



September 22, 2016

Meeting Minutes

The Nicolet PTSO President, Piper Melkonian, is out of the country. Janice Pfaffl, the PTSO Vice President, called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. Janice welcomed everybody. The PTSO officers (VP-Janice Pfaffl, Treasurer-Brenda Stelzer, and Secretary-Sharon Shapiro) introduced themselves. Then, everyone at the meeting went around the room and introduced themselves. The May, 2016 minutes were reviewed. Principal Greg Kabara motioned to approve the minutes. Ms. Kasey Ehrke seconded the motion. The May, 2016 minutes were approved.

**Attendance:** Robin Arenzon, Nina Capati, Stephanie Deering, Kasey Ehrke, Marilyn Franklin, Kristy Holvick, Greg Kabara, Julie Karnes, Molly Krychowiak, Ellen Liang, Halah Maykhan, Nancy McLaughlin, Superior Murphy, Janice Pfaffl, Bridey Richards, Sharon Shapiro, Brenda Stelzer, Jill Tobin, Sarah Damonte Vegas, Kari Williams, and Jackie Winter

**President's Report:** *Piper Melkonian*

- In Piper's absence, Janice mentioned that the PTSO is not doing concessions anymore.
- Janice explained that the teachers and staff had a social event during their in-service days before school started. The PTSO was asked to donate funds and gave \$100 to support it. The teachers were extremely appreciative.
- The PTSO typically partners with the Nicolet Foundation and Booster Club for the Homecoming Tailgate Cookout but there is none this year. However, all are invited to the Homecoming parade and football game. There will be concessions sold. More Homecoming information will be reported by the PTSO Homecoming chair, Jill Tobin, as well as from the student council representatives and new co-advisors.
- The PTSO is going to donate silent auction items to the Foundation's *Knight on the Town: Mission Possible* fundraising event. After much discussion, the donated items include a set of 25 Grad Grams, one pair of prom tickets, two individual one-semester parking passes (thank you, Mr. Kabara!) and a Nicolet Knight window decal cling to go with each parking pass. There was a motion made by Janice Pfaffl and it was seconded by Jackie Winter. The vote was unanimously approved to donate those items and support the Foundation, as they always support the PTSO.
- Janice mentioned that we are looking for more volunteers to work on programs. Please also consider being an officer on the PTSO board in the future.

**Treasurer's Report:** *Brenda Stelzer*

- The detailed budget was available for all to see in the PTSO packet handed out at the beginning of the meeting. Brenda explained that at the first PTSO meeting of the year, we start with the year's budget.
- The proposed budget was presented and the following adjustments to the proposed budget were discussed- Remove \$250 from expected income listed as "other". This was expected income from the Homecoming Tailgate, an event that the PTSO cannot sponsor as the Foundation is not hosting it this year. The Homecoming week expenditure was decreased by \$250 to offset the revenue change. It was noted that the number of students participating in the Merit Award program has been increasing. Funding was restored to previous years amount (\$2,000 --> \$2,500), change was offset by a reduction in post prom/school spirit proposed expense (\$1,000 □ \$500). The proposed end of year budget had no change. It was noted that the PTSO has \$4,000 from last year's concession income to spend.
- Mr. Kabara will be creating a wish list for us. So, we can decide on what to spend that on.



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**Student Council: Ellen Liang and Superior Murphy (Class of 2017 co-presidents)**

- **The new Student Council advisors are Ms. Deering and Ms. Ehrke. They introduced the new class of 2017 student council co-presidents, Ellen Liang and Superior Murphy.** They informed us what is happening for Homecoming as the PTSO works with the administration to help organize, sponsor, and support Homecoming activities for students.
- **Homecoming week** will begin on Tuesday, October 4<sup>th</sup> leading up to the dance on Saturday, October 8<sup>th</sup>. The week will consist of special activities, games, and dress-up days that have been planned to encourage students to become excited and involved in the upcoming school year.
  - **Tuesday** is Color Day: Freshman - Orange, Sophomore - Green, Junior - Purple, Senior - White), Window Painting, Girls Volleyball Game 6:30pm, Boys Soccer Game 7:00pm.
  - **Wednesday** is Sports Teams Day: Freshman - Brewers, Sophomore - Badgers, Junior - Packers, Senior - Team USA, Faculty - Bucks), Powderpuff Games – freshmen vs sophomores 4:00pm and juniors vs seniors 4:45pm, Boys Volleyball Game 6:30pm.
  - **Thursday** is Movie Day: Freshman - Disney, Sophomore - Harry Potter, Junior - Grease, Senior - Mama Mia, Faculty - Despicable Me, JV Football Game 6:00pm.
  - **Friday** is Nicolet Spirit Day: Hallway Parade 1:19pm, Pep Rally 1:30pm, Community Parade 4:30pm (starts on Daphne Rd and makes its way around the corner onto N. Jean Nicolet Rd.), Yard Games 5:0pm-7:00pm, Bonfire 6:00pm-7:00pm, Homecoming Football Game at 7:00pm. There may possibly be food for purchase via food trucks late afternoon.
  - **Saturday** is the Homecoming Dance 8:00pm-11:00pm at Nicolet. Tickets on sale at lunch time prior to dance. The theme for the dance is *Night in the Tropics*. There will be a DJ, photo booth, and raffle prizes (gift cards) that the PTSO is sponsoring.
- **Students can earn Merit Hours by participating in some Homecoming activities for end of the year Merit Awards!** Merit Award forms available in the Nicolet High School office. For more information, visit: <http://www.nicolet.us/students/merit.pdf>

**Guidance Report: Mr. Nader Raad**

- Mr. Raad was unable to attend but sent on the following points as an update.
- Counselors went to English classes to review the college application process with the seniors, answer any questions they had, and encourage them to make individual appointments as needed. All students were encouraged to get those applications done earlier and watch deadlines. November 1 is a priority deadline for many colleges for admission and scholarship including some of our most popular schools like Madison, Minnesota, and Indiana.
- We have also been promoting the National College Fair on October 2 from noon to 3:00 and also encouraging students to sign up for college visits here at Nicolet. A complete list can be found on our website and Naviance. Students need to sign up for these through Naviance at least 24 hours in advance.
- Families can now start filling out the FAFSA form for financial aid as early as October 1. Information is on our website. We also sent a Skyward notification out about the North Shore Financial Aid Night on October 24 from 6:30-8:00 at Shorewood High School.
- Finally, starting October 4th, the counselors will be calling our freshmen in to meet them and start the Academic and Career Planning Process by developing their four-year plans and saving this in Naviance and on their Chromebooks. This meeting is important to check in, give information, answer questions, monitor academic progress, and establish a positive rapport with our students.



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**Teacher Liaison: Molly Krychowiak**

- Molly thanked the PTSO for the \$100 donation to the event and for all the PTSO does for the teachers/staff.
- Barbara Byrnes reports that six members went to a teacher conference in Denver.
- There is a teacher presenting at a special education conference.

**School Board: Principal Greg Kabara**

- Marilyn Franklin mentioned that the school board is working on the sale of the upper athletic field and working to improve the athletic facilities.

**Foundation: Sharon Shapiro/Marilyn Franklin**

- This year's fundraising event is called ***Knight on the Town: Mission Possible*** and all are invited to attend October 15, 2016 at 6:30pm at the JCC. We will be honoring Richard Lovett, Nicolet Class of '78 with the *Shining Knight Award* for his achievement in the entertainment industry. The Nicolet High School Foundation raises awareness of Nicolet's academic excellence and helps ensure that it is maintained for current and future students. The evening will include a cash bar, appetizers, dinner, entertainment, a silent and voice auction, and program.
- RESERVATIONS can be made online through *Bidding for Good* at <https://www.biddingforgood.com/auction/auctionhome.action?vhost=nicoletkott> or if you prefer to pay with a check, fill out and mail in this form: [http://www.nicolet.us/cms\\_files/resources/kott\\_rsvp.pdf](http://www.nicolet.us/cms_files/resources/kott_rsvp.pdf). The cost per ticket is \$75 (general admission), \$125 (VIP event-an intimate cocktail reception and meet and greet with *Shining Knight Award* recipient, Richard Lovett, and our event co-chairs Ugo and Sheila Nwagbaraocha.)
- The Foundation is still looking for sponsors and auction items. Please help! Auction Donor Form: [http://www.nicolet.us/cms\\_files/resources/kott\\_donor\\_form1.pdf](http://www.nicolet.us/cms_files/resources/kott_donor_form1.pdf). Sponsorship Levels and Benefits: [http://www.nicolet.us/cms\\_files/resources/kott\\_sponsorships.pdf](http://www.nicolet.us/cms_files/resources/kott_sponsorships.pdf). For more information, visit: <http://www.nicolet.us/families/foundation.cfm>.

**Administration Report: Principal Greg Kabara**

- Mr. Kabara shared that Nicolet High School is off to a great school year!
- In terms of the faculty, the new assistant principal is doing great! Ms. MariaWallis' students were recognized for perfect scores on AP Spanish. Mr. Mark Wagner was recognized for the German exchange program for over twenty years. Ms. Sue Bolly is being recognized for the global scholars in symposium history teacher. Mr. Jamin Hoffman was recognized at the orchestra comp and his students were selected to perform at Carnegie Hall this spring. Mr. Eliot Scheuer was recognized by a student at MIT as the most influential teacher.
- In terms of sports, this year, the Nicolet football team won their first football game which lead to lots of school spirit! The girls volleyball team is undefeated. The girls tennis team is # 2 in the state!

**Chair Reports: Janice Pfaffl**

- **Homecoming – Jill Tobin, Chair.** The PTSO provides financial and volunteer support for Homecoming activities. As of now, there are many activities lined up for Homecoming. Please refer to the student



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council section above. **The PTSO needs volunteers to help the Homecoming check-in process to move quickly and supervise the coat check between 7:30pm-9:00pm. A *Sign-Up Genius* will be created for volunteer registration. For further details, please watch your email, check the PTSO webpage:**

**<http://www.nicolet.us/families/ptso.cfm>, and the PTSO Facebook page:**

**<https://www.facebook.com/NicoletPTSO/>.**

- **Merit Awards – *Jill Tobin and Nancy McLaughlin, Co-Chairs.*** The PTSO recognizes positive citizenship within the Nicolet community. Students complete an application packet throughout the school year. They will be available in the high school office, guidance counselor office, at advisory, and online this year. Awards are given out at the award ceremony at the end of the year. 4 year recipients are indicated in the commencement booklet at graduation. Jill will work with Principal Greg Kabara and Amy Lee in the high school office to make sure that the Merit Award Packets are printed and available to all. There will be announcements about them placed in the daily announcements and Jill will make sure the advisors explain it to their classes. 309 copies, enough for freshman, will be made so that Health teachers will be able to work on them with their students. It is important for PTSO to share with the students where they can get their merit hours. So, Jill will create the list to include all the volunteer opportunities for students from talking with teachers, staff, and school organizations that can give out merit hours. Sherri Richards and Donna Bohn are in charge of the interns at Nicolet, so they may be able to offer help, too.
- **Cocoa & Cram/Cookies & Cram – *Chairs Needed.*** These are two hour study sessions that PTSO sponsors with treats on the Saturday before final exams, twice a year. Teachers, administrators, and students attend and enjoy. Last spring's Cookies & Cram went well. It was well attended.
- **Teacher Appreciation – *Cathy Sanders and Susan Schroeder, Co-Chairs.*** The PTSO provides a huge dessert buffet for the teachers during Teacher Appreciation Week. We need a chairperson for this event. Principal Greg Kabara recommended that we connect with Amy Lee in the High School Office because there is a student intern who could help with this event. This intern could always help PTSO with creating scripts, making copies, etc.
- **Spirit Award –*Marilyn Franklin, Chair, is looking for a co to work with.*** The Nicolet Staff nominates students that show positive spirit. We have given out 1 -5 awards every year. The spirit award winners get their name up in the Commons.
- **Senior Breakfast – *Robin Arenzon and Kathy Eurich, Co-Chairs.*** This is a great send off for Nicolet's Senior Class at the end of the year right before final exams.
- **Prom Activities – *Volunteer Chair needed.*** We did not discuss this as it is not timely. The student council president will connect about prom at a future meeting.
- **Grad Grams – *Kris Barger and Nina Capati, Co-Chairs.*** Congratulatory messages are purchased and sent by anyone to a graduating senior and/or retiring staff member. These messages are bound together into a keepsake memory booklet given out at graduation rehearsal.

#### **Other Business:**

- Please visit the Nicolet PTSO Facebook page and "like" it at <https://www.facebook.com/NicoletPTSO>
- Our ongoing PTSO fundraiser is the Nicolet Knight window decal cling sales. 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 will be available in the office or online via our webpage soon <http://www.nicolet.us/families/ptso.cfm>.



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- The Nicolet PTSO benefits the parents, teachers, and students of Nicolet through raising funds via PTSO membership dues (still only \$15), Grad Gram sales, and the Nicolet Knight window decal cling sales (only \$5.) The PTSO sponsors events including Homecoming Activities, Student Dances, Cocoa/Cookies and Cram Study Sessions, Merit Awards, Spirit Award, Teacher Appreciation, School Gifts, Senior Breakfast, and more. Please pay your dues, join us at meetings, and volunteer. We need you!  
[http://www.nicolet.us/cms\\_files/resources/ptso\\_membership\\_form.pdf](http://www.nicolet.us/cms_files/resources/ptso_membership_form.pdf)
- Please mark your calendars and plan on attending our next PTSO meeting on October 27<sup>th</sup>. All are welcome!

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35pm.

Respectfully submitted by  
Sharon Shapiro, Nicolet PTSO Secretary