

NICOLET PTSO Meeting

Thursday, February 25, 2021

6pm – Zoom

Attendance: Mr. Coyle, Monica Arnstein, Jeff Pruefer, Traci Schwartz, Alex Waltrip, Jean Bernstein, Dawn Sweet, Dr. Kabara, Jaime Druck, Mindy Marcus, Janice Pfaffl, N Mueller, Anne O'Donoghue, Sarah Krauss, Susie Pringle, Bridget Carlson, Christine Duback, Julie Reindl, Kate Christensen, Deb Mortonson, Sarah Damonte Vega

- I. Call to Order- Traci Schwartz – 6:01pm
- II. Welcome and Introductions
- III. Approval of Agenda – Janice 1st, Jean 2nd
- IV. Approval of Minutes Presented by Monica Arnstein – Janice 1st, Jean 2nd
- V. Nicolet Representative Reports
 1. ADMINISTRATION
 1. Dr. Kabara
 1. 2021 Operational Referendum
 1. Voting in April, absentee starting March 16
 2. Why?
 1. Supports daily operations and helps maintains current programs, services and class sizes
 3. History
 1. 2011 – 2016 Non recurring referendum to exceed Revenue Cap for 5 years
 2. 2016-2022 Non recurring referendum to exceed Revenue Cap for six years
 3. Why now? To avoid gaps
 4. Financial picture – Jeff Pruefer
 1. During the past recent referendum, things look steady. The projection shows our reserves start to fall until we are eventually under water
 2. Options
 1. Significant budget reductions
 2. Pursue a combination of cuts
 3. Maintain current programs and services via a \$3.9M referendum
 4. Maintain current programs and services and contribute \$200K to prefund capital needs via \$4.1M referendum
 3. Most logical support for the \$3.9M for 6 years referendum

4. With the referendum, the financial picture looks steady through 2027-28.
 5. Tax impact
 1. \$17 per \$100,000 of home value
 5. What if the referendum fails?
 1. Elimination of co-curricular and extra curricular
 2. Reduction of teacher and increase of class sizes
 3. Reducing class variety
 4. Reduction of funding for instruction technology
 6. Go to Nicolet.us to get more information about the referendum
 1. Next listening session is March 3rd at 11:30am and 6pm
 7. Dr. Kabara will provide a tool kit that we can post and get the word out
2. About Nicolet
 1. Showed mission, vision and values statements
 2. We are “Significantly Exceeds Expectations”
 3. Strong diverse population (teach 4 world languages, 14 home languages)
 4. ACT scores are 3 points higher than state average
 5. 26 AP courses offered – 85% pass rate (3 or higher) – also offer courses that with college credit
 6. 19 sports/30 teams
 7. 30+ co-curricular clubs
 8. Art program received state and national recognition
 9. Performing arts receive state recognition
2. Mr. Coyle
 1. Brief overview of second semester
 1. Successful start. Lots of work went into getting the teachers ready and getting the building ready.
 2. Staff is impressed with the students
 3. Lunch is going well. Rough start with ordering but it’s been figured out pretty quick. The kids aren’t super excited about the seating situation but they’re managing. Staff recognizes that it’s not the best but so do the kids and they’re generally willing to do what they need to stay in school
 4. Everyone’s working hard. Positive things are happening.
 5. Teachers and educators are in the next phase of getting vaccines – hopefully by the end of March all staff will have the opportunity to be vaccinated.
 2. Principal
 1. Moving forward with hiring process

2. Starting process for another AP soon
3. Mr. Coyle will step back into being AP next year
3. Athletics
 1. Girls basketball – 1st playoff win in 6 years!
 2. Boys basketball – up and down season. Kobe Johnson finished with a great season.
 3. Boys swimming – 6th overall. Jack Sullivan (freshman) is faster than Garrett Webber Gale was at this age!
 4. Gymnastics – on the way to state!
 5. A couple of girls from Nicolet played for MWC and went far in the state tourney
 6. Spring sports are starting up
 1. There's a push for a girls rugby club
4. Graduation
 1. Plan is to have it outdoors on the athletic field
 2. Dr. Kabara and Mr. Coyle will be discussing it tomorrow
 3. There will be a date and a couple of back ups due to weather
 4. Milwaukee Theatre is still reserved if Milwaukee will allow for it. But hoping for on campus so more people can attend.
 5. Heather and Amy in the office will be heading up graduation
5. Prom
 1. Mr. Coyle meets monthly with area principals
 2. Looks like there will likely not be some sort of a “dance”
 3. More likely that there would be a nice sit down dinner of some sort – this is all POTENTIAL.
 4. They want to do something but...SAFETY FIRST.

VI. Officer Reports

1. Co-Presidents- Traci Schwartz/ Alex Waltrip
 1. Nothing new to report
2. Treasurer, Dawn Sweet -Report
 1. Nothing new – budget is pretty steady with not a lot going on
3. PTSO Committee Chair Reports
 1. Spirit Award - Marilyn Franklin and Traci Schwartz
 1. Thoughts about revamping how we would be choosing someone for this award
 2. It was discussed who was embodying the traits of perseverance, hard work, empathy. And also looking at previous years.
 3. Mr. Coyle will work with Heather and bring the full narrative of this to the next meeting
 2. Merit Awards - Anne O'Donoghue
 1. Applications are due April 9th

2. Anne emailed with Heather and asked to start making announcements to encourage kids to apply
3. Form needs to be filled out all at once
4. Kids will put down teachers names and class and Heather and Anne will work on contacting those teachers
3. Senior Breakfast
 1. Wouldn't be able to do a buffet breakfast and would need to social distance so signing yearbooks at that time would be challenging
 2. Could we possibly collaborate with Foundation and PAC in getting a tent somewhere for all of the programs that are being planned (senior events, outdoor concerts, etc)
 3. It would be nice to do something nice for the seniors
4. Crams
5. Teacher Appreciation Week- Jean Bernstein
 1. 6 people on the committee, including Jaime Druck
 2. Committee has received a rough draft of what's been done in the past
 3. Dad's have put together a breakfast in previous years with a raffle
 4. This year will look different – all food needs to be pre-packaged
 5. Tuesday at 7pm the committee is meeting over zoom
 6. Can we incorporate the theme of BKI and updating classroom libraries
 7. Budget is \$500
 8. Mr. Coyle can be in attendance to run ideas by him to make sure all is ok
6. Grad Grams - Dawn Sweet/Deb Mortenson
 1. Dawn would like to do a new form from last year
 2. Traci will help out as a mom of a senior
 3. Lots of help is being offered
- VII. Foundation and other organizations Updates- Traci BKI DISCUSSION
 1. Great sponsors coming in
 2. April 24th – watch for more info!
 3. All working to get books for classroom libraries
 4. Reach out to Chris in the district office if you have donations
- VIII. Janice Pfaffl VP - Select Raffle Winners
 1. Brenda Turner
 2. Coach David Quam
 3. CONGRATS!
- IX. ADJOURNMENT – 7:02pm