

**Attendance:** Robin Arenzon, Kathy Eurich, Marilyn Franklin, Greg Kabara, Paula Kobylski, Nancy McLaughlin, Janice Pfaffl, Sharon Shapiro, Brenda Stelzer, Jill Tobin, Sarah Damante Vegas, and Lorie Wertheimer

The Nicolet PTSO President, Piper Melkonian, was unable to attend the meeting. Janice Pfaffl, PTSO Vice President, called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. The March, 2016 minutes were reviewed. Janice made a motion to approve and Brenda seconded. All were in favor and the minutes were approved.

**President's Report: Piper Melkonian**

- Piper was not able to be at the meeting.

**Treasurer's Report: Brenda Stelzer**

- The February 2016 Treasurer's Report and the Year-To-Date Activity Report was attached to the PTSO packet.
- Brenda Stelzer said most of our treasury report has to do with concessions this month. All the concession expenses add up. The Booster Club has requested funds to settle up fall and winter concession profits. The PTSO is splitting the profits with the Athletic Booster Club. Mr. Kabara made a motion to divide the profits in half and give the Booster Club their equal share of profits. Jill seconded. All voted yes, no nays and it was approved and passed. Brenda will get the concession report to Dale Nikolay. It should be about \$3,500 each.

**Student Council: Ellen Liang, Jun17r President**

- Ellen Liang was not able to make the meeting. However, she sent an update. Sharon shared the update below.
- Ellen's Report: We've been selling prom tickets at lunch all of last week and we will be done selling tickets by the end of this week. So far, we've sold around 120 tickets to prom. If the numbers are still low after tomorrow, I will ask Mr. Welna if we can extend the ticket sale days as some students have suggested that. We have everything booked (dj, gambling casino, caterer) and are in the process of booking the photo booth. Once the photo booth contract gets finalized, I will make sure to send that over. We just need to confirm the designs. For the caterer, we decided to go with an Italian buffet with a mini dessert assortment. I have attached the dinner menu and the design that will go on the photo booth strips. The whole student council would also like to thank the PTSO again for funding the photo booth!



ITALIAN BUFFET  
 Chicken Parmesan with Marinara and Shaved Parmesan  
 Wild Mushroom Alfredo with Meatballs  
 Vegetable Lasagna  
 Fresh Tiered Fruit Display  
 Classic Caesar Salad  
 Artisan Dinner Rolls and Butter

DESSERT STATIONS  
 Dessert Bar -  
 Chocolate Dipped Strawberries, Mini Cheesecakes, Eclairs, Cream Puffs,  
 Mini Cookies, Bars and Brownies  
 Assorted Gelato

- Mr. Kabara mentioned that Prom ticket orders may be low because of the date. However, parents asked for Prom not to conflict with the University of Wisconsin-Madison graduation or AP testing. So, that is the reason it is so early. A question was asked about if the cost of Prom tickets (\$60 each) is too high for some students who cannot afford it, can they get help? The answer is yes. The students are made aware that they can get a Prom ticket already paid for.
- **As a reminder from last meeting:** Greg Kabara shared that since Joe Welna, Student Council Advisor, is choosing to stepping down, the PTSO will thank Joe Welna for all his past services. Greg Kabara will



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present Joe Welna with a \$50 gift card (Janice Pfaffl will get it from Eherwon) and a boutonniere (that Greg Kabara will pick up) at Prom from the PTSO.

### Guidance Department Report: Nader Raad

- Mr. Raad was unable to attend the meeting. However, he sent a report that Sharon shared.
- Mr. Raad's report: We have been busy with our Sophomore College and Career Planning conferences. They have been going very well and parents have appreciated that we hold these meetings in the sophomore year at rather than in the junior year of high school like some other schools do. These conferences will be going through April as we are trying to meet with every sophomore (with parent) individually.

### Teacher Liaison: Molly Krychowiak

- Molly Krychowiak was unable to attend the meeting. Sharon shared her report: Dearest PTSO, My apologies for missing the meeting this month. Here are some great updates from the Nicolet Faculty.
- **News from Donna Bohn:** The Millionaires Club brought two teams to the Finance and Investment Challenge Bowl. They competed in the Jeopardy style like format game where students are quizzed on their knowledge of Finance, Investing, Insurance, Accounting, Business Management and Marketing topics among others. The team consisting of Yogev Ben-Yitschak, Morgan Johnstone, Char Retzlaff, and Jaskarn Mann finished the day with 4 wins and 1 loss which stamped their ticket to the State Championships on April 27th to be held at Manpower Group HQ. And...The team consisting of Oliver Lefebvre, Aaron Broadnax, Bobby Watkins, and Etan Maistelman finished the day with 2 wins and 1 loss which was good enough to tie for 3rd place and win the Consolation Championship. Students were given cash prizes, which hopefully they'll invest, and \$129 Bucks tickets to this evenings game.
- **News from Dann Jacobson:** From the 15th annual BG3V3 is scheduled for Sunday 3/20 10:00am-4:00pm. Our largest largest event of the year to raise money for the scholarship fund. We anticipate over 120 students, faculty, parents, and alums to participate. We have raised over \$11,000 in cash so far and another \$3,000 in in-kind donations. We are still accepting team entries and donations.
- **News from Kelly Saunders:** Please join the English department in congratulating the following students for their recognition in the 2016 Scholastic Writing Awards. We had an excellent turnout for the competition this year and we are delighted that our talented students have been recognized for their writing. According to the Stillwaters Collective, our Milwaukee affiliate for the Scholastic Writing Awards, "This work was recognized by a panel of creative professionals as the most outstanding work submitted among [their] peers. In their 93 year history, the Awards have recognized some of America's most celebrated writers while they were teenagers, including: Sylvia Plath, Robert Redford, Joyce Carol Oates, Stephen King, Truman Capote, and Lena Dunham." Congratulations to the following students who received a Gold Key in the 2016 Scholastic Writing Awards. Their work is now considered for national competition, with winners announced in mid-March.

*Emily Anderson* for her short story, "The Proud Life of Jackson Hobbes"

*Augusta Byrne* for her personal essay, "Girls and What's Wrong with Them"

*David Cranberg* for his humorous essay, "Trump vs 2020"

*Morgan Johnstone* for her poem, "Doors Like Guns"

*Morgan Kramer* for her flash fiction, "My Last Night"

*Jacob Newman* for his poem, "Ten Minutes of Television"

*Lauryn Wagner* for her short story, "I'm Sorry"

- **News from Patty Leeson:** Come join the Nicolet High School AP Studio Art students for Milwaukee Gallery Night and Day, April 15th & 16th! Through vivid paintings, stunning photography, and finely crafted sculpture, Nicolet High School artists defy what it typically means to be an adolescent artist. The



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students will be exhibiting in two locations in Milwaukee's 3rd Ward: 249 N. Water St., Milwaukee, WI 53202 (1st Floor of Water Buffalo) and 231 E. Buffalo St., Milwaukee, WI 53202 (Lobby Floor of Tom Queoff's Sculpture Studio). The event runs from 5:30 pm - 9:00 pm on Friday, April 15th and 12:00 noon-5:30 pm on Saturday, April 16th. Artwork will be available for purchase upon request, with a portion of the funds going to our sponsor of this showcase, the Nicolet High School Foundation. Please come support the extremely talented, young artists as they make their presence known in the Milwaukee art community!

- **News from Andi Winkle:** Two weeks ago, the environmental science classes tapped several maple trees in our Nicolet Woods State Forest and collected sap over the past few days. Last week, Mr. John Rhude went out in the environmental center using the boiler to boil the sap down to make maple syrup. It takes 40 gallons of sap to produce just one gallon of syrup so there's a lot of boiling to be done! Many science classes got to go outside and learn about maple syrup-making and watch the process in action. We are very lucky to have our own forest and environmental center for such activities as there aren't many schools in the state that have this set-up. Also, Ms. Winkle is getting a bee hive, (along with 5 full observation outfits) to be placed way back in the Nicolet Woods so environmental students could go out and observe bees in action.

### School Board: *Principal Greg Kabara*

- There was no update.

### Foundation: *Sharon Shapiro/Marilyn Franklin*

- The Foundation gave a grant to Patti Leeson and the Nicolet Art students to help fund the Gallery Night that is in April in the Third Ward. See information about it in the *Teacher Report* above.
- The Foundation is finalizing plans for the annual fundraiser, The Knight on the Town, which will take place in October of 2016.

### Administration Report: *Principal Greg Kabara*

- Greg Kabara said that he is hoping for a quick and safe end of the third quarter.
- Parent/Teacher conferences were well attended this spring.
- He is working hard on the referendum attending meetings around town and receiving positive responses. There was a plan to be in classrooms to let seniors know that they should vote. There is student interest in being informed. However, legal counsel suggested he step back a bit. That way, the school will not be perceived as promoting the referendum. Please be reminded that there is an upcoming referendum on the April 5th ballot. As Dr. Kobylski explained at the last meeting and Mr. Kabara reinforced at this meeting, Nicolet High School has had 60 years of success with high expectations from our community along with a very supportive community. In 2010, the referendum passed but the funding expires on June 30, 2016. We need to pass another referendum so the district has funding to allow the same opportunities to continue here at Nicolet. The referendum vote is on April 5<sup>th</sup>. Nicolet is asking to finance operations only and the tax impact is about \$7 per \$100,000 of a home's value each year for the next six years. Home value is tied directly to the success of the school district. **HOW CAN THE PTSO HELP?** Visit the website <http://www.nicolet.us/district/referendum.cfm> to get informed. Read the Referendum Fact Sheet [http://www.nicolet.us/cms\\_files/resources/referendum\\_fact\\_sheet.pdf](http://www.nicolet.us/cms_files/resources/referendum_fact_sheet.pdf). You can get fact sheets from the Nicolet office and pass them out. There will be an informational session held at Nicolet regarding the referendum on Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup> (9:00am-10:30am). Get the word out. Be informed and vote.
- Spring sports are starting up. The weight room facility is being renovated.
- Prom registration is in process.



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- Teacher hires for next school year will be done after April 5th. Postings are out and they've been communicated to candidates. They are going to Concordia University to recruit minority teachers. They are trying to draw them to Nicolet.
- Rob Reinke, Special Education department, is retiring at the end of the school year. Diane Tess is also retiring after her 34 years. Rita Gipp, Technology Education Department, is resigning to go to a bigger position in Madison. When she was hired, Nicolet was made aware that this was a goal of hers. There are two great candidates ready to be interviewed for this position. There will be more personnel issues coming up. Also, with the election coming up in the fall, there is much student interest. There are five sections of election classes next fall which is a dramatic increase in Social Studies classes.
- Teachers have been given high honors recently. Congratulations to Phyllis Santicroce who received an award for her great work with National History Day. Congratulations to Nader Raad and Jeff Artero as both guidance counselors received awards for their great work hosting the college fair in the fall.
- **A note from last meeting:** The new Musical, Legally Blonde, is in rehearsal. Performances are scheduled for only one weekend this year, April 14<sup>th</sup> - April 17<sup>th</sup>. Tickets will go on sale to the public online at <http://www.nicolet.us/activities/theatre.cfm>

### 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 still spots for students and parents to volunteer. Please sign up online via [volunteerspot.com](http://volunteerspot.com) or by clicking on: <http://www.volunteerspot.com/login/entry/826816640088>
- **Merit Awards – Jill Tobin and Nancy McLaughlin, Co-Chairs.** Packets are coming in and are due tomorrow. The office will do an initial filter. Then, they will get the list and the completed applications to Jill and Nancy by April 6th. The Dance and Cheer team coach has been very active in getting the girls to apply for the Merit Awards. Even though she is the coach, she is not a teacher. So, Mr. Kabara signed their packets for them. At one point, Nancy and Jill were offering Merit Hours for students to create posters regarding Merit Award packets being due. There will be more opportunities for student volunteer hours if needed for National Honor Society. So, please communicate interest to Mr. Kabara.
- **Cookies & Cram – Nancy McLaughlin, Chair.** Paula Kobylski, Cocoa & Cram Chair, created the binder of information for the next chair. Paula also gave her receipts to Brenda. Nancy is ready to take on the Cookies & Cram event for the end of this semester.
- **Teacher Appreciation – Cathy Sanders and Susan Schroeder, Co-Chairs.** Janice connected with Mary Beth Mills & Jen Gilbert about last years' Teacher Appreciation. Janice will share the info with Cathy and Susan. The PTSO will sponsor a Teacher/Staff Appreciation Buffet on Monday, May 2. If you're able to provide a dessert or healthy treat (fruit or veggie platter), please bring 2-3 dozen servings cut into small portions. Everything needs to be peanut-free and if you have a favorite gluten-free treat, that would be a great addition. The staff really appreciates this event and has asked for the recipes in the past. If you can provide a treat, email Cathy Sanders at [sanders.mail@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sanders.mail@sbcglobal.net) and then drop off your goodies with the recipe (optional) at the Nicolet High School Office on Monday, May 2 by 9:00am. Thank you so much for considering our amazing staff and teachers -- they certainly deserve it! Janice Pfaffl had a PTSO member pick out of the bowl for the PTSO Staff drawing. Congratulations to the two winners of \$10 gift cards: Brian Weisse and Debra Krause. 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. *Anyone can support the Nicolet teachers/staff by purchasing Starbucks, Jimmy John's, Barnes & Noble, etc. gift cards or by making a monetary donation to the PTSO. Drop off or mail the monetary/gift card donations in a sealed*



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*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](mailto:pmelkonian@mac.com)*

- **Spirit Award – Piper Melkonian and Marilyn Franklin, Co-Chairs.** Marilyn Franklin explained that the teachers nominate the students for the Spirit Award. The award ceremony for seniors is May 25 at 6:30pm.
- **Sen16r Breakfast – Lorie Wertheimer and Jen Friedman, Co-Chairs.** Lorie shared that the Sen16r Breakfast is on Friday, June 3 at 10:00am-11:30pm. She reported that she and Jen checked into other food service options but only vicky from Nicolet can do it for the best price. They spoke to six caterers. The senior gifts will be an aluminum water bottle, not the coffee mugs. There was some confusion regarding set up but no worries, it will be done the night before. There are already parent volunteers in place. ***They still need some gift cards for giveaways. Parents are encouraged to donate \$10 and \$20 gift cards to be given away at Sen16r Breakfast. Please place your gift cards in an envelope marked PTSO SEN16R BREAKFAST and drop them in the High School office. They will come in on budget.***
- **Grad Grams – Robin Arenzon and Kathy Eurich, Co-Chairs.** We are getting to the time for Grad Grams. Grad Gram orders will be able to be ordered on April 11th right after prom. They will need volunteers to help with Grad Gram assembly. Assembly will be the Wednesday, June 1st in the evening. Robin will call tomorrow to reserve the cafeteria for that.

#### **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](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, April 21, 2016 at 6:00pm in the Nicolet cafeteria, room B113. All are welcome!

The meeting was adjourned at 6:42pm.

Respectfully submitted by Sharon Shapiro  
Nicolet PTSO Secretary