



January 15, 2015 Meeting Minutes

Attendance: Nina Capati, Marilyn Franklin, Greg Kabara, Terri Lewis, Gene Macken, Jill Johnson Miller, Mary Beth Mills, Karen Morice, Sharon Shapiro, Sarah Damonte Vegas, Whitney Wertheimer, and Kristin Wright

The Nicolet PTSO President, Mary Beth Mills, called the meeting to order at 6:02pm. A motion was made by Principal Greg Kabara to approve the November minutes. Jill Johnson Miller seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

President's Report: *Mrs. Mary Beth Mills*

- Mary Beth reported that she and Piper Melkonian attended the Nicolet Staff meeting on January 7th. They spoke about the PTSO and invited the entire Nicolet staff to participate in all PTSO events, volunteer their time, and donate. They also mentioned that Cocoa & Cram was coming up.
- Mr. Kabara and Mr. Macken added that this was seen as positive by the staff and requested that this take place at least annually beginning in September.
- It was also suggested that the PTSO should put a blurb about our events in the staff update.

Treasurer's Report: *Mrs. Jill Johnson Miller*

- Jill reported that there were no expenses in the past month but there was \$.63 in interest. There will be more expenses in the spring.
- In the past, we had been carrying about \$10,000 in a money market account but our accounts are dwindling. Ultimately, this is good, as we should be spending the money that has been donated to the PTSO every year. Unfortunately, we are charged a \$15 fee every month. So, Jill speaks to the bank manager and he takes off that charge. However, Jill suspects that the bank may stop offering that service.
- Jill proposed two options. The first option is to keep the checking account and close the money market account and merge those funds into the one checking account. The second option would be to close the money market account and add a savings account to have along with our checking account. There was discussion regarding both suggestions.
- Mary Beth Mills made a motion to close the money market account to save the monthly \$15 fee. Greg Kabara seconded the motion. It was approved.

Chair Reports: *Mrs. Mary Beth Mills*

- **Merit Awards** – Mary Beth reported that the Merit Award packets are available in the High School Office for all Nicolet students. Piper Melkonian and Jill Tobin will be chairing this event. Thank you Piper and Jill! The deadline for turning in Merit Award packets is March 20, 2015.
- **Cocoa & Cram** – Kristin Wright, Cocoa & Cram chairperson, reported that she ordered 300 bagels from Brueggers including the 5 dozen bagels they donate. Pick-N-Save is donating day-old bakery to Cocoa & Cram. Parents are donating fruit this year, too. There are about 30 teachers signed up to help at Cocoa & Cram. It was suggested that we sell Nicolet Knight window decal clings at the event. The event is from 10:00am-12:00pm. It was questioned as to whether the event should be longer. Mr. Kabara said that he will be willing to stay a bit longer if kids are looking to stay and study. After this C&C event, we will discuss timing. This first C & C event will be held on January 17, 2015. The next C&C will be right before second semester exams in June, 2015. *If anyone would like to help Kristin on this committee, please connect with PTSO President, Mary Beth Mills, at marybethmills3@gmail.com and let her know you are willing to volunteer.*



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- **Senior Breakfast** –This celebratory event is a breakfast for students in the senior class and is organized and sponsored by the PTSO at the conclusion of the school year. *The PTSO is looking for a chair and committee members to organize and implement this event. Please contact PTSO President, Mary Beth Mills, at marybethmills3@gmail.com if you are interested in volunteering.*

Student Council Report: Whitney Wertheimer - Junior Class Student Council President

- **Sadie Hawkins Dance** –The dance is being planned and implemented by the student council. It will take place on Friday, February 27, 2015. There will be another Spirit Week leading up to the dance on Friday night, similar to the one that occurred during Homecoming Week. This Spirit Week will begin again on the Sunday before and they are working on events for it. The Student Council is considering doing a Sunday evening 5K to get ready for Relay for Life-May 29, 2015. They may also do Buzz Cuts for Cancer. Whitney will meet with the Student Council and get back to the PTSO with their plan at the next PTSO meeting on February 19.
- **Prom Activities** – Whitney reported that Prom will be held at the Intercontinental Hotel on April 25, 2015. The student council is working on the theme Abstract Day and Night with the colors most likely being black and gold. The DJ is called DJ GA and is from the radio station 100.7. That DJ has done Tosa East's prom and comes highly recommended. Some ideas for extras at the prom are Henna and Glitter Tattoo stations. They will come up with more at their meeting and get back to us.
- **Freshman/Sophomore Activity** – There has been talk of holding an event for the Freshman and Sophomore classes on the same date as the Junior/Senior Prom. It could be anything from going bowling to a movie or whatever. They would like it to occur at the same time so there is not only focus on the upper classmen. It will be a social event but not a dance.

Guidance Report: Terri Lewis, Social Worker

- Terri Lewis reported that the guidance counselors have met with the freshman and sophomores about Naviance. They are working on course selections. Now all classes have learned how to use Naviance. It is a great tool for students to use to help with the college application process and post high school plans.

Teacher Report: Mr. Gene Macken

- The staff and teachers are consumed with final exams right now.
- There are a number of teachers out with long term temporary illnesses. Mr. Macken suggested that we send a card to each of them from the PTSO.
- Mr. Macken reported that the teachers really liked the PTSO coming to the staff meeting. The teachers need help with field trip chaperones. So, if the PTSO could provide them with a list of volunteers that could help them in this area, it would be appreciated. ***PARENTS: please email PTSO President, Mary Beth Mills, at marybethmills3@gmail.com and let her know you are interested in being included on the new PTSO Parent Volunteers to Chaperone Nicolet Field Trip list.*** Mr. Macken also mentioned that the teachers are also interested in getting help for donating consumables that teachers need donated. Mr. Macken will have them come up with a list and get that to us.

School Board/Foundation Report: Marilyn Franklin

- Marilyn Franklin shared that the School Board's Committee of the Whole meeting is Tuesday, January 20th.
- The next School Board meeting is Monday, January 26th.



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- **UPDATED INFORMATION AS OF 1/26/15. The Senior Breakfast will begin at 10:00am followed by graduation rehearsal on Friday, June 5th.** The Nicolet Booster Club paid for a Feasibility study. The Nicolet School district is hoping to sell the fields for about \$8-9 million as the entire new fields project cost will be about \$18 million.
- The City of Glendale is building the infrastructure which includes a concession area, band shell, rest rooms, etc. with the thought of (Nicolet) baseball fields to be in the picture. The water and electrical lines are being put in with the knowledge that Nicolet may build the baseball fields and they are working around that.
- Marilyn reported that The Nicolet Foundation will be doing the *Band Together* event partnering again with our feeder schools. The entire community is invited to see the University of Wisconsin Band perform their 5th Quarter on Saturday, March 7th at 2:00pm. Doors open at 1:00pm with snack concessions, an instrument petting zoo by Brass Bell, a silent auction, and more. All of the Nicolet student athletic teams, academic and recreation clubs, along with teacher/staff/parent organizations will be invited to donate baskets of items to raise money at the silent auction. Tickets will be available for purchase at all the schools soon. *If anyone wants to put together the PTSO basket to be donated to the Foundation's Band Together silent auction, please contact PTSO President, Mary Beth Mills, at marybethmills3@gmail.com and let her know you are interested in volunteering to do this.*

Administration Report: Mr. Kabara

- Mr. Kabara reported that the PTSO sponsored Senior Breakfast will be combined with the graduation rehearsal again this year. Senior Breakfast will be around 10:15am on the last day of exams. The seniors will dress up, receive awards, raffles, watch the senior video, and have a fun time! In the past, the PTSO gave out coffee mugs. This year, we may give away Nicolet Alumni t-shirts. Then, graduation rehearsal will be right after around 11:30am.
- In the past, the athletic and academic end-of-the-year awards were at separate times and dates. Unfortunately, scholarship offerings have dwindled. Nicolet will be merging the two events-which are mainly for seniors. The date will be in May.
- January is the time for student preregistration.
- The guidance counselors are hosting an 8th grade Parent 101 on January 28th.
- Nicolet is doing something new this year called Junior Knights Day. Each of our partner school's class of 8th graders will be assigned to one of the days: February 3-6. The private school/homeschool students will attend on the same day as Maple Dale as it has the smallest population. At the Junior Knights Day, the 8th graders will tour the building and do STAR testing. That way, there will be a uniform assessment to provide Nicolet a single set of data.
- Mr. Kabara reported that the city of Glendale keeps Kirk Krychowiak, Nicolet High School Athletics Director, informed regarding the fields. The North Shore Conference Principals met with the WIAA to learn about the possibility of the realignment for Conference. In order for a football team to be in the playoffs, they need to win 50% of their games. Nicolet is misaligned in our conference. We are a smaller school population. Port Washington and Milwaukee Lutheran are looking to leave the conference. Besides athletic competition, travel time is also a concern. At the next North Shore Conference Principal meeting in February, they may find out that they may bring in more or other schools for the new four conferences and create a North Shore East and a North Shore West each with 8 teams. They may also be allowed to change divisions from year to year. They will try to meet the needs of all schools both academically and athletically. There still will be able to have crosstown rivalry games. The North Shore principals will be able to make recommendations but, ultimately, the WIAA has final say. They will still have 4 conference championships as to not limit the awards.



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- Mr. Kabara gave a staff update as three staff have been out due to Medical illnesses. Mr. Kabara reported that the choir teacher, Jennifer Tomlin, has been out for a long time already recovering from cancer treatments. While she is recovering well, she is not ready to come back to school yet. So, Mr. Kabara is hiring a long time substitute for Choir. Lori Shea, a special education teacher, has also been out recovering from cancer treatment. They are hiring a substitute as she will be out a bit longer, too. Dwight Davis suffered a minor stroke and is recovering. Mr. Kabara said that different staff will be stepping in to deal with his first semester WSI and Red Cross Certification classes. The semester will be extended for students to complete everything. Bill Shuster will be taking over the dive meets. The entire Parent Teacher Student Organization wishes all three of them an easy recovery! The PTSO officers will take care of sending a card and a plant to each of the three teachers dealing with these long illnesses. Mr. Kabara said it is wonderful to see our Nicolet community come together during tough times.

Old Business:

- Please be reminded to go to the new **Nicolet PTSO** facebook page and “like” it. There are pictures posted of Cocoa & Cram on that Facebook page now. There will be continual updates for PTSO members there: <https://www.facebook.com/NicoletPTSO>
- Thank you to those who paid their Nicolet PTSO dues. If you haven’t done so yet, please go to: http://www.nicolet.us/cms_files/resources/ptso_membership_form.pdf
- Our current PTSO fundraiser is the Nicolet Knight window decal sale. 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! These are available in the office or online via our webpage <http://www.nicolet.us/families/ptso.cfm>.
- Please mark your calendars and plan on attending our next PTSO meeting on February 19, 2015 at 6:00pm in the Room B113 (staff lounge in the back of the cafeteria.) All are welcome!
- Parents, we need your help. Volunteer for a PTSO committee, <http://www.nicolet.us/families/ptso.cfm>.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Sharon Shapiro, Nicolet PTSO Secretary