



February 15, 2018

Meeting Minutes

WELCOME & MINUTES

Nicolet PTSO Co-President, Traci Schwartz, called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. We went around the room and introduced ourselves. The January, 2018 minutes were discussed. Those minutes state that Jill Tobin and Janice Pfaffl will be the Cookies & Cram co-chairs. However, that is not correct. The minutes will be corrected to reflect that Bridget Killberg will take on being the chair for Cookies & Cram. She will try to find a partner to help her. Thank you, Bridget! Janice Pfaffl motioned to approved the updated and corrected January 2018 minutes. Traci seconded. They were approved.

ATTENDANCE

Kris Barger, Student-Holly Cannistra, Nina Capati, Associate Principal-David Coyle, Julie Karnes, Bridget Killberg, Gina Lima, Nancy McLaughlin, Janice Pfaffl, Bridey Richards, Traci Schwartz, Sharon Shapiro, Brenda Stelzer, Jill Tobin, Sarah Damonte Vegas, and Jackie Winter

OFFICER REPORTS

Treasurer Report: Brenda Stelzer

- The PTSO account balance is \$15,696.
- The upcoming Merit Awards and Senior breakfast are our largest commitments for the year and Grad Grams is our last fundraiser.
- There was one deposit in January for \$30 from a CityTin Sale. The PTSO and the administration bought 6 tins to be distributed to staff and teachers, time and occasion, to be determined. The PTSO made \$580 on the fundraiser. Thank you to everyone for making it a success!
- Proceeds from both the CityTin and the LulaRoe fundraiser will be used to purchase more picnic tables for the outside commons.

Co-President Report: Kris Barger & Traci Schwartz

- None

Vice President Report: Janice Pfaffl

- Janice ran the staff appreciation drawing. The staff winners, Sue Bolly and Kelly Dejonge, each received \$10 gift card from the PTSO. Mr. Coyle will give the winners their gift cards at school. Thank you!

NICOLET REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Staff/Teacher Liaison: None

- The PTSO would like a teacher liaison for the rest of this year and all the following years. It was always very helpful to have a teacher's perspective and input at our PTSO meetings and that is missing without one. We would like to ask Mr. Coyle to help us attain a staff representative.

Guidance Counselors: None

- No Report

Foundation: Sharon Shapiro & Traci Schwartz

- This year's Foundation fundraising event, *Knight on the Town*, will take place on Saturday night, April 21, 2018 at the Four Points Sheraton in Brown Deer. The theme is Art as we will be raising money to enrich the art



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department. The art students are working with the art teachers to create the table center pieces. Keep your eyes open for more details in the coming weeks. All are invited to attend! As a reminder, while the PTSO fund raises for student programming and the Foundation raises funds to enhance academics. The PTSO and the Foundation support each other. Check the Foundation Facebook page for information: <https://www.facebook.com/Nicolet-High-School-Foundation-228209947484/> or the Nicolet High School Foundation webpage: <http://www.nicolet.us/families/foundation.cfm>.

- Every year the Nicolet PTSO partners with the administration to give auction items to support the Nicolet Foundation. This year, Mr. Coyle and the PTSO approved that we will be donating the same items as in the past:
 - 1) \$50 in Grad Grams
 - 2) First Semester Parking Pass
 - 3) Second Semester Parking Pass
 - 4) 2 Tickets to Prom

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

- ACT- Testing prep continues.
- ATHLETICS - Winter sports are very successful. The Swim team is going to State. Wrestling is in Regionals. Basketball- Girls had their last home game and begin regionals and Boys finished Regionals and on to Sectionals. Nancy McLaughlin added that Ski Team is also going to State. Spring sports including Lacrosse, Rugby, Track, Baseball, Softball, and Tennis had their informational meetings and start in March. Spring sports are always busy with rescheduling due to spring weather. Let's hope for the best!
- FINE ARTS - The Nicolet Theater's Musical, The Addams Family, is in rehearsals. Tickets are available online for shows February 22-25: <https://www.greateventseats.com/events.php?IID=169> and check out the theater's website: <https://www.nicolettheater.com/>
- Nicolet FEAR - They will have an unveiling tonight of their amazing work. There are 65 kids, and lots of volunteers and staff. They usually stream it live and you can watch it online. Check out their webpage for further information: <https://nicoletfear.com/>
- MOCK TRIAL - They won Regionals at State.
- SPIRIT WEEK - The dance was cancelled but they still had spirit days. There was discussion about this. Sharon Shapiro expressed disappointment that the student winter dance was again cancelled. Others shared that there needs to be more school spirit beyond Homecoming. There should be ongoing annual school traditions whether it's a winter Sadie Hawkins dance or just social events. We believe the students need them. A suggestion was made that there be two separate events maybe a Freshman/Sophomore and a Junior/Senior activity night, or a dance. Other schools have events that do not get cancelled and are very well attended. They should be on the school calendar at the beginning of the year. This should be promoted by the administration and the entire school. We feel it should come from the top down. The student council needs help in planning and promoting these events. The PTSO would like to propose having a meeting with the officers of each of the parent organizations including the Foundation, Booster Club, MEPA, and any other groups to get this spirit moving in a positive manner. There was further discussion about other area high schools such as Whitefish Bay and Homestead's pride. Perhaps we could consider funding Nicolet Pride signs for the future. Just because we are not a K-12 School doesn't mean our Nicolet High School students and families are not proud. We need to be positive and share our pride! The Bad as Blue spirit club was going great for a while. We



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need to extend that positivity and pride throughout the entire school and community. This should be a priority.

- PARENT 101 - This was very successful. There were 230 parents that attended. PTSO would like to attend the next one to promote the PTSO!
- SCHOOL BOARD – Nicolet is in the midst of selling the upper field property. They made a proposal to the Glendale Common Council to for Nicolet and MSOE to partner for the new Maslowski baseball fields. There was another proposal from another school. We need to support! The Nicolet School Board president, along with the partner/feeder school board presidents, and their superintendents are meeting in March. With all the duplicated services, there may be a conversation to one day consolidate to a k-12 district.
- SCHOOL SAFETY - There was a moment of silence at school today for the school shooting in Florida. Mr. Coyle expressed a strong feeling of complete confidence in the safety at Nicolet. Nicolet is hyper aware of our security system and facility security cameras. There are ongoing regular safety team meetings with Nicolet school social workers and psychologists doing student threat assessments. **The Anonymous Tipline helps save lives!** Parents, please be aware of it as all the students are. It is on the Nicolet website under the Student Services tab in the Other Resources column or click on this link: http://www.nicolet.us/students/anonymous_tip_line.cfm

Student Council: Student – Holly Cannistra

- Student Council Advisors were not present at the meeting and no report was sent in again. The PTSO would appreciate a Student Council Advisor present at the PTSO meetings especially prior to dances like Homecoming, Winter Dance/Social, and Prom for the rest of this year and all the following years. It was always very helpful to have Ms. Deering's and Ms. Ehrke's input at our PTSO meetings and that was missing. We would like to ask Mr. Coyle to help us attain a Student Council Advisor representative.
- There was more discussion about school pride and lack of the winter dance.
- JUNIOR/SENIOR PROM – Holly Cannistra shared that the event will be at Harley this year. They have a DJ in place. Holly asked about the photobooth and if Mr. Medved does that or if we get one. Holly was not sure how that all works. The PTSO shared that the PTSO has funded the Photobooth for a couple of years and would be willing to do that again. Last year, we suggested using a Groupon for a good price. We were concerned that there seemed to be a possible lack of guidance. We asked if there was a binder for this year's junior prom planners to follow and Holly didn't think so. We suggested that there be one. She said that the Juniors talk to Seniors/last year's planners about prom at the end of meetings. Prom tickets will be sold on the Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday before spring break. They will consider all the kids that are going on the Spain trip and get them the ability to purchase tickets. Holly was wondering if the PTSO sponsored the boutonnieres and corsages. We shared that we did buy flowers for the retiring teachers last year but the individual students bought their own. It was suggested that organizing via one or two floral shops could prove financially beneficial if the student council wanted to take that on.

PTSO CHAIR REPORTS

- **Cocoa & Cram** – *Bridey Richards & Jackie Winter, Co-Chairs.* The final exam study session held on Saturday, January 13th from 10am-12pm was a huge success. Jackie and Bridey wrote thank you notes to volunteers and gave away pretty soaps as a thank you gift. Thank you to all the teachers/staff/administrators that volunteered their time to help the students prepare for finals. Thank you to all the parent donors and volunteers



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and our co-chairs, Bridey & Jackie, for making this a successful event. Bridget Killberg will be one of the co-chairs for Cookies & Cram at the end of second semester. She is looking for a co-chair and will need more volunteers and donors to help. Thank you, Bridget!!!

- **Merit Awards** – *Jill Tobin & 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. Four-year recipients are indicated in the commencement booklet at graduation. The Merit Award Packets are printed and available in the high school office or online at the PTSO webpage <http://www.nicolet.us/families/ptso.cfm> or you can download the packet here: <http://www.nicolet.us/students/merit.pdf>. Promotion for Merit Awards includes posters being up throughout the school, on Skyward, via the parent weekly email updates, the tv trons throughout the school, and more. Students should be completing their application packets. They can volunteer at the upcoming swimming/orchestra rummage sale for merit award hours: http://www.nicolet.us/pro/event_view.cfm?memberid=129&eventid=440504
- **Teacher Appreciation** – **CO-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. Janice Pfaffl and Brenda Stelzer, PTSO officers, will look at our volunteer list and hope to help find someone to chair this. *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 or Traci Schwartz at tracimia@sbcglobal.net.*
- **Spirit Award** – *Marilyn Franklin, Chair.* 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. Marilyn is looking for one person to help her with this short easy task. *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 or Traci Schwartz at tracimia@sbcglobal.net.*
- **Senior Breakfast** – *Julie Karnes & Jill Tobin, Co-Chairs.* This celebratory catered breakfast is a great send off for Nicolet's Senior Class at the end of the year. Julie and Jill are looking for ideas for a senior gift. In the past they've been given a Nicolet coffee mug, travel mug, and socks. They are also looking for committee members. *If interested in helping, please email one of the co-chairs and let them know that you are willing to help! Send emails to Julie Karnes at JKarnes@wi.rr.com or Jill Tobin at joztobin@gmail.com.*
- **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 need help assembling the Grad Gram booklets. The Grad Grams were not available earlier because the list of graduates was just completed for us. Grad Grams are available for purchase in the high school office or online http://www.nicolet.us/cms_files/resources/grad_grams_2018.pdf. The teachers will each receive forms. We are really going to promote the blank Do-It-Yourself Grad Grams this year! *If interested in helping, please email one of the Nina Capati and let her know you'd like to help at nvcapati@hotmail.com.*



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OTHER BUSINESS

- **The PT SO is interested in creating a PT SO Bulletin Board in Nicolet High School.** It will be great to inform the school of what is going on via the PT SO. There are three blue bulletin boards that the PT SO purchased for the school years ago across from the Commons Area and they are not always full. The PT SO approved the Nicolet Foundation using one and they had it professionally done. The PT SO would like to do the same. While we know it may be expensive, it is imperative to keep parents, teachers, and students informed. This is another great way to get the PT SO word out. We will talk about it at the next meeting.
- **The next PT SO meeting is set for Thursday, March 15, 2018** 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 Thursday evenings at 6:00pm on March 15 and April 19. The May 17 meeting will be at 4:00pm following the Merit Award Ceremony.
- The Nicolet PT SO benefits the parents, teachers, and students by raising funds via PT SO membership dues (still only \$15), Grad Gram sales, and other fundraisers. The PT SO 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
- Visit the PT SO webpage: <http://www.nicolet.us/families/ptso.cfm>
- Visit the PT SO Facebook page and “like” it: <https://www.facebook.com/NicoletPTSO/>

The meeting was adjourned at 7:21pm.

Respectfully submitted by
Sharon Shapiro, Nicolet PT SO Secretary