



## September 18, 2014 Meeting Minutes

The Nicolet PTSO President, Mary Beth Mills, called the meeting to order. The May minutes were approved.

**Attendance:** Jen Friedman, Marilyn Franklin, Kailey Gullickson, Greg Kabara, Julie Karnes, Rachel Kessler, Michele Margolies, Piper Melkonian, Jill Johnson Miller, Mary Beth Mills, Karen Morice, Natalie Ostoic, Jen Peltz, Janice Pfaffl, Bridey Richards, Sharon Shapiro, Jill Tobin, Steve Tilley, and Sarah Damonte Vegas

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

- Mary Beth welcomed everyone to the meeting. She introduced herself and everyone went around the room and introduced themselves.
- Mary Beth explained that the Nicolet PTSO officer positions of both Vice President and Secretary were open. Our bylaws require a vote. Mary Beth nominated Piper Melkonian as Vice President. Jill Johnson Miller seconded. It was unanimously approved. Mary Beth nominated Robin Arenzon and Sharon Shapiro to be Co-Secretaries. Jill seconded. They were unanimously approved.
- Mary Beth explained the purpose of 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 our new Nicolet Knight window decal cling sales (only \$5). The PTSO sponsors events including Homecoming and Prom Activities, Student Dances, Cocoa and Cram Study Sessions, Merit Awards, Spirit Award, Teacher Appreciation, School Gifts, Senior Breakfast (which may be a lunch this year), and more.
- Mary Beth announced that the next meeting has been moved to October 23<sup>rd</sup>. Please mark your calendars and plan on attending.

### **Treasurer's Report: Ms. Jill Johnson Miller**

- The detailed budget was available for all to see and was presented by Jill. Jill explained that at the first PTSO meeting of the year, we start with the year's budget. Jill stated that the treasurer reports the financial activity for the PTSO. We had a few Nicolet Knight window decal clings sales and a few bills that were paid so far. The history is that we have had a healthy account but we need more fundraising to balance. We should start the year with \$5,000. We have increased the Cocoa & Cram budget a bit. We decreased the Post Prom budget. In terms of donations, our biggest gift was given to the Performing Arts Fund last year. Overall, the PTSO contributed a lot last year including an unexpected large amount for the Senior Service Day. So, we are trying to raise money via the PTSO window decal cling sales and the Campus Colors fundraiser. Our main source of income typically has been through the membership dues and grad gram sales.
- Piper Melkonian moved to approve the 2014-2015 Budget. Mary Beth Mills seconded. It was unanimously approved.

### **Chair Reports: Mrs. Mary Beth Mills**

- **Homecoming** - The PTSO provides financial and volunteer support for Homecoming activities.
- **Merit Awards** – The PTSO recognizes positive citizenship within the Nicolet community. Students complete an application packet throughout the school year. They are available in the office and are welcomed early! 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.



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- **Cocoa & Cram** – This is a two hour study session that PTSO sponsors with treats on the Saturday before final exams, twice a year. Teachers, administrators, and students attend and enjoy.
- **Prom Activities** – Nicolet has not done post prom over the last few years. So, we focus our financial support on the Prom. However, that is not to say that Post Prom could not be reinstated.
- **Teacher Appreciation** – The PTSO provides a huge dessert buffet for the teachers during Teacher Appreciation Week.
- **Spirit Award** –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** – This is a great send off for Nicolet’s Senior Class at the end of the year right before final exams. This may become a Senior Lunch this year to better the schedule by combining it with Senior Service Day.
- **Grad Grams** – Congratulatory messages are purchased and sent by anyone to a graduating senior and/or a retiring staff member. These messages are bound together into a keepsake memory booklet given out at graduation rehearsal.

### Student Council: Ms. Michelle Marqolies, President

- **Homecoming Activities are as follows.**
- This year Homecoming activities will start a day early on Sunday, October 5<sup>th</sup>. There will be Powder Puff games beginning at 4:00pm. There will be a carnival at 6:00pm at the back field with a dunk tank, sack races, ring toss, a cake walk and more. Following the carnival will be a bonfire! Student Council is communicating with the Feeder Middle Schools inviting those students to join in on Sunday’s activities. Student Council is also working with the pep club, Bad as Blue, to boost spirit! It was suggested that the Student Council contact the feeder school PTO’s to get more volunteers. Parent volunteers will also ensure middle school participants. To enter the carnival, students will donate a book or a board game to a community cause, HIPPY: Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters. <http://www.hippyusa.org/>.
- There will be Spirit Days all week leading up to the Homecoming game and dance including Mon.-Color Days, Tues.-WI Pride, Wed.-Decade Days, Thurs.-World Cup Day, and Fri.-Nicolet Spirit Day.
- On Friday, there will be an outdoor parade with sports teams, school clubs, and each of the classes represented with floats and students marching. The parade will end up at the Nicolet Foundation Tailgate Cookout and Friendraiser.
- Student Council asked PTSO for volunteers to work the carnival booths, concessions, and donate/bake cupcakes and cakes for the cakewalk. Student Council is looking for carnival prize donations and raffle prizes for the dance. Please contact Mary Beth Mills if you can donate or volunteer at [marybethmills3@gmail.com](mailto:marybethmills3@gmail.com). The Student Council will communicate with Mr. Welna and ask him how much money they will need for the window paint to decorate the windows inside Nicolet. PTSO will fund that.
- There will be a hallway parade into the Pep Rally. Senior Fall athletes will be recognized at this assembly. A Spirit Trophy given out to the class with the most spirit.
- The Homecoming Dance is October 11 at Nicolet High School in the cafeteria. It is a 20’s theme. The seniors get to dress up like the theme and all the other students dress nicely for the dance. No tuxes, suits, or ties required. The DJ is Sound and Light. Kids must be from Nicolet or went to one of the Feeder schools. They can go with a date or not. Tickets will be sold for \$10 during lunch the week or two prior.



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- The Student Council representatives, Michelle Margolies, Kailey Gullickson and Natalie Ostoic, encouraged the PTSO members to have their children get involved in student council. They said it was really fun! They are going to extend the date for student council applications so more kids can get involved.

### **Guidance Report: Mr. Tilley**

- The guidance department is off to a great start already!
- The guidance counselors are working with the seniors to reintroduce them to our Naviance, the college website <http://www.naviance.com/>. This will help students explore college applications, request letters of recommendation from teachers and more.
- In the beginning of October, the guidance counselors will work with the freshman to set up their individual learning plan for high school incorporating academics and also encouraging each to get involved in athletics, clubs, and more via the PTSO merit award application.
- The guidance counselors are also working on the National College Fair at the Wisconsin Center on Sunday, September 28th <http://www.nacacnet.org/college-fairs/FallNCF/Pages/Milwaukee.aspx>. Nicolet is hosting this year and Mr. McKenna and Mr. Raad are the chairs. Anyone in the state can attend but it's primarily for High School juniors and seniors. There will be 250 colleges there. Because of this fair, it is the peek time for colleges to be visiting Nicolet High School. There will be lots of opportunities for Nicolet students to be meeting with about 120 colleges.
- Mr. Tilley reported that he was thrilled with the success of last year's Senior Service Day.

### **School Board: Ms. Franklin**

- Ms. Franklin shared that the next School Board meeting is Monday. The topics are going to be Student Achievement and the School Report Card.
- The school board is focusing on being in communication with parents. So, there is a PR piece that was mailed out to homes and it is on the website [http://www.nicolet.us/cms\\_files/resources/2014\\_fall\\_newsletter.pdf](http://www.nicolet.us/cms_files/resources/2014_fall_newsletter.pdf). There will be Superintendent Coffees, Parent Education Series including Parent 101 and 201 classes and the REDgen series of events scheduled throughout the year for parents to take part in.

### **Foundation: Ms. Franklin**

- Ms. Franklin shared that the Nicolet Foundation Homecoming Tailgate Knight Cookout and Fundraiser will be on Friday evening, October 10<sup>th</sup>. Support and order your tickets now and bring your whole family! <http://www.nicolet.us/families/foundation.cfm>

### **Administration Report: Mr. Kabara**

- Mr. Kabara shared that Nicolet High School is off to a great school year!
- The positive press has been amazing for Nicolet High School. The first day's Red Carpet Student Welcome received local coverage as well as on CNN!
- There is a lot going on with the teachers including training on Educator Effectiveness, student learning objectives and outcomes, the leadership team trained in Lincolnshire, IL on grading practice, and the state uniform teacher evaluation tool is now in place. Nicolet hosted a staff training at Nicolet and included the feeder/partner schools with a national speaker.



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- All the technology is working well.
- The freshman are getting acclimated to Nicolet well.
- Nicolet is collaborating with REDgen, an organization teaching parents and students balance and management. Check it out <http://www.redgen.org/> and <http://www.nicolet.us/families/redgen.cfm>. On October 22, join Nicolet at the event entitled Fostering Resilience: Building Resilience in Children and Teens, sponsored by REDgen, 7:00pm at Nicolet in the Auditorium.

### **New Business:**

- Mary Beth Mills took care of the votes for the new PT SO officers in her opening President's Report.
- Please go to the new Nicolet PT SO facebook page and like us <https://www.facebook.com/NicoletPTSO>
- Thank you to those who shopped at Campus Colors and supported Nicolet PT SO's fundraiser.
- Join us in supporting the 2014 Homecoming events. Student Council needs PT SO volunteers to bake and help with the carnival booths on Sunday, October 5<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers please contact Mary Beth Mills at [marybethmills3@gmail.com](mailto:marybethmills3@gmail.com). Thank for getting involved in PT SO and supporting your students and teachers!
- Our next PT SO fundraiser is the Nicolet Knight window decal cling sales. Please purchase your window decal cling for only \$5 and support your PT SO. 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>.
- As a reminder, please mark your calendars and plan on attending our next PT SO meeting on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. All are welcome!

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by  
Sharon Shapiro, Nicolet PT SO Secretary