



September 28, 2017

Meeting Minutes

## WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS, and MINUTES

The Nicolet PTSO Vice President, Janice Pfaffl, called the meeting to order at 6:04pm. Janice welcomed everybody. Everyone at the meeting went around the room and introduced themselves. The May, 2017 minutes were reviewed. Sharon Shapiro motioned to approve the minutes. Janice Pfaffl seconded the motion. The May, 2017 minutes were approved. Sharon Shapiro, PTSO Secretary, explained that included in the PTSO packet was the agenda, the May 2017 PTSO minutes for approval, the PTSO Year-to-Date Activity and Budget, the PTSO welcome letter, dues, and volunteer form, Student Council's *Nicolet Homecoming Week Activities-Outta' This World* flyer, and the Nicolet Foundation's *Homecoming Tailgate* flyer.

## ATTENDANCE

Kris Barger, Nina Capati, David Coyle, Libby Gutterman, Julie Karnes, Jordan Levy, Gina Lima, Kayla Melkonian, Nancy McLaughlin, Anne O'Donoghue, Janice Pfaffl, Sopia Pfaffl, Traci Schwartz, Sharon Shapiro, Brenda Stelzer, Colette Timm, Jill Tobin, Chia Youyee Vang, and Sarah Damonte Vegas

## OFFICER REPORTS

### Treasurer Report: Brenda Stelzer

- The detailed budget was available for all to see in the PTSO packet handed out at the beginning of the meeting. We are beginning the year with \$10450 in the account. We also had a successful LuLaRoe fundraiser at the beginning of the year. The almost \$1,300 that was earned from the fundraiser is not listed as we were given the check at the meeting.
- There was discussion regarding the possibility of not engraving each of the students' names onto each bronze, silver, and gold medal. However, engrave the names onto the 4 year plaques. The students at the meeting said that the name was not what made it valuable. We may consider this to save some money at the end of the year.
- The proposed budget was presented by Brenda Stelzer. Kris Barger made a motion to approve the 2017-2018 budget. Janice seconded the motion. The budget was approved.

### Vice President Report: Janice Pfaffl

- Janice Pfaffl proposed that we have co-presidents for PTSO and suggested that Kris Barger and Traci Schwartz be nominated. Traci said she was looking forward to working in the position. Kris addressed all the parents too and suggested that everyone keep coming to meetings and be involved in PTSO because it is great to get to know other parents at Nicolet. Janice made a motion to nominate Kris Barger and Traci Schwartz to be PTSO co-presidents. Brenda Stelzer seconded the motion. The motion was approved.
- **Congratulations to Kris and Traci. Thank you for leading the PTSO!**

## NICOLET REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

### Student Council: Jordan Levy and Kayla Melkonian

- Both students informed us what is happening for Homecoming as the PTSO works with the administration to help organize, sponsor, and support Homecoming activities for students. The theme is Space Galaxy/Outta' This World.



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- **Homecoming week** will begin on Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> leading up to the dance on Saturday, October 7<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.
  - **SUNDAY, 10/1** begins with the **Color Run sponsored by the Spanish Honor Society** at 1:00pm with registration at 12:00pm. Following with the **Powderpuff Games: Freshman vs sophomores** at 4:00pm, **Juniors vs Seniors** at 4:45pm, and **Seniors vs Staff** at 5:30pm. Then, there will be a **Bonfire, Games, and Food Trucks** at 6:00pm! There will be many trucks including a cupcake food truck. Remember to bring money for the Food Trucks.
  - **MONDAY, 10/2 COLOR DAY** Freshman-Yellow (The Sun), Sophomores-Green (Earth), Juniors-Red (Mars), Seniors-White (The Moon), Faculty/Staff- Black (The Black Hole).
  - **TUESDAY, 10/3 JERSEY DAY**
  - **WEDNESDAY, 10/4 TV SHOW/MOVIE DAY**
  - **THURSDAY, 10/5 DESTINATION DAY** Freshman-Antarctica, Sophomores-Safari, Juniors-Wild Western, Seniors-Beach, Faculty/Staff-Tourists.
  - **FRIDAY, 10/6 NICOLET SPIRIT DAY** Pep Rally at 2:00pm, Parade at 4:30pm (starts on Daphne Road and makes its way around the corner onto N. Jean Nicolet Rd). Tailgate following the parade around 5:30pm. <http://www.nicolet.us/families/foundation.cfm> \$10 tickets include cookout dinner and Homecoming football game entrance. \$15 presale tickets also include a Nicolet Knights Knit Hat-this offer is good until 10/6 at 12:00pm. <http://www.nicolet.us/families/foundation.cfm>. The Homecoming Football Game is at 7:00pm. Everyone is invited to join the community, support our team, and get into the Nicolet spirit!
  - **SATURDAY, 10/7 Homecoming Dance** from 8:00pm-11:00pm at Nicolet. Tickets will be on sale at lunch time during the week prior to dance. The theme for the dance is *Outta' This World*. Typically, the freshman, sophomores, and juniors dress up semi formal for the dance, and seniors dress in the theme. There will be a DJ, photo booth, lots of snacks, and raffle prizes (gift cards) that the PTSO is sponsoring.
- **Parents**, please consider volunteering to help the PTSO during Homecoming. We need you! You can sign up to volunteer your time at the Homecoming Parade and/or the Dance or donate small water bottles, individual bags of chips/pretzels, candy, or \$10 gift cards for student prizes. PLEASE say you'll help and go to the sign up genius and sign up: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080a49aea2ba75-nicolet>. **Thank you!**
- **Students** can earn *Merit Hours* by participating in some Homecoming activities for the end of the year **PTSO Merit Awards!** All Nicolet students are eligible and encouraged to apply for a Merit Award to recognize their active and positive participation in the school community. Merit Award packets/forms are available in the Nicolet High School office or it can be downloaded via the PTSO webpage. Visit <http://www.nicolet.us/families/ptso.cfm> and scroll down through the information until you see the *Nicolet Merit Awards*, click on it, or download it here <http://www.nicolet.us/students/merit.pdf>.

### **Guidance Report: Mr. Nader Raad**

- No report

### **Teacher Liaison: None**

- No report



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### **Foundation: Sharon Shapiro**

- This year's Foundation fundraising event, ***Knight on the Town***, was originally scheduled for March, 2018 but is in conflict with a possible basketball tournament. While the PT SO fund raises for student programming, the Foundation raises funds to enhance academics. The PT SO and the Foundation support each other. The upcoming Knight on the Town event will be rescheduled.
- Please attend the Nicolet Foundation *friendraiser*, The Nicolet Homecoming Tailgate cookout dinner on Friday evening, October 6<sup>th</sup> from 5:30pm-7:00pm after the parade and prior to the football game. Visit the Foundation webpage for tickets: <http://www.nicolet.us/families/> \$15 presale tickets include a Nicolet Knight knit hat, dinner, and football game entrance *if purchased prior to October 6<sup>th</sup> at 12:00pm*. Otherwise, \$10 tickets will be sold to include the dinner and game entrance. Hope to see you there!

### **Administration/School Board Report: Associate Principal, Mr. David Coyle**

- **LuLaRoe Fundraiser** - On September 9, 2017 Twenty LuLaRoe Retailers participated in a fundraiser for the Nicolet PT SO at Nicolet High School. Over 120 customers patronized the event and \$1285.50 was raised to help the ongoing efforts at Nicolet. Of the total, \$644.50 was raised by the retailers and the LuLaRoe Company will be matching \$641.00. The event was a great success and we hope to do another event in the future, possibly in the spring. ***Our hearts are full of admiration and gratitude for Mr. David Coyle, Nicolet Associate Principal. He worked extremely hard to organize and implement this first PT SO fundraiser of the year, the LuLaRoe Pop-Up Boutique. Thank you very much for all your efforts. It is because of you that this was successful. We appreciate you!!!***
- **Teacher Membership Drive** - Mr. Coyle and Dr. Kabara urged staff members to join the Nicolet PT SO. As an incentive, teachers were promised donuts (paid for by the administration) one morning if their team got their members to join. Additionally, PT SO donated 3 City Tins for the first three teams that get all members to join. In total, \$605.00 was raised and 85 members of the staff joined the PT SO as paid members. On Friday September 22, the administration provided the staff donuts and cookies from Grebes Bakery. ***Thank you to Mr. Coyle, Nicolet Associate Principal, and Dr. Kabara, Nicolet Principal for making the PT SO such a priority. Thank you for creating these incentives! We appreciate you and your continual support.***
- **School** - Mr. Coyle shared that the school implemented a much needed new attendance procedure. It is a tough process and is taking some time to adapt. They found that only less than 1% are not scanning their ID, double scanning, forgetting, etc. While its been a challenge, the culture of being on time has successfully shifted. There was some discussion. Parents said that there was lots of chatter with negative feedback regarding what their kids were sharing with them and the amount of texts, emails, and phone messages received from the school, especially when you have more than one student at Nicolet.

### **Othere Student Report: Sofia Pfaffl**

- Sofia shared that she developed a survey that she sent to 130 upper classmen about Nicolet. She received a 50% response rate. She asked the students to describe Nicolet. The positive comments she received were friendly, diverse, and smart. The negative comments shared were overwhelming and stressful. The students said they feel safe at Nicolet. However, the students said they do not feel trusted. The descriptive word, *prisoners*, was used. The students said that they have worked hard at Nicolet for



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3 years and feel like they are being punished. They also said they are adapting to a new system but often feel uncomfortable about not feeling like they can ask to go to the bathroom.

- Mr. Coyle was very receptive to listening. There was more discussion with him, Sofia, and the parents and Mr. Coyle said they are working to fix this. Ultimately, problems include that it is a new system/process and communication. Mr. Coyle will address the bathroom issue first thing tomorrow morning as students should be able to go to the bathroom when needed. Dr. Kabara is forming a Principal Advisory Team to be a forum for student voices for these types of issues. Mr. Coyle says the school also will be surveying parents at conferences and also considering creating an incentive program that rewards upper classmen's behavior to regain trust. A parent suggested that considering the teenagers' feelings is extremely important as well as empowering the upper classman in change and encouraging their leadership.

## PTSO CHAIR REPORTS

- **Homecoming** – *Jill Tobin, Chair*. The PTSO provides financial and volunteer support for Homecoming activities. There are many activities lined up for Homecoming. Please refer to the student council section above and the Homecoming flyer for more information: [http://www.nicolet.us/cms\\_files/event\\_attach/433859/Homecoming%20Week.pdf](http://www.nicolet.us/cms_files/event_attach/433859/Homecoming%20Week.pdf). The community is invited to come see all the Nicolet team and club parade floats. The parade lines up and begins along Daphne road. Spectators are welcome! Again, **parents**, please consider volunteering to help the PTSO during Homecoming. We need you! You can sign up to volunteer your time at the Homecoming Parade, the Dance, or donate small water bottles, individual bags of chips/pretzels, candy, or \$10 gift cards for student prizes. PLEASE say you'll help and go to the *Sign Up Genius* and volunteer to help with Homecoming Parade organization, dance check-in, etc. <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080a49aeaa2ba75-nicolet>. **Thank you!**
- **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 are available in the high school office, guidance counselor office, at advisory, and online. Medals and Plaques 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 Dr. 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. Copies 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. We talked about having student volunteer possibilities posted in one place, maybe on the school website to help. That way, students will know that they can volunteer to help at the swim meet, conferences, etc. We will ask Dr. Kabara if this can be done. *We are looking for PTSO volunteers to help Jill with the Merit Awards. If interested, please email one of the co-presidents and let her know that you are willing to help! Send emails to Kris Barger at [bargerhome@gmail.com](mailto:bargerhome@gmail.com) or Traci Schwartz at [tracimia@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tracimia@sbcglobal.net).*
- **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. These are always well attended and benefit our students. *We are looking for*



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*PTSO volunteers to organize and implement these easy events. If interested, please email one of the co-presidents and let her know that you are willing to help! Send emails to Kris Barger at [bargerhome@gmail.com](mailto:bargerhome@gmail.com) or Traci Schwartz at [tracimia@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tracimia@sbcglobal.net).*

- **Teacher Appreciation – Chairs Needed.** The PTSO provides a huge dessert buffet for the teachers during Teacher Appreciation Week in May. We need a chairperson(s) for this event. Last year, Principal Greg Kabara recommended that we connect with Amy Lee in the High School Office as there is a student intern who could help with this event. *We are looking for PTSO volunteers to organize and implement this Teacher Appreciation event. If interested, please email one of the co-presidents and let her know that you are willing to help! Send emails to Kris Barger at [bargerhome@gmail.com](mailto:bargerhome@gmail.com) or Traci Schwartz at [tracimia@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tracimia@sbcglobal.net).*
- **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. *If interested in helping, please email one of the co-presidents and let her know that you are willing to help! Send emails to Kris Barger at [bargerhome@gmail.com](mailto:bargerhome@gmail.com) or Traci Schwartz at [tracimia@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tracimia@sbcglobal.net).*
- **Senior Breakfast – Julie Karnes and Jill Tobin, Co-Chairs.** This celebratory catered breakfast is a great send off for Nicolet’s Senior Class at the end of the year. *If interested in helping, please email one of the co-presidents and let her know that you are willing to help! Send emails to Kris Barger at [bargerhome@gmail.com](mailto:bargerhome@gmail.com) or Traci Schwartz at [tracimia@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tracimia@sbcglobal.net).*
- **Grad Grams –Nina Capati, Chair.** 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. We will need lots of help assembling the Grad Gram booklets. *If interested in helping, please email one of the co-presidents and let her know that you are willing to help! Send emails to Kris Barger at [bargerhome@gmail.com](mailto:bargerhome@gmail.com) or Traci Schwartz at [tracimia@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tracimia@sbcglobal.net).*

## OTHER BUSINESS

- We will discuss future fundraisers such as dining at restaurants that will donate proceeds and selling City Tins at the next meeting.
- **The next PTSO meeting is set for Thursday, October 26, 2017** at 6:00pm in the Nicolet cafeteria, room B113. Please mark your calendar, attend the 2017-2018 meetings, continue to be involved and informed. The meetings are scheduled for most Thursday evenings including October 26, November 16, (NO DECEMBER MEETING) January 11, February 15, March 15, April 19, and May 17 at 4:00pm following the Merit Award Ceremony.
- The Nicolet PTSO benefits the parents, teachers, and students by raising funds via PTSO membership dues (still only \$15), Grad Gram sales, and other fundraisers. The PTSO sponsors events including Homecoming Activities, Student Dances, Cocoa/Cookies & 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)



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- Visit the PTSO webpage: <http://www.nicolet.us/families/ptso.cfm>
- Visit the PTSO Facebook page and “like” it: <https://www.facebook.com/NicoletPTSO/>

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by  
Sharon Shapiro, Nicolet PTSO Secretary