

MIDWESTERN SOCIETY OF ORTHODONTISTS

Component Report MSO Board of Directors October 15, 2026 Meeting

Component Name: Illinois

Submitted By: Bronwen Richards

Component Officers/Trustees:

Officers:

President:	Dr. Andrew Clark
President-Elect:	Dr. Daniel Kelly
Vice President:	Dr. Bronwen Richards
Secretary/Treasurer:	Dr. Jaclyn Kostelac
Immediate Past President:	Dr. Maria Therese Galang-Boquiren

Trustees:

Dr. Samim Taraji	Dr. Jahnavi Rao
Dr. Jenny Eggemeyer	Dr. Isaac Yue

Other:

ISDS Liasion/DentIPAC	Dr. Spencer Pope
CDS Liasion	Dr. Mike Durbin
University Relations	Dr. Sath Allareddy

Date of Report: 9/24/26

Ongoing Initiatives: Finalize job duties and implement ladder with separate 3 year treasurer role. Goal is to shorten ISO ladder to promote engagement of more people with a reduced time commitment and long term stability

BEYOND THE BILLS:

Advancing Medicaid Access: Secured dentist access to the Medicaid Training Assistance Center and monthly HFS meetings through working discussions with stakeholders. A Medicaid MCO contact list is currently in development

Insurance Reform in Action: 8 major wins between 2022-2026

- Craniofacial Anomalies '22, Virtual Credit Cards '23, Network leasing Transparency '23, Jaw Injury Insurance '24, Prior Authorization Reform '24, Assignments of Benefits '25, Electronic Claims Submission '25, Virtual Credit Card Strengthened '26

Issues to watch:

- Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare: Would regulate the use of AI tools in healthcare delivery, data use, and clinical decision making
- Community Water Fluoridation: would allow municipalities to determine whether fluoride is added to public water source

- **School-Based Oral Health Program Changes:** would restructure how school-based dental programs are administered.

Legislative Efforts:

Key Legislative Victories in 2026

- **Virtual Credit Card Payments Strengthened:** Dentists must opt in, and insurers face new transparency and 30 day response rules.
- **Dental Practice Act Modernized:** Updates testing agency references and confirms Expanded Function Dental Assistants can perform the procedures they are trained for and allowable under the law
- **Teledentistry Overreach Stopped:** Industry groups pushed to remove Illinois “in-person examination requirement”. ISDS fought back and secured strict hygiene-scope limits and referral requirements in the final bill

What ISDS STOPPED:

- Dental therapist licensure (3rd year running)
- Hygienists administering local anesthetic without a dentist present
- Public health dental hygienist expansion into unsupervised settings
- School-based oral health program restructuring
- Overreach in prescription monitoring mandates - narrowed to a workable requirement

New Initiatives:

Secure additional speaker for spring 2027 and continue to create opportunities for board engagement and outreach to members.

Upcoming Meetings/Events (with dates):

ISO Fall Meeting 2026

Maggiano's OakBrook- Friday, November 13th, 2026

Business Toolkit for Customized Practice Solutions

For our Fall 2026 meeting, the featured content seeks to enlighten ISO membership on practice finance and efficiency concepts. The world of finance collides with orthodontists in ways that can be intimidating and complex, requiring post-graduate business education for mastery of concepts and analytics that many practice owners confront commonly. Our speaker is an orthodontist who has gained expertise in the world of finance. The goals of his lecture are to share his business knowledge with his orthodontic colleagues.

CDS Midwinter Meeting 2027-ISO Sponsored Lecture

Friday, February 26th 2027- 8:30-11:30am

Dr. Max Emmerling, DDS, MD, FACS Division of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery Cook County Health

ISO Spring meeting 2027 TBD

Do You Need the MSO Board of Directors to act on any Component-related business at this time? Yes/No (if yes, state below and it will be addressed at the next Board meeting): no