



January 21, 2016 Meeting Minutes

Attendance: Robin Arenzon, Jeff Artero, Greg Kabara, Nancy McLaughlin, Janice Pfaffl, Sharon Shapiro, Brenda Stelzer, Jill Tobin, and Sarah Damonte Vegas

The Nicolet PTSO Vice President, Janice Pfaffl, called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. Since there was no December meeting, the November, 2015 minutes were reviewed. Janice Pfaffl motioned to approve the minutes. Greg Kabara seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

President's Report: *Vice President, Janice Pfaffl did the report*

- Piper Melkonian, PTSO President, was in Florida. So, Janice Pfaffl, Vice President, ran the meeting and did the president's report.
- Janice shared that the request for money from the new National Business Honor Society needs to be closed. It was decided that the PTSO will contribute up to and not to exceed \$300 to support them to cover the cost of a marketing banner that they can reuse again and again. This will be a one-time start up contribution. The club will get the information to Brenda Stelzer, PTSO Treasurer, so they can receive the funds.

Treasurer's Report: *Brenda Stelzer*

- Brenda Stelzer passed out the Treasurer's Report dated December 31, 2015, the Year-To-Date Activity Report for August 1, 2015-July 31, 2016, and the 2015-2016 Concessions Report. We have a current Account Balance of \$16,845.31. We have had an income of \$8,231.17. Our expenses were \$3,746.59. Our net income for concessions \$4,484.58.
- Overall, we are doing fine financially. Our membership is at \$3,115 which is lower than the \$3,500 we budgeted.
- The money from concessions is increasing. Janice shared that the Nicolet Booster club will be taking concessions back next year. So, sharing the profits with the Booster club will only be for this school year. There have been a lot of athletic parents volunteering in the concessions. There were 12 students volunteering in concessions to get their Merit Hours. The student council did not need the \$1,000 we budgeted for Homecoming. However, we will spend that money either on the upcoming Sadie Hawkins/Winter Dance or on the possible end-of-the-year "Alumni" t-shirts for the graduating seniors.

Student Council: *Whitney Wertheimer, Sen16r President*

- Whitney Wertheimer was not able to make the meeting.

Guidance Department Report: *Mr. Jeff Artero*

- Jeff Artero reported that this month the guidance counselors have been in classrooms for career explorations and to reintroduce Naviance and the Nicolet Guidance webpage.
- They have been working with the students that weren't successful on final exams to help them.
- February is the month of 8th graders. The Junior Knight events will occur for the three partner schools on different evenings to introduce the next year freshman to Nicolet.
- The new school social worker, Ms. Newborn, will come to our PTSO meeting in February. She will talk about health activities and our students in need. She has been collecting coats and personal hygiene



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products for the students. Janice will communicate with Ms. Newborn to give her the opportunity to pick over the band/swim rummage left overs before they get donated elsewhere.

Teacher Liaison: Molly Krychowiak

- Ms. Krychowiak was unable to be at the meeting. However, Mr. Kabara shared what the teachers have been busy doing. See below.

School Board: Principal Greg Kabara

- Greg Kabara explained about how the Nicolet community will voting for a referendum for the school's operating costs. They are going with the middle one (\$3.1 Million.) There may be a yes group that forms and they will want to educate all residents on what they can do.
- Monday's school board meeting is closed session.
- The land sale negotiations are in progress but will need to balance while the referendum is taking place. There are plans to move forward with the assessment but nothing until the referendum is done.
- Greg Kabara suggested that we reach out to our superintendent, Dr. Robert Kobylski, and our business manager, Mr. Jeff Delutri and invite them to come to a PTSO meeting and present to us.

Foundation: Sharon Shapiro

- Marilyn Franklin is not only on our Nicolet School Board, but she is on the Foundation and also an active PTSO member, too. Marilyn is not here to give the Foundation report because she is at the Wisconsin School Board Convention where she will receive an award for being on the Fox Point Bayside School District and Nicolet High School Boards for 40 years. We are so proud! Congrats to our friend, Marilyn, for this incredible accomplishment!
- The Foundation has a new logo and tagline. Along with sending out the annual campaign appeal letter, the Foundation advertised on NPR radio. There will not be a Knight on the Town fundraising event in the spring of this year. Instead, there will be an annual Knight on the Town, beginning this fall, 2016.

Administration Report: Principal Greg Kabara

- This week there was a new exam schedule that has a longer day. Greg is hearing from students, parents, and teachers. The food service definitely likes it. The students handled it. The teachers appreciate it. Greg noticed a less stressful feel for the week and an overall good response. There was a therapy dog that 126 kids came to pet.
- All grades will be reported next week.
- The Nicolet Theater's Children's play, James and the Giant Peach, is being performed on January 30th and 31st.
- Sports are doing well including basketball, swimming, gymnastics, etc. We have a new football coach. He will have a meet and greet in the near future.
- Scheduling for next year is coming. There will be meetings with the incoming 8th grade parents.
- There is a new career college readiness guide from Nicolet in addition to the course selection handbook. Robin Arenzon, Junior Parent Liaison will get the list of colleges visiting this semester from Tammy Howard in the guidance office and send it out to the high school junior parents.



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Chair Reports: Janice Pfaffl

- **Homecoming – Jill Tobin, Chair.** Nothing to report.
- **Concessions – Piper Melkonian and Janice Pfaffl, Co-Chairs.** Concessions are still going well. There are many people volunteering including both parents and kids. As mentioned in the President's report, even though we are earning great income, the PTSO will only be running concessions for this school year. Booster Club will take it back next year. Please sign up online via *volunteerspot.com* or by clicking on: <http://www.volunteerspot.com/login/entry/826816640088>
- **Merit Awards – Jill Tobin and Nancy McLaughlin, Co-Chairs.** Nancy and Jill met. They announced that the completed Merit Award packets are due March 18th and must be turned in to the high school office by 3:00pm. There will be no extensions. Merit Awards will be promoted via school announcements and maybe a poster competition. They will ask the guidance counselors for a list of kids that may want to get merit hours to do the posters. Jill and Nancy will send an email to Greg Kabara and he'll reach out to kids to see if anyone wants to help with posters and get Merit Award Hours for it. Jill and Nancy will get the completed Merit Award applications to Greg Kabara by April 5th. The actual Merit Award Ceremony will take place on May 19th right after school. If coaches have practices that day, they need to be encouraged to allow kids to come. It was suggested that this year at the Merit Award Ceremony, they give out the 4th year award plaques first and do it all backwards. Next, the third year medals are given out. Then, the second year medals and finally, the first year medals. That way all the freshman, sophomores, and juniors can see what they can strive to achieve. Also, the athletes usually don't want to miss practice. So, beside the coaches allowing them to attend, it will be for a shortened period of time. Unfortunately, the Merit Award Ceremony does conflict with the AP Chemistry make up test. Of course, nothing is without conflict. Our apologies to those who won't be able to be there. The Merit Award Packets are available to all students in the high school office or online at the PTSO webpage: <http://www.nicolet.us/students/merit.pdf>.
- **Cocoa & Cram – Paula Kobylski, Chair.** Cocoa & Cram was a huge success. Paula was unable to make it to this meeting but sent Sharon Shapiro this report: There were over 200 students, lots of volunteers, and many teachers. Thank you to all that made this a success! Paula is in the middle of sending out thank yous to all the donors including Brueggers Bagels for 5 dozen bagels and great discount on the rest, Dunkin Donuts for 300 donut holes, Stone Creek Coffee for the 5 boxes of coffee, cups, sugars, stir sticks, and napkins, as well as Pick N Save for their day old pastries, and Jack Marchesse, the fruit supplier for Nicolet, who gave a box of apples, a box of oranges, and a box of bananas. Paula put a thank you into the Nicolet parent email blast, too. Paula is unable to chair the spring Cookie & Cram event as she is not only working full time but also in school. Thanx for all your hard work, Paula! Thank you also to Nancy McLaughlin for volunteering (or being coerced) to chair Cookies & Cram for the spring. Paula will share the C & C binder with you, Nancy.
- **Teacher Appreciation – Cathy Sanders and Susan Schroeder, Co-Chairs.** Janice had a member pick out of the bowl for the PTSO Staff drawing. Two staff names were randomly pulled out of the jar as winners of \$10 gift cards. The winners were: Mr. Schill and Ms. Owen. Congratulations! We do this at every PTSO meeting as one of the many ways we support and thank our wonderful Nicolet teachers/staff. Thank you also to Greg Kabara who will deliver the gift cards to the winners. Some generous parents donated gift cards to support this. If anyone would like to show support for our great Nicolet teachers/staff, you can either purchase Starbucks, Jimmy John's, Barnes & Noble, etc. gift cards or make a monetary donation to



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the PTSO. Please drop off or mail the monetary or gift card donations in a sealed envelope marked “*PTSO Staff Drawing*” to the Nicolet High School Office at 6701 N. Jean Nicolet Road, Glendale, WI 53217. If you have any questions, please contact Piper Melkonian via email at pmelkonian@mac.com

- **Prom Activities – VOLUNTEER CHAIR NEEDED.** No update now.
- **Spirit Award – Piper Melkonian and Marilyn Franklin, Co-Chairs.** No update now.
- **Senior Breakfast – Lorie Wertheimer and Jen Friedman, Co-Chairs.** No update now.
- **Grad Grams – Robin Arenzon and Kathy Eurich Co-Chairs.** Robin would like to pass it along next year for somebody else to chair. Perhaps Kathy and someone else will take this on. Robin inquired wanting to know the amount that she spent last year for the printing. Brenda will check and let her know.

Other Business:

- **Facebook Page:** Please “Like” the PTSO Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/NicoletPTSO>.
- **Nicolet Knight Window Decal Clings:** Please purchase your window decal cling for only \$5 and support your PTSO. Share the Nicolet pride by placing a window decal cling on the inside or outside of your car window or storefront! They are available in the office or online via our webpage: <http://www.nicolet.us/families/ptso.cfm>.
- **PTSO Membership Dues:** Please be reminded, the Nicolet PTSO benefits the parents, teachers, and students of Nicolet through raising funds via dues (still only \$15), Grad Gram sales in the spring, the Nicolet Knight window decal cling sales (only \$5), and now concessions. The PTSO sponsors events including Student Dances, Cocoa and Cram Study Sessions, Merit Awards, Spirit Award, Teacher Appreciation, School Gifts, Senior Breakfast, and more. Please pay your dues, come to meetings, and volunteer. Nicolet needs you! http://www.nicolet.us/cms_files/resources/ptso_membership_form.pdf
- **Next Meeting:** Please mark your calendars and plan on attending our next PTSO meeting on Thursday, February 18, 2016 at 6:00pm in the Nicolet cafeteria, room B113. All are welcome!

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00pm.

Respectfully submitted by Sharon Shapiro
Nicolet PTSO Secretary