

# ICCTA

Illinois Community College Trustees Association

## QUICK SURVEY RESULTS Legal Counsel at College Board Meetings

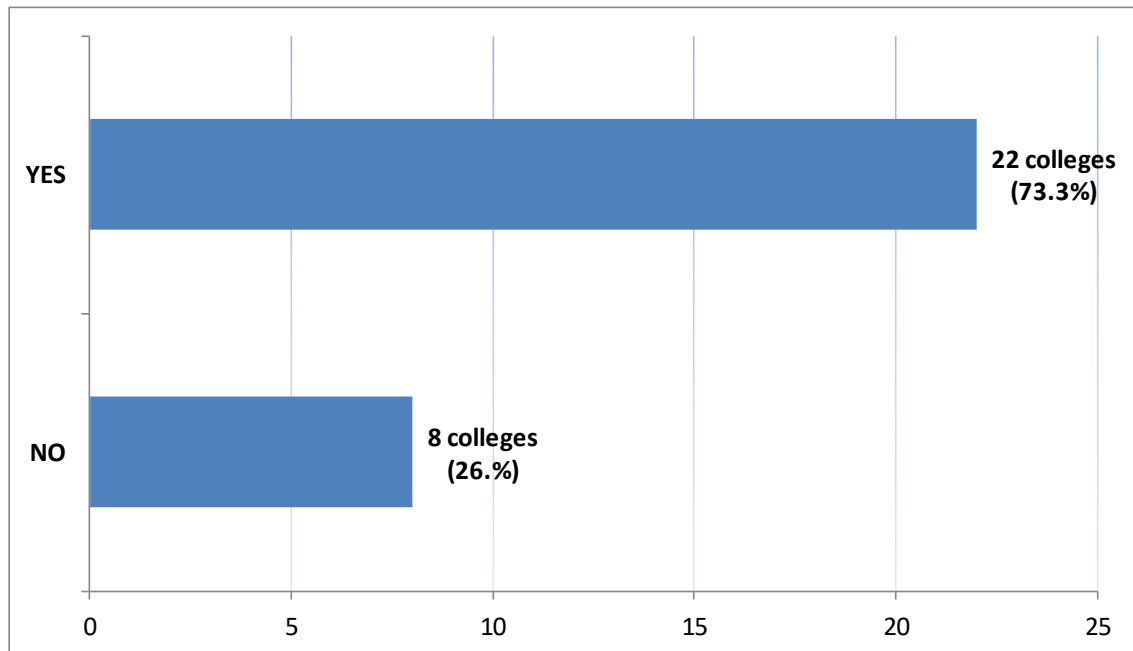
September 22, 2022

A total of 30 colleges/districts responded to ICCTA's Quick Survey on LEGAL COUNSEL AT COLLEGE BOARD MEETINGS.

### HIGHLIGHTS:

- ❖ Legal counsel is present at the majority (73.3%) of Illinois community college board meetings, but their attendance is not required by most engagement agreements.
- ❖ Several colleges request the presence of legal counsel at the option of the board chair or when needed for a specific issue.

### 1. IS LEGAL COUNSEL PRESENT AT YOUR COLLEGE'S BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETINGS?



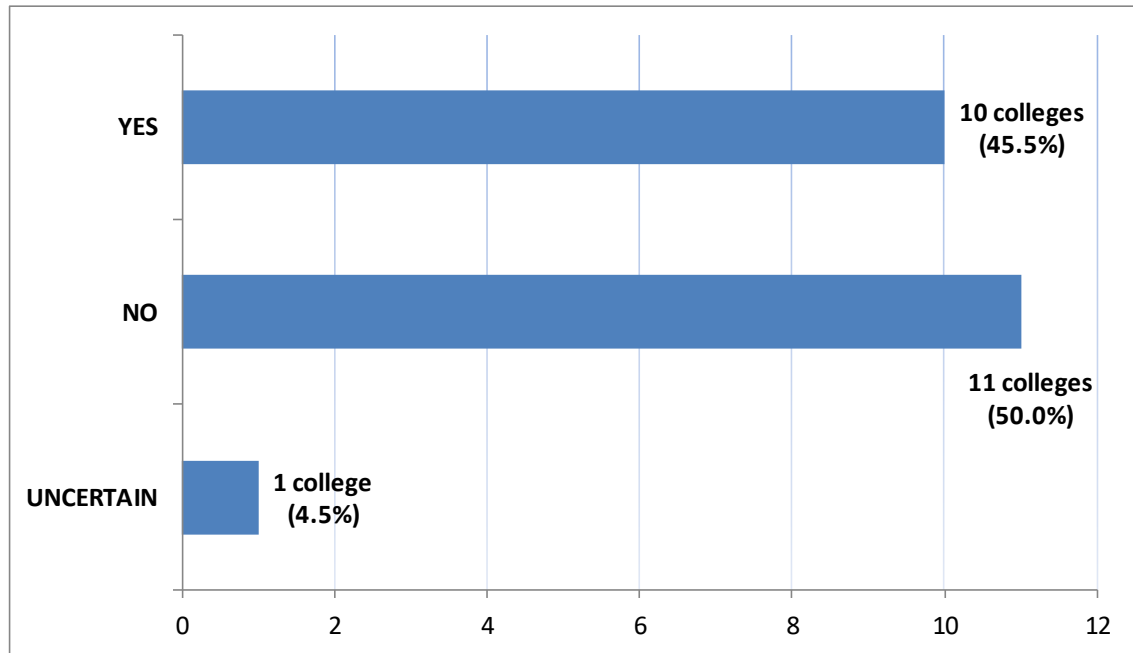
#### **YES -- 22**

Black Hawk, Carl Sandburg, Danville, Elgin, Harper, Illinois Valley, John Wood, Joliet, Kankakee, Kaskaskia, Lake County, Lewis and Clark, McHenry, Moraine Valley, Morton, Olive-Harvey, Prairie State, Rock Valley, Shawnee, South Suburban, Southwestern, Triton

#### **NO -- 8**

Highland, Kishwaukee, Lake Land, Oakton, Richland, Sauk Valley, Southeastern, Spoon River

**2. IF YES TO QUESTION #1, IS IT REQUIRED PER YOUR ENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT WITH THE LEGAL COUNSEL?**



**YES -- 10**

Danville, Harper, Kankakee, Kaskaskia, Lake County, Morton, Rock Valley, Shawnee, South Suburban, Triton

**NO -- 11**

Black Hawk, Carl Sandburg, Elgin, Illinois Valley, John Wood, Joliet, Lewis and Clark, McHenry, Moraine Valley, Prairie State, Southwestern

**UNCERTAIN -- 1**

Olive-Harvey

**3. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:**

- Black Hawk: The Board Chair determines whether to request our lawyer's presence at a meeting.
- Danville: Our counsel had been attending on a pro-bono basis until this past July.
- Elgin: We have recently (Jan 2020) hired a full-time general counsel who is a member of the president's cabinet. Our general counsel attends our regular, special and closed meetings with the board.
- Harper: Legal counsel attends formal Board meetings but not Committee Meetings of the Whole.
- Lake Land: Our legal counsel does not routinely participate in our Board meetings, but do so when needed for a specific issue (e.g. sensitive personnel issue, legal issue, etc.)
- Oakton: Only when required, and usually for closed session.
- Moraine Valley: Legal counsel is present at the request of the Board Chair
- Southeastern: We only invite legal as needed (e.g. some negotiations, major disciplinary, significant litigation, etc.).

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*For more information, please contact:*

**Illinois Community College Trustees Association**

401 E. Capitol Avenue, Suite 200 • Springfield, IL 62701 • 217-528-2858 • [www.communitycolleges.org](http://www.communitycolleges.org)