



SPRING 2022 NICOLET NEWSLETTER

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NICOLET UNION HIGH SCHOOL



@NICOLETKNIGHTS



@NICOLETKNIGHTS

A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT:

The second semester of the 2021-2022 school year continued the success of the first, with many Nicolet students showing their aptitude for achievement alongside the support of the ever-encouraging Nicolet community.



This spring was a busy one at Nicolet including the spring musical, prom and many end of year competitions for our clubs and athletics! You'll see many of these updates in the pages of this newsletter.

Notably, thanks to continued community support, voters in the Nicolet Union High School District **approved a \$77.4M facilities referendum** that will address significant building and campus-wide needs. Read page 2 for more information on the facilities plan and next steps.

Thank you to our Nicolet students, staff and community for the continued support. **You are what makes Nicolet Union High School great.**

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

I hope you and your families have a wonderful summer. We will see you back in the fall.

Your partner in education,
Superintendent Dr. Greg Kabara



SENIORS!
CHECK OUT THE
POSTER INSIDE

INTERESTED IN RECEIVING OUR NEWSLETTERS VIA EMAIL? | VISIT [NICOLET.US/DISTRICT_NEWSLETTER.CFM](https://nicolet.us/district_newsletter.cfm) TO JOIN OUR MAILING LIST.

FOUNDATION UPDATE

PTSO

Nicolet extends its gratitude to the Foundation as it helps provide educational opportunities above and beyond what is possible with the District budget. Through the generosity of donors, the Foundation funded \$25,000 in enrichment grants for requests ranging from help with extracurricular fees and service project expenses to a CO2 Laser for engineering, Real-Care Babies in career class and mountain bikes for the Wellness department.

The Nicolet Foundation Board is committed to providing educational enrichment for all students and staff through equitable access and community engagement.

To learn more about the Nicolet Foundation, grants and current fundraising opportunities, please visit: nhsfoundation.membershiptoolkit.com

Thank you to the PTSO for its continued support of our staff and students! They had a busy spring, hosting events such as:

- **Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week with breakfast, pizza lunch, endless snacks and beverages and much more.**
- **Facilitating and distributing 162 Nicolet Merit Awards, including 16 senior plaques.**
- **“Cookies and Cram” in which students can meet with teachers and collaborate with their peers prior to exam week.**
- **A special senior celebration for the class of 2022 to gather and celebrate their achievements.**

If you are interested in getting involved, contact nicoletptso@gmail.com for more information.

FACILITIES UPDATE

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

The **2022-2023 Homecoming game on October 14 is the last regularly scheduled game before construction of the new stadium begins.** Come cheer the Knights on to victory, celebrate the history of success on our current field and get ready for an exciting future!

ON APRIL 5, 2022 voters in the Nicolet Union High School District approved a \$77.4M facilities referendum that will address significant building and campus-wide needs. This comprehensive project will enable us to create the learning environments outlined in our Facilities Vision.

This spring, Eppstein Uhen Architects (EUA) and district staff collaborated on the schematic designs focused on developing detailed floor plans and building drawings. The design process will continue through the Fall 2023 and construction is expected to last through Fall of 2024. The outdoor athletic project design is nearly complete with anticipated construction completion by Fall 2023.

Superintendent Dr. Greg Kabara would love to connect with you should you have any questions. Email him at greg.kabara@nicolet.us or call him at (414) 351-7525.

Nicolet Union High School strives to accelerate the achievement of every student. We believe our facilities should enhance learning and improve academic performance by:

- ✓ Providing a safe, well maintained, sustainable and welcoming environment that promotes student and staff well-being
- ✓ Promoting a culture of inclusion, school pride and community partnership
- ✓ Creating flexible spaces that support student and staff collaboration
- ✓ Ensuring opportunities for community education and recreation

SPRING 2022

ALUMNI NEWS

AISLINN O'DWYER ('13)

works at National Electrostatics Corporation designing and building particle accelerators for universities, research facilities and companies around the world. Aislinn, a founding member of Nicolet FEAR, has served as a FEAR mentor for five years, sharing her knowledge with current students.

DESTINY HUVEN ('19)

placed third in the 100 meter hurdles in the Big 10 Conference Championship, helping UW-Madison Track and Field to a second place finish.

DREW MELCHERT ('13)

graduated from the University of California - Santa Barbara with a PhD in materials science. He has published seven articles in scientific journals and began a postdoctoral fellowship at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in March.

JEFF WAGNER ('75)

was presented with the 11th Annual Citizen Support for Our Armed Services Award by The Milwaukee Armed Services Committee. The award recognizes individuals who support the Armed Forces in outstanding ways as civilians. Jeff, a well-known talk radio host for 620 AM WTMJ Radio, has served as emcee for the Armed Forces Week Banquet for nearly a decade.

KYNNEDI MALONE ('21)

helped the Minnesota State Track and Field team claim a NSIC Conference Championship by placing third in the 100 meter hurdles.

PARKER KECKEISEN ('19)

became the third University of Northern Iowa Panther to earn two Big 12 Wrestling Championships with back-to-back titles at 184 pounds.

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



PRINCIPAL'S NOTE



Greetings Nicolet families,

As I reflect on the 2021-2022 school year, I am in awe of our students' accomplishments. In our first full year back to in-person learning, we've had some of the most successful athletic and activity seasons in school history!

The Performing Arts department had a tremendous year, earning several Jerry Award nominations and wins for its production of *Something Rotten*, we had eight National Merit semifinalists, a National Merit winner and an outstanding spring sports season with accolades won by numerous Nicolet Knights. Plus, several clubs had the opportunity to travel to competitions and events once again. Our students accomplished so much this school year, and we could not be more proud of them!

I would like to extend a thank you to the parents, students, staff and greater community for supporting Nicolet Union High School. It is a pleasure to work in this positive community that continually fosters standards of excellence for our school.

-Principal Joe Patek

NICOLET NEWS CONTINUED



BOOSTER CLUB

The Booster Club is hosting its 13th Annual Golf Outing on Saturday, July 9, 2022 at the Fire Ridge Golf Course! Register to golf and learn more ways to get involved at nicoletboosterclub.com.

SIGN UP TODAY!

The Nicolet Recreation Department offers a magnificent list of programs and activities for toddlers, youth, teens, adults and senior adults! Summer registration is now open and there are great new programs to choose from, such as scuba diving, eSports, pickleball and much more!

View the bulletin online at nicolet.us/activities/recreation.cfm



Director of Facility Services Brian Reiels retired this year after 27 years at Nicolet. Nicolet has been well cared for by the Reiels family since 1958, with a combined 92 years on staff! The 2022-2023 school year will be only the fourth year in school history without a Reiels on campus.

Thank you, Brian and the Reiels family!

Thank you to the following staff members who have also retired this year:

Mrs. Minda Byrne
English Teacher

Mr. Daniel Gibbon
Math Teacher

Mrs. Penny Hansen
Special Education Paraprofessional

Ms. Vicky Hanson
Director of Food Service

Mrs. Renee Tazalla
Athletics, Recreation & Activities Administrative Assistant

Ms. Chinmi Hilliard
Food Service

Mrs. Karen Kingsbury
Speech Language Pathologist

Ms. Barbara Rousseau
Food Service

Mr. Don Shane
Building & Grounds

We are so grateful for your years of dedication and commitment to Nicolet Union High School!

SENIORS, TEAR OUT YOUR COLLEGE MAP!

STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS

JACK DROUIN

was named a **Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange Scholar** for the 2022-2023 school year. Jack will spend the next year in Germany with a host family and serve as a youth ambassador for the United States, sharing our culture with Germans and bringing the German culture back home. Jack is the 17th student from Nicolet to receive this honor.



ELISE SCHEUER

won a **National Merit Scholarship!** To be considered for this prestigious award, students must submit a detailed application and hold a record of highly regarded academic performance. Congratulations!

Seventy-six students participated in the National Spanish Exam. Of the 76 students, **eight students received a bronze medal, 22 students received a silver medal and 11 received a gold medal.** Almost all of the remaining students received honorable mentions.

Kudos to all the participants for their achievements!

Out of more than 3,500 applicants, **Emma Maertz** was selected as a national honorable mention and a Wisconsin winner of the **2022 Award for Aspirations in Computing!**



STUDENT NEWS



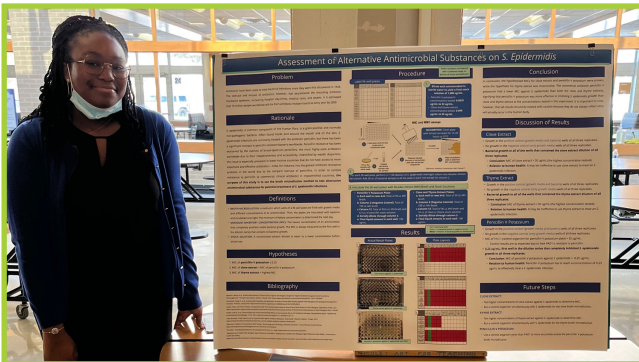
2022 FEAR

Nicolet FEAR qualified for Worlds by winning the Engineering Inspiration Award and a \$5,000 grant from NASA! This was a wonderful achievement, as FEAR has only qualified for Worlds one other time in 10 years! At the competition, the team's robot officially placed 24 out of 76 teams in the Galileo division. **Congratulations on a great season!**

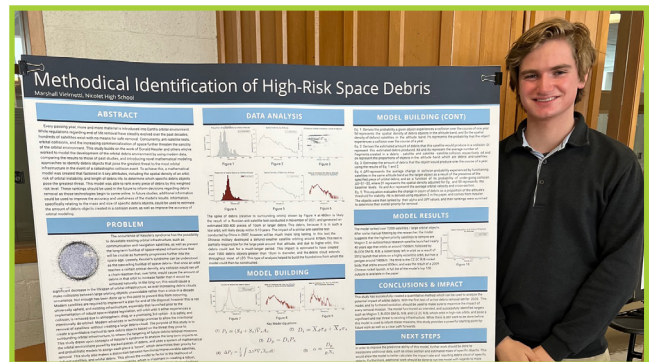


NICOLET AT THE INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING FAIR

1,800 FINALISTS FROM **85 DIFFERENT COUNTRIES** COMPETED AT THE INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING FAIR IN ATLANTA, INCLUDING **JOYCE ESSUMAN** AND **MARSHALL VIELMETTI**.



Joyce earned the Drug, Chemical and Associated Technologies Association (DCAT) Award.



Marshall won the Air Force Research Laboratory Award and placed fourth in the Systems Software Category, which included a \$750 prize.



ATHLETICS



SEVERAL STUDENT-ATHLETES RECEIVED CONFERENCE AND STATE RECOGNITION FOR THEIR PERFORMANCES DURING THE SPRING SPORTS SEASON.

SOFTBALL

Senior softball player **Sydney Kalonihea** and Head Softball Coach Dave Berghaus were selected to the 2022 WFSCA All-Star game. Sydney was also nominated for the Milwaukee High School Sports Awards!



GYMNASTICS

Cassi Hansen won the WIAA State All-Around Gymnastics Championship, the first title for the program in 41 years!



TRACK & FIELD

Congratulations to the following track & field student-athletes who qualified for the 2022 WIAA Boys & Girls State Track & Field Championships:

- Lauren Graham:** 100m Hurdles
- McKenzie Stacy:** Triple Jump
- Olivia Theisen:** Long Jump
- James Weseman:** 800m Run

LETTER OF INTENT SIGNING DAY

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

- Demetrius Bissen:** Carroll University, Football
- Braeden Ott:** UW-La Crosse, Football
- Ella Callender:** Pace University, Soccer
- Sarah Klopp:** Concordia University, Soccer
- Aneliese Kennedy:** Mt. Holyoke College, Soccer
- Will Porfilio:** St. Bonaventure, Lacrosse



SWIMMING

Sophomore **Jack Sullivan** placed first in the 200 Freestyle at the 2022 WIAA State Boys Swimming Championship! This was Jack's second consecutive state championship.



ARTS



TENNIS

The Boys Varsity Tennis team won the North Shore Conference title with a perfect 9-0 season!

Plus, **Alex Aranda, Ethan Hwang, David Jacobs, Luis McDougall, Henry Vizgaitis, and Al Vizgaitis** qualified for the 2022 WIAA Boys Tennis State Individual Championships!

Congratulations, Knights!



SPRING CONCERTS

Students had an outstanding performance at the Wisconsin School Music Association Solo and Ensemble Festival. **All eight groups earned positive feedback from the adjudicators and ratings of 1 across the board!** Additionally, **The Big Band, Brass Ensemble, Woodwind Ensemble, Percussion Ensemble, two jazz combos and numerous vocalists qualified for the State Festival** held at Cardinal Stritch on May 7. The Nicolet Choir hosted a Royal Tea Party and **raised nearly \$1,000 for the Make-A-Wish Foundation.**

Congratulations to all of these talented musicians!

MUSICAL

Congratulations to the cast and crew of the winter musical, **Something Rotten**, which **won the Jerry Award for Outstanding Ensemble!** In the spring, the Theater Department put on a free production of *Peter Pan* for the community.



The Nicolet Performing Arts Committee has partnered with area businesses like The Brick, Goody Gourmets and more for fundraisers to support students in band, choir, orchestra and theater programs.

Visit [facebook.com/NicoletPerformingArtsCommittee](https://www.facebook.com/NicoletPerformingArtsCommittee) to learn more!



ART AWARDS

Two students received awards for their artwork from the Young People's Art Exhibition held at the Wisconsin State Fair.

Hope Breland won first place for the acrylic painting *She Sells Sea Shells*

Angelo Spolar won Best in Show with the oil pastel drawing *The Maker*



She Sells Sea Shells



The Maker

KUKLA SCHOLARSHIP

The Kukla Scholarship, the Athletic department's most prestigious award, is awarded to the top senior student-athletes as voted by their coaches and guidance counselors.

This year's winners are:

- Demetrius Bissen**
- Madigan Johnstone**
- Sydney Kalonihea**
- Braeden Ott**
- Karli Pfaffl**
- James Weseman**
- Jewell Stillman**

CONGRATULATIONS, ATHLETES!





NICOLET HIGH SCHOOL

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

NICOLET SCHOOL BOARD

Nicolet exists to positively impact the world through education by accelerating the achievement of every student, in every classroom, every day. Board meetings are held in-person at the Nicolet Library. Access meetings and agendas by visiting nicolet.us

DR. LEIGH WALLACE TABAK:

President

MS. ELIZABETH (LIBBY) GUTTERMAN:

Vice President

MS. THERESA SEEM:

Treasurer

MS. MARILYN FRANKLIN:

Clerk

MR. ANDREW FRANKLIN:

Member



Students pose for a picture outside of Nicolet Union High School.



Nicolet Best Buddies at the annual Best Buddies Wisconsin Friendship Walk.



A student in ceramics class prepping their work for firing.



Students dancing the night away at prom.