



# SPRING NICOLET NEWSLETTER



## A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT:

It's hard to believe that Nicolet's 2020-2021 school year has come to a close. I speak for the entire administrative team at Nicolet when I say we are grateful for the community's high level of engagement and support as well as our students' energy and positive attitudes over the course of the year.

Notably, **Nicolet will be able to maintain educational programs, retain critical teaching staff and maintain small class sizes thanks to the community's support of the 2021 Operational Referendum.**

Additionally, the community is focused on the future by collaborating with District leadership to **reevaluate and refresh the District's comprehensive, continuous improvement plan.** This plan will serve as a guiding framework for our administration and board for the next four to six years, enhancing our previous program developments, furthering our pursuit of equity and determining the next steps for our comprehensive facility study. Learn more about the current status of the strategic planning process at [nicolet.us/district/strategic-visioning.cfm](https://nicolet.us/district/strategic-visioning.cfm).

**Thank you, again, to the Nicolet community for your perseverance and positive attitudes.** While this year has not been easy, I'm proud of how the Nicolet community continues to support and encourage one another.

As always, I encourage all district residents to follow Nicolet High School on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram as a source for timely information and updates.

**My best wishes for your health and well-being this summer.**



YOUR PARTNER IN EDUCATION,  
**SUPERINTENDENT DR. KABARA**

## CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2021!

*CHECK OUT THE POSTER INSIDE.*

STAY UP-TO-DATE ON ALL THE LATEST HAPPENINGS AND EVENTS AT NICOLET BY FOLLOWING US ON

## SOCIAL MEDIA:

 Nicolet High School

 @NicoletKnights

 nicoletknights

Interested in receiving a digital copy of the Nicolet Newsletter? Use the QR code to register:



# FOUNDATION UPDATE

# PTSO

Nicolet is thankful for the Foundation's continual support, providing grants to ensure students have access to enrichment activities above and beyond the classroom. In the 2020-2021 school year, the Foundation provided more than \$34,000 in grants to support Nicolet students, including:

- Classroom libraries for all English classrooms
- Outdoor Pursuits field trip
- Developing an app for the Nicolet Science Fair
- Hosting a storytelling workshop with Artist in Residence Anne Heaton
- Developing a community garden

The Nicolet Foundation is looking for parents and community members to join the board! For more information, visit [NHSFoundation.us](http://NHSFoundation.us).

Nicolet is incredibly thankful to the PTSO for putting smiles on the faces of students and staff throughout this unconventional year. Notably:

- Helping provide a meaningful experience for 2021 graduates, including the senior lunch with a class reunion, yearbook signing and a small gift from the PTSO.
- Supporting teachers through fall breakfast, monthly gift card raffle and spring Teacher Appreciation Week.
- Assisting with delivery of Homecoming swag while all students were virtual.

PTSO President Traci Schwartz has a graduating senior so she will be stepping down from the board. Thank you, Traci, for the effort and heart you put into this role! Nicolet PTSO is seeking to fill her position and others. Email [monicaarnstein@hotmail.com](mailto:monicaarnstein@hotmail.com) for more information.

## NICOLET RECREATION DEPARTMENT

During the winter and spring programming season, the Nicolet Recreation Department offered more than 100 programs including youth basketball, gymnastics and adult art classes. The Recreation Department has a wide variety of programming this summer. Register by visiting: [nicolet.us/activities/recreation.cfm](http://nicolet.us/activities/recreation.cfm)

## BOOSTER CLUB UPDATE

The Nicolet Athletics Booster Club is ecstatic to host its *12th Annual Golf Outing* on **Saturday, July 10, 2021** at **Fire Ridge Golf Club**. Register to golf and learn of other ways to be involved at [nicoletboosterclub.com](http://nicoletboosterclub.com).



## NICOLET COMMUNITY VOTED TO PASS THE REFERENDUM ON THE SPRING BALLOT

# THANK YOU, NICOLET COMMUNITY!

On April 6, 2021, the residents of Bayside, Fox Point, Glendale and River Hills voted to support Nicolet's 2021 Operational Referendum, which ensures that the District can continue to maintain our class sizes, programs and services for our students.

This referendum is a key investment in Nicolet's future students and their opportunities at Nicolet.

Read Dr. Kabara's thank you letter to the Nicolet Community, and other blog posts, by visiting the Superintendent's Corner on the Nicolet website or by entering <https://bit.ly/2S87INx> into your browser.

# FALL 2021



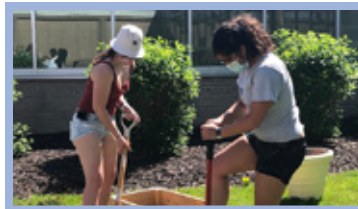
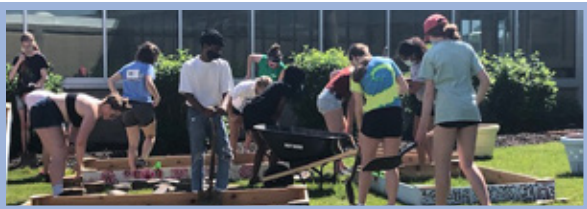
# STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS

Each year, the Nicolet Foundation presents the Senior Volunteer Award to students who have demonstrated a commitment to serving others in school and in the community. This year, the Foundation is proud to recognize **Sara Krueger** and **Sofia Zelazoski**. Congratulations!

**Sophonisba Franecki** has been named Congress-Bundestag Scholar (CBYX) for the 2021-22 school year. CBYX scholars serve as youth ambassadors for the United States, sharing our culture with Germans and bringing the German culture back to their home communities. **Sophonisba is Nicolet's 16th CBYX scholar in the last 18 years.**

The American Association of Teachers of French recognized **Yanni Ma** and **Maddie Buckley** for their outstanding achievements. Yanni received a 2021 Excellence in French Award and Maddie Buckley a 2021 Outstanding Senior in French Award.

Senior **Monica Slade** was chosen by WISN-TV as the recipient of the Louvenia Johnson Scholarship for her strong advocacy for dance as an art form for all people.



Nicolet Senior **Itu Igoni** was highlighted as the Current Electric Co Superhero of the Week in April for her successes academically, being named an all-state athlete, National Honor Society and school musical participant. Itu was interviewed by Mike McGivern of 1250 AM The Fan for this honor.

**Listen to Itu's interview here:**

<https://bit.ly/2Ri4OW7>

## 2021 INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING FAIR

Two Nicolet students received awards at the prestigious International Science and Engineering Fair, competing against more than 1,800 students from 64 countries.

Sophomore **Ethan Zentner** won the Grand Award of First Place in the category of Materials Science for his project titled, "The Effects of Lattice Structure on SLA 3D Printed Piezoelectric PVDF." Ethan also won an ISEF Special Award. Ethan Zentner has been awarded \$5,000 and a CIA STEAM Challenge Coin from the Central Intelligence Agency in the category of Material Science.

Junior **Marshall Vielmetti** won the Grand Award of Fourth Place in the category of Systems Software for his project "Enterprise Scale Inventory Optimization: Building a Modern Web Application to Improve Inventory and Supply Chain Optimization by Incorporating Advanced Analysis and Business Intelligence into Existing Techniques with a Cohesive, User-friendly Solution."

Additionally, a \$1,000 grant was awarded to Nicolet High School and a \$1,000 grant was awarded to the Nicolet Science Fair.



## 2021 FEAR ROBOT

Nicolet FEAR won the 2021 Quality Award for Robot Design in Wisconsin for their competition robot named "Phoenix."

# ATHLETICS

## WINTER SPORTS OVERVIEW

Several Nicolet student-athletes received conference and state recognition for their performances during the winter sports season.

### GYMNASTICS

**KYNNEDI MALONE:** 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Conference & All-State

**CASSI HANSEN:** 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Conference & All-State

**AVA SAHIN:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Conference

**EZZY MAUERMAN:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Conference

**BEATRICE DINAUER:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Conference

**EDEN COHEN:** All-Conference Honorable Mention

### BOYS SWIM/DIVE

**JACK SULLIVAN:** State Champion, 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Conference & All-State

**BRAEDEN BURGHER:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Conference

**JACK GOULD:** All-Conference Honorable Mention

**BRANDON PARGAMOTNIKAS:** All-Conference Honorable Mention

**GRAHAM STALLMANN:** All-Conference Honorable Mention

### WRESTLING

**BRAEDEN OTT:** 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Conference & All-State

**AARON JOHNSON:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Conference

**XAVIER GANFIELD:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Conference

**MATTHEW KUESEL:** All-Conference Honorable Mention

**BEN OTT:** All-Conference Honorable Mention

**DYLAN LEWANDOWSKI:** All-Conference Honorable Mention

**LUKE LEWANDOWSKI:** All-Conference Honorable Mention

**JUSTIN SCHIESEL:** All-Conference Honorable Mention

### GIRLS BASKETBALL

**AVA ELLEGARD:** 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Conference and All-Area

**ALEXIS JOINER:** All-Conference Honorable Mention

### BOYS BASKETBALL

**KOBE JOHNSON:** 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Conference and All-State

**DARRIUS BOLDEN:** All-Conference Honorable Mention

## LETTER OF INTENT SIGNING DAY

The following senior student-athletes committed to taking their talents to the collegiate level:

**XAVIER GANFIELD:** UW-Whitewater (Football)

**KYNNEDI MALONE:** Minnesota State University - Mankato (Track & Field)

**BROOKLYN NATION:** Bryant & Stratton College (Track & Field)

**KRISTIN HINTZ:** St. Norbert College (Cross Country/Track & Field)

**SYDNEY GEBOY:** Kenyon College (Swim)

**JEREMY KOBE:** UW-Stevens Point (Football)

**ALEXIS JOINER:** Ripon College (Basketball)

**AARON JOHNSON:** UW-Whitewater (Wrestling)

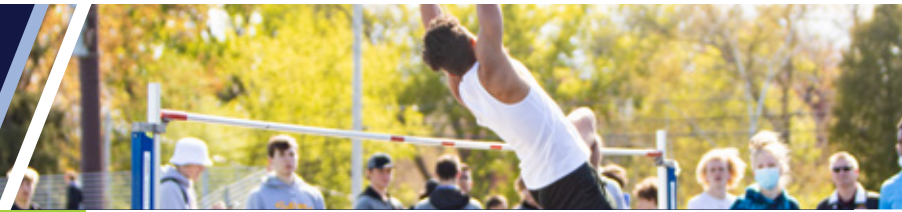
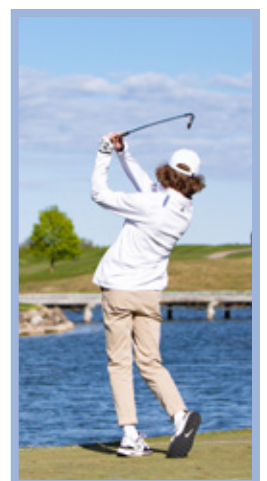
**ERIN FELDMEIER:** UW-Whitewater (Track & Field)

**CADEN ELIAS:** Lake Forest College (Lacrosse)

**MAYA FIELDS:** Howard University (Basketball)

**ALEX KIMMEL:** Edgewood College (Lacrosse)

**PATRICK MCWILLIAM:** Howard Community College (Lacrosse)



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ALWAYS A

KINGST



# CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATING CLASS



**We are proud of our graduating  
Knights and know you'll continue  
to find success and adventure  
wherever you go.**

# RELATIONS OF 2021

**FIND OUR STUDENTS  
AT COLLEGES AND  
UNIVERSITIES IN:**

**WISCONSIN  
MINNESOTA**

**ILLINOIS**

**INDIANA**

**OHIO**

**FLORIDA**

**CALIFORNIA**

**ARIZONA**

**MISSOURI**

**IOWA**

**MASSACHUSETTS**

**KANSAS**

**GEORGIA**

**MARYLAND**

**LOUISIANA**

**NEW YORK**

**NEVADA**

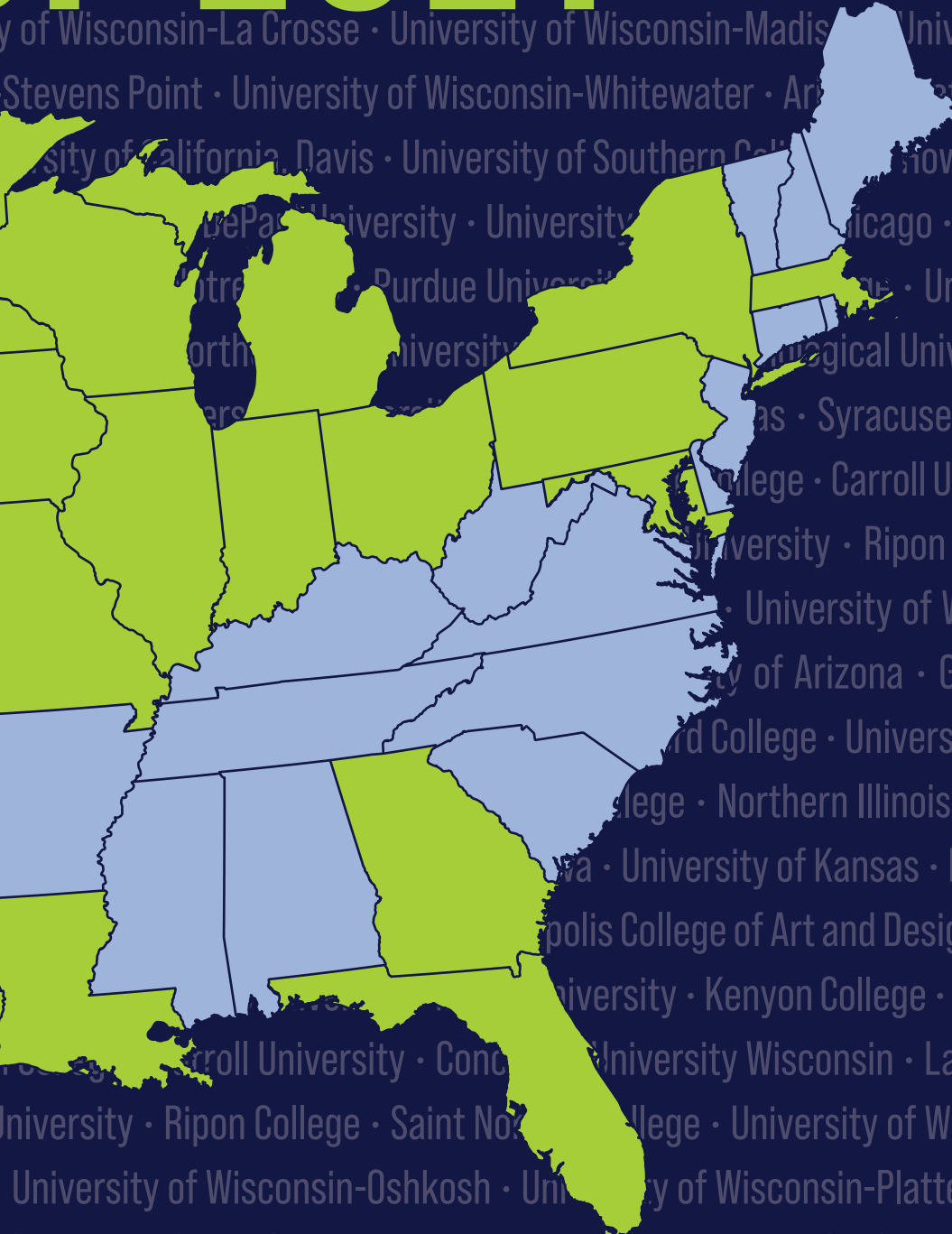
**TEXAS**

**PENNSYLVANIA**

**OREGON**

**MICHIGAN**

**WASHINGTON DC**





CONGRATULATIONS

2021 SENIORS



# ARTS



## SPRING CONCERTS

The Nicolet community was treated to two outdoor concerts from our talented bands, choirs and orchestras in May. Family, friends and community members enjoyed a mixture of classical and popular selections with ice cream provided by the Nicolet Performing Arts Committee.



## ART AWARDS

Congratulations to **Anika Byrne** and **Brianna Hintz**. Their work was selected for the *Myself When I am Real* exhibition at the Museum of Wisconsin Art (MOWA) in West Bend. Anika's piece is titled *Blindsight*, and Brianna's piece is titled *Backyard Harmony*. They are two of 24 students from 12 schools in southeastern Wisconsin selected for this exhibit.

This spring, several Nicolet students entered the Young People's Art Exhibition hosted by the State Fair. Among the many talented Nicolet entries, **Yi Wen Buerger** and **Zoe Zaretzke** won first prize in their categories for the copper necklace *As if She Were Flying*, and photograph *Golden Glow of Childhood*, respectively.

Two Nicolet students received Judges Favorites awards, **Phoebe Kotecki** for a sculpture titled *The Rebirth of Literature* and **Sabrina Meingast** for a drawing *Girl with Stuffed Cat*.



## MUSICAL

The highly anticipated Nicolet High School Musical, *The Theory of Relativity*, premiered on Friday, May 21 at 7 p.m. virtually through a streaming platform available for the entire community.



*Backyard Harmony*



*The Rebirth of Literature*



*Blindsight*

# NICOLET NEWS

## GRAND OPENING OF MASLOWSKI PARK

Both the Nicolet Softball & Baseball teams officially opened up their new stadiums at the Richard E. Maslowski Community Park in April. Alumni & former coaches were on hand to throw out the first pitches and attend the opening day festivities.



*Superintendent Dr. Kabara welcomes the community to the first game played on the new state-of-the-art softball field at Richard E. Maslowski Park.*

## PARENTS OF PERFORMING ARTS STUDENTS

The Nicolet Performing Arts Committee is looking for people who want to support performing artists, make new friends, advocate for middle school music programs, supplement instruction by obtaining donations through ad sales or marketing and perform a variety of other large and small volunteer work. Visit <https://bit.ly/2T48Vpl> to opt in or email [nicoletpac@gmail.com](mailto:nicoletpac@gmail.com).



Nicolet Science Teacher Jennifer Bault has earned the “**EXCELLENCE IN SCIENCE TEACHING AWARD**” from the Wisconsin Society Of Science Teachers (WSST).



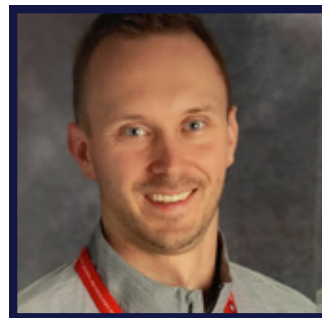
Congratulations to Stephanie Rasmussen and Michael McDowell, the latest Nicolet teachers to receive **NATIONAL BOARD CERTIFICATION**.

## THANK YOU, ELLEN

On Monday, May 24, 2021, School Board member Ellen Redeker submitted her letter of resignation from the school board, effective Tuesday, May 25, 2021.

**NICOLET HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT IS THANKFUL TO ELLEN FOR HER 11 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE SCHOOL BOARD.**

Those interested in applying to fill the vacant position should submit a letter of interest and resume to Board President Dr. Leigh Wallace Tabak, at [leigh.wallacetabak@nicolet.us](mailto:leigh.wallacetabak@nicolet.us) by Thursday, July 1.



**Nicolet High School District welcomes Mr. Joe Patek as Principal and Ms. Cristy Bauer as Associate Principal beginning July 1.**

Mr. Patek was born and raised in the North Shore and previously served in administrative leadership at Shorewood High School and Cedarburg High School.

Before accepting her new role at Nicolet, Ms. Bauer served in administrative leadership at Brown Deer Middle School and Brown Deer High School.

As you begin to see Mr. Patek and Ms. Bauer around Nicolet, please introduce yourself and welcome them to the Nicolet community!

# ALUMNI NEWS

## NAPSY ISAHAKU ('19)

is currently enrolled at Ohio State University, studying Neurobiology in the pursuit of becoming an emergency medicine physician. In his summers, Napsy conducts research at the Medical College of Wisconsin under Dr. Brian Hoffman, Assistant Professor of Biomedical Engineering and Physiology. In addition to a rigorous course load and summers filled with research, Napsy is also the co-founder and the current CEO of Milwaukee Virtual Student Center, a nonprofit focused on connecting undergraduate students from Wisconsin with youth in the Milwaukee community.

Napsy and his roommate, Nikhil Desai created MVSC last March as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Napsy and Nikhil utilize virtual resources to provide mentorship, daily tutoring, college admissions help and enrichment activities to students in Milwaukee Public Schools free of charge.

Learn more about this non-profit by visiting:  
[sites.google.com/view/mvsc/home](https://sites.google.com/view/mvsc/home)

## NICHOLAS O'BRIEN MELIN ('96)

was promoted to full ("Bird" O6) Colonel in the United States Army. He is currently stationed at the United States Embassy in New Delhi, India where he works in a school concerned with India's defense planning and strategy.

## ANDREW LITTLE ('10)

is living his dream as a sports apparel designer for Nike. Last year, Little got the chance to design a jersey for the Milwaukee Bucks.

## NIKOLAS FRANCIS ('99)

will begin his role as assistant professor at the University of Maryland in the Brain and Behavior Institute (BBI) with a joint appointment in biology. Francis' research focuses on how the brain encodes decision making.

**To submit an update about Nicolet alumni, please send relevant information to [public.relations@nicolet.us](mailto:public.relations@nicolet.us). Submissions will be reviewed for publication in future newsletters and other district communications.**

## NICOLET SIBLINGS TO ATTEND MARQUETTE DENTAL SCHOOL



Nicolet alumni **Amir** ('17) and **Sheila** ('21) **Rasuli** will study dentistry at Marquette in the fall of 2021. The siblings developed a desire to be dentists early in their high school experiences after spending time volunteering in Milwaukee and observing the need for better dental care.

Sheila was chosen for the prestigious Marquette Pre-Dental Scholars program, an accelerated undergraduate program with automatic acceptance to Marquette Dental School.

Amir became interested in dentistry after researching the impact of beverages on tooth enamel discoloration for a science fair at Nicolet, in which he received the U.S. Air Force Certificate of Achievement award for this work. Amir will begin Marquette Dental School this fall after completing his Biomedical Sciences degree.

As siblings, they have always been supportive of one another, and they are enthusiastic to be pursuing the same dream on the same campus! Amir and Sheila would like to dedicate their achievements to their grandfather Dr. Rasuli, a renowned surgeon and anatomy professor and also their beloved grandmother.

**NICOLET HIGH SCHOOL IS CURRENTLY PLANNING ON A FULL IN-PERSON SCHOOL SCHEDULE IN THE FALL OF 2021.**

Nicolet families can watch their emails and stay tuned to the website and social media for more information as it's available.



# NICOLET HIGH SCHOOL

*Accelerating Achievement  
Every Student, Every Classroom, Every Day*  
6701 N. Jean Nicolet Road, Glendale, WI 53217  
www.nicolet.us

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## NICOLET SCHOOL BOARD

Nicolet exists to positively impact the world through education by accelerating the achievement of every student, in every classroom, every day.

- Dr. Leigh Wallace Tabak**, President
- Elizabeth (Libby) Gutterman**, Vice President
- Theresa Seem**, Treasurer
- Marilyn Franklin**, Clerk

## UPCOMING SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

All meetings will be held virtually via Zoom through the end of June. Access meetings and agendas by visiting [nicolet.us](http://nicolet.us). Starting in July, meetings will transition to in-person.

## UPCOMING SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

- June 21, 2021 6:00 p.m. *virtual*
- July 26, 2021 6:00 p.m. *in-person*
- August 23, 2021 6:00 p.m. *in-person*
- August 23, 2021 - Annual Meeting 7:00 p.m. *in-person*



Ms. Van Bibber and Mrs. Winkle's Outdoor Pursuits class was a student favorite this year, with activities including cross country skiing, bike rides and more.



Nicolet High School welcomed returning students into the building for the spring semester.