grants;
- Heard that the Illinois Workforce Innovation Board’s [Workforce Consolidation Feasibility Study](#) is underway. The study may have implications for adult education in Illinois;
- Noted that April is [Community College Month](#). ICCTA has requested an official proclamation from the Governor’s office and will feature Illinois-related #CCMonth stories on social media; and
- Were updated on the progress of [IBHE’s Strategic Planning initiative](#). Key components will include core principles for funding, definitions of adequacy and equity, and evaluation of future capital needs.



## MEMBER ENGAGEMENT

- Reviewed the initial draft of [ICCTA’s proposed 2022 Strategic Plan](#), which lays out four goals: information exchange, training, advocacy, and administrative efficiencies;
- Approved the creation of the [ICCTA President’s Award](#), which may be awarded at the ICCTA President’s discretion to recognize an ‘unsung hero’ who has supported community colleges and the Trustees Association;
- Learned that ICCTA’s 2020 awards “road show” travelled to 15 colleges and involved more than 100 trustees around the state;
- Encouraged other ICCTA regions to replicate the North Suburban and West Suburban Regions’ February 22 joint meeting, which took place via Zoom;



- Announced that the deadline to apply for 2021-2022 ICCTA office is **Monday, April 19**. Interviews will be held virtually on **Friday, April 23**, with announcement of the recommended slate of officer at the May 4 Board of Representatives meeting. Elections will take place at the June 5 annual meeting; and
- Thanked the College of DuPage’s McAninch Center for the Arts for its March 12 lunch presentation on the upcoming “[Frida Kahlo: Timeless](#)” art exhibition.

## TRUSTEE EDUCATION

- Praised ICCTA’s March 12 cybersecurity seminar, which was a hybrid virtual/in-person session that brought in experts from around the country;
- Asked for beta testers and content providers for ICCTA’s “Trustee Chat” searchable online database. Version 1.0 of the search engine will be available on the ICCTA website in June;
- Learned that participants in the March 12 Trustees Roundtable discussed: 1) how colleges are coping with remote campus environments and plans for returning to in-person learning; 2) how boards are handling public comments at meetings; and 3) how colleges are allocating stimulus relief funds, including best methods for determining emergency needs of students and staff; and
- Heard that ICCTA’s Onboarding Committee is moving forward on producing member-only podcasts to enhance trustee learning. Two podcasts (on trustee fiduciary responsibilities and the Illinois Open Meeting Act) have already been recorded in cooperation with Black Hawk College.



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- Highland Community College trustee [Dr. Steven Jennings](#) passed away on March 4. Prior to his 2011 election to the board, Dr. Jennings served as a Highland faculty member for 42 years, including 25 years as president of the Faculty Senate.
- College of Lake County trustee **Richard Anderson** (right) will conclude his tenure next month as the state’s longest-serving community college board member. First elected in 1974, Rich served as ICCTA president in 2001-2002 and earned the Ray Hartstein Trustee Achievement Award in 2014. He celebrated his last ICCTA meeting on March 12 with former ICCTA presidents Jim Ayers (Parkland) and Dave Maguire (Spoon River).



## IMPORTANT LINKS

- [ICCTA Executive Director’s March 2021 report](#)
- [ICCTA President’s March 2021 report](#)
- [Illinois Community College Board March 2021 update](#)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### MARCH 2021

- March 26: [Illinois Community College Board meeting](#) via Zoom  
March 26: Nominations deadline for ICCTA's 2021 [Business/Industry Partnership Award, Gandhi/King Peace Essay Scholarship, Lifelong Learning Award, Outstanding Adjunct Faculty Member Award, Outstanding FT Faculty Member Award, Pacesetter Award, & Paul Simon Student Essay Contest](#)

### APRIL 2021

- April 6: Consolidated election (including community college trustees)  
April 15: [Illinois Student Assistance Commission](#), location TBD  
April 19: Deadline to apply for 2021-2022 ICCTA vice president, secretary, and treasurer  
April 22: [State Universities Retirement System meetings](#), location TBD  
April 23: ICCTA candidate interviews via Zoom

### MAY 2021

- May 4: ICCTA Board of Representatives meetings via Zoom  
May 6-27: [American Association of Community Colleges' digital conference](#)  
May 31: Adjournment of the Illinois General Assembly

### JUNE 2021

- June 3: Illinois Council of Community College Presidents meeting, via Zoom  
June 3-4: [State Universities Retirement System meetings](#), location TBD  
June 3-5: ICCTA annual convention, Marriott Bloomington-Normal Hotel and Conference Center, Normal  
June 4: [Illinois Community College Board meeting](#), Marriott Bloomington-Normal Hotel and Conference Center, Normal  
June 8: [Illinois Board of Higher Education meeting](#), location TBD  
June 17: [Illinois Student Assistance Commission](#), location TBD

## NEXT MEETING

The ICCTA Board of Representatives will meet via Zoom on May 4, 2021.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

### Illinois Community College Trustees Association

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217-528-2858

[www.communitycolleges.org](http://www.communitycolleges.org)

