

Dear Parents,

We often urge our students to make that extra effort to meet a challenge. After working hard, they invariably are pleased to see how much they can accomplish. Now it is time for the entire Nicolet community to see what we can do to meet a budget challenge.

This challenge is a projected average shortfall of \$2 million over the next four years. This shortfall is upon us despite reductions – some very painful – already completed during the past six years, including the layoffs of several teachers last spring and an increased workload for those on staff. Class sizes and student fees have increased. On the administrative side, one assistant principal position was eliminated and the two positions of athletic director and recreation director were combined into one. The position of curriculum and instruction director was eliminated and those duties were rolled into other existing positions.

On Jan. 27, the School Board decided that further reductions along these lines would slice too far into the very heart of what makes Nicolet a great school. After listening to those attending the meeting, including some students, board members decided to ask the community for help during a time marked both by reductions in state aid for schools and a decline in property tax revenues.

Nicolet has been hit especially hard by state limits on funding for schools. Funding is based on enrollment; the more resident students a school has, the more funding it receives. Nicolet has seen enrollment slip during the past six years, and state funding has dropped with it. However, Nicolet's expenses in such areas as utilities and transportation have continued to increase. At the same time, the Nicolet property tax rate has actually declined from \$4.40 to \$3.93 per \$1,000 of equalized value, representing a 10.7 per-

cent decrease in your Nicolet property tax rate over the past six years. This figure represents a decline of \$117.50 on the Nicolet portion of taxes on a \$250,000 property. So, state funding is down. Local property tax revenues are down. Costs are up.

Nicolet has been actively responding by tightening the budget, but we cannot ignore the quality of education offered at our school. Nicolet has a long, proud history of offering one of the best secondary educational programs in the state, and we refuse to let that go.

After much discussion and comments from the community in attendance at the January 27th meeting, School Board members decided to ask voters on April 5 ballot to approve a referendum of \$130 per year for five years on a \$250,000 property, an amount of less than \$11 per month. This revenue will allow us to maintain our current services.

Families moving into an area often seek out the best schools. Great teachers seek out jobs at the best schools. The best schools can help strengthen a community by stabilizing and increasing property values and by energizing businesses.

I see Nicolet now as a school that truly helps prepare students for the future. But I envision a school that can provide great opportunities for students to truly succeed in life through the 21st century. I envision a school that colleges and universities turn to first for the best students, a school that employers turn to first for the best workers.

Let us meet this challenge. Let us see what we can accomplish. Please vote on April 5.

*Yours in education,
Dr. Rick Monroe, Superintendent
Nicolet Union High School*



The Nicolet Orchestra and Swim Teams 21st Annual Garage Sale will be held on Saturday March 12th, 2011 from 8:00 am- 2:30 pm. Saleable items should be dropped off in the Nicolet High School Cafeteria on

March 11, from 6:00-9:00 pm. All families are welcome to donate tax deductible/saleable items.

Proceeds to benefit the orchestra and swim teams. All items not sold will be donated to Goodwill and various homeless shelters of Milwaukee.

For questions and large item pick up, call 414-351-8149 or 351-8173.



Student-Athlete Scholarships Beware of Deadlines

The Kukla and other Athletic Scholarship applications for Nicolet Senior student-athletes are available on the Nicolet website under Athletics. Applications are also available in the Athletic Office and must be **picked up no later than February 18th, 2011** to be eligible for a scholarship. Applications **must be returned** to the Athletic Office **no later than 4:00 pm on February 24th, 2011**.

Memorial Basketball Tournament

On March 27, 2011 Nicolet will host the 10th annual Brittney Gigl Memorial 3v3 basketball tournament.

This event is open to all current Nicolet students, former Nicolet students, faculty, staff, administrators, and parents. All money raised will go directly to the Brittney Gigl Memorial Scholarship Fund. The scholarship has grown to become the single largest scholarship Nicolet offers—a single \$10,000 scholarship was awarded last year. All eligible seniors are encouraged to apply for the scholarship.

If you have any questions please contact Mr. Jacobson at: dann_jacobson@nicolet.k12.wi.us



The Nicolet Recreation Department offers the following upcoming programs:

Youth - Cheerleading, Indoor Archery, MikroSoccer

Teens - ACT Workshop, Water Polo Club, Open Basketball

Adults - Zumba Fitness, Fencing, Cupcake Bouquet

Seniors - Chair Yoga, Badger Band Concert, Safety Driving

Check the website at: <http://www.nicolet.k12.wi.us/activities/recreation.cfm> or call 414-351-7566 for more details.



Parents: It's not too late to join the PTSO and make a difference by getting involved at Nicolet! Your membership dues of just \$15 will help support important programs and events including Merit Awards, Staff Appreciation, Grad Grams and student activities just to name a few. We invite you to attend our monthly meetings. Come find out what's happening at school – our meetings are attended by representatives from administration, guidance, the teacher's association, NHS Foundation, Student Council and School Board.

Committees are forming for these upcoming events. If you would like to help, please contact Mary Beth Mills at millsedeane@aol.com.

On Saturday, January 22nd, the PTSO worked with MEPA, the Foundation and the staff to bring the popular "Cocoa and Cram" event to our students. It was a great place for students to study for exams. Bagels, cocoa and juice were available for all. Laptop carts, tutors and teachers were also on hand. Many thanks to our volunteers, the teachers and tutors, administration and Bruegger's Bagels for making it a success!

Hope to see you at our upcoming meetings: February 17th, March 17th, April 14th and May 19th. Thursdays, 6 PM in room B-113

Please check out our information at: <http://www.nicolet.k12.wi.us/people/ptso.cfm>

Merit Award reminder: There is still time, but packets are due in the office by March 18th! Remember, no late packets can be accepted. Be sure to be recognized as a positive Nicolet student!

Counseling Department Information

Guiding You Towards Tomorrow

Registration

Nicolet registration for the 2011-12 school year will take place in February for current 9th, 10th, and 11th grade students. The counselors will distribute the course registration materials in study halls on February 7, 8, 9 and collect all completed registration forms on February 21, 22, 23. Students without study halls will receive a pass in the mail to meet with their counselor during the course registration day for their grade level. Teachers and parents are to sign the student registration sheets prior to the collection dates. PARENTS, please make sure that your son/daughter has handed in the registration form on time so he/she will be able to get the courses requested.

SAT Reminder...

The next SAT test will be on March 12, 2011. Late registration is still available between February 4 and February 17. There are two more test dates for the SAT & SAT Subject Tests this spring (May 7 and June 4, 2011). Nicolet High School is a test center site for the June SAT. Students are encouraged to apply online at www.collegeboard.com.

ACT Reminder...

The next ACT test that students can sign up for will be on April 9, 2011. Regular registration is until March 4. Information and registration packets are available in the Counseling Department or online at www.actstudent.org. Nicolet High School is a test center for the June ACT test.

Advanced Placement Testing

Students not taking an Advanced Placement (AP) course but wish to take an AP Exam should see Mr. Artero in the Counseling Department. The cost is \$87 per test and the deadline is March 31, 2011. After March 31, 2011 there is a \$40 late fee per AP guidelines.

Eighth Grade Evening Open House All eighth grade students planning on attending Nicolet next school year are invited, and strongly encouraged, to attend the evening Open House on February 9, 2011 with their parents. The Open House highlights the academic offerings and co-curricular activities available at Nicolet. Course registration forms that were distributed at the middle schools in January will also be explained to parents. The Open House program will start promptly at 6:00 pm and end by 8:00 pm.

Guidance on the Web

<http://www.nicolet.k12.wi.us/guidance/guidancedept.htm>

Science Fair

Saturday, February 26.

Come one, come all to the annual Nicolet Science & Engineering Fair. Ninety-six projects in categories from Aeronautical Engineering to Biochemistry will be on display in the cafeteria from 2 PM to 3 PM on Saturday, February 26. The Award Ceremony, with emcee Dr. Sheldon Wasserman, will be on Thursday, March 3 at 6 PM in the new Community Room. Top prizes include an all expense paid trip to the International Science & Engineering Fair in Los Angeles, CA.



FIREFIGHTING INTERNSHIP

Several cadet firefighting Community Internships are available for the 2011-12 school year. The Cadet Program is sponsored by Nicolet High School with training provided by the North Shore Fire Department. The program offers training in firefighting, ladder work, EMS, fire inspection, and fire safety. MATC Firefighting I and EMS coursework may also be available to select candidates enrolled in the program. Please call Mrs. Littig at 351-8160 for further information.





Did you miss the opening weekend of URINETOWN—the musical?

URINETOWN—the musical is a recent Broadway hit that is now performing on the Nicolet stage. While the title may sound disgusting, the show is hilarious. It is the first musical to combine romantic love, social justice, and bladder control. With catchy music and a talented Nicolet cast, URINETOWN is certain to be an evening of fun. You can still make it to the second weekend, this Friday and Saturday, February 11 and 12 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets can be reserved by calling 414-351-8174.

“Cinderella” a **FREE Children’s Play**

The Nicolet theatre department will present the children’s play “Cinderella” on Saturday, February 26th at 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. and Sunday, February 27th at 2:00 p.m. Performances will be held in the new Community Room (enter through the main entrance). The show is FREE to the public. It is a 45-minute clever take on “Cinderella” featuring comedy, dance, and “G” rated fun for the little ones. It is recommended for children four and up. Tell your friends with little children—it is a great introduction to theatre.



**Outstanding Student Art Work Featured in Exhibition
February 5 – March 6, 2011 Milwaukee Art Museum**

The Scholastic Art and Writing Awards National Program conducted nationally by the Alliance for Young Artists and Writers, Inc., is the major competition for student in grades 7-12. The exhibition includes works in 17 media categories. A total of 338, out of 1304 entries, were selected by a jury of 23 artists, educators and other art professionals. Student artists were awarded 270 Gold Key (sent on to national competition), 68 Silver Key (special state recognition) awards, 5 American Vision Award Nominees and the prestigious Bronze Medallion Award of Excellence.

The regional Gold Key-winning artworks will advance to The Scholastic Art Awards National competition along with those from other regional competitions across the U.S.A. From 125 art and photography senior portfolios, 55 were awarded Gold Keys and will also advance to national competition for possible scholarship awards.

The competition and exhibit is sponsored by The Milwaukee Art Museum, The Marc and Karen Flesch Memorial Fund, James Heller in memory of Avis Heller, Raymond and Susan Kehm, The Milwaukee Art Museum Donors, James and Carol Wiensch and an anonymous donor.

Earning a Scholastic Art Award is very prestigious, similar to earning a National Merit Scholar Award. This year, Nicolet students earned the most number of Gold and Silver Keys combined (12 Gold, 3 Silver and 3 Gold Key Winning Portfolios) in the history of Nicolet’s more than 25 years of participation in this competition.

Gold Key Winners are:

Darya Dobrinina	Painting	Leo Purman (2)	Digital(1), Photography(1)
Kindia du Plessis	Drawing	Hannah Sandock	Sculpture
Antonia Garner	Photography	Laura Shires	Drawing
Olivia Garniss	Sculpture	Megan Simon	Sculpture
Rachel Arnow(3)	Drawing(1), Jewelry (2)*		

*Rachel is the first student at Nicolet to earn 3 Gold Keys for individual pieces, as well as a Gold Key for her portfolio.

Silver Key Winners are:

Taylor Buraczewski	Photography
Darya Dobrinina	Painting
Maggie Dykstra	Painting

American Vision Award Nominee

(5 awards are given in the State of Wisconsin)
Leo Purman Photography

Gold Keys for their art portfolios

(will be competing nationally for up to \$10,000 in scholarships)

Rachel Arnow Darya Dobrinina Sadie Teper

The artwork juried into the exhibit was entered by the Nicolet Art Department teachers: Patricia Leeson, Becky Schmidt and Amanda Rumpf (photography).

Last year search engines generated close to \$8 billion in revenue from advertisers. GoodSearch has developed a way to direct some of that money to help schools and other non-profits. It's easy ... every time you search the Internet at GoodSearch.com, our school earns money and the more you search, the more we make. Add up the money generated from all your searches, and you can make a real difference. If 1,000 people did just 2 searches per day Nicolet could earn \$7,300!!

You can install the GoodSearch toolbar so you don't even have to think about it and GoodSearch is powered by Yahoo so you will get good results. The following link will answer all your questions: <http://www.goodsearch.com/aboutasp#faq>. There is no downside...there's no reason not to do this!

Consolidation ???

According to the results of the Nicolet High School District Community Survey, approximately 80% of respondents answered "Yes" to the following question: "Should the District explore consolidation with Glendale-River Hills, Fox Point-Bayside, and Maple Dale-Indian Hill School Districts?" To address this survey response the Nicolet School Board, at the January 24th Board meeting, officially directed Superintendent, Dr. Rick Monroe, to discuss this issue with the three feeder school districts at the February Shared Services Committee meeting.



Annual Benefit Concert

The Nicolet High School Music Department will present its annual Benefit Concert on Thursday, March 10th at 7:30 PM in the Nicolet High School Auditorium. This year's program will

honor the memory of long time Nicolet teacher and performing arts supporter, Lon Glaznap. High School Orchestra, Chorus, and Band musicians will perform a collection of Lon's favorite music including Faure's *Requiem*, a medley of *Broadway Classics*, and a poignant rendition of Humperdinck's *Evening Prayer* from *Hansel and Gretel*. Enjoy a pre-concert by the Nicolet Jazz & Pop ensembles as the doors open at 7:00. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for students and seniors. Join us as we honor the memory and celebrate the life of Lon Glaznap in this musical tribute!

Upcoming Events

February

- 11, 12 Musical *Urinetown* - 7:30 pm - Theater
- 12 ACT Testing
- 15, 16 Late Start Days - Classes begin at 10:00 am
- 17 PTSO - 6:00 pm - B113
- 23 MEPA - 7:00 pm - B113
- 26 Children's Play *Cinderella* - 10:00 am/2:00 pm - Community Room
- 27 Children's Play *Cinderella* - 2:00 pm - Comm. Rm
- 28 School Board Meeting - 7:00 pm - Comm. Rm

March

- 2 All-Sports Booster Club - 7:00 pm - B113
- 4 ACT Registration Deadline (Test April 9th)
- 10 Benefit Music Concert - 7:30 pm - Auditorium
- 12 SAT Testing
- Garage Sale - 8:00 am - 2:30 pm - Cafeteria
- 17 PTSO - 6:00 pm - B113
- 23 MEPA - 7:00 pm - B113
- 27 Brittney Gigl Memorial Basketball Tournament
- 28 School Board Meeting - 7:00 pm - Comm. Room

April

- 5, 6 Late Start Days - Classes begin at 10:00 am
- 6 All-Sports Booster Club - 7:00 pm - B113
- 7 Parent-Teacher Conferences - 3:30 -8:15 pm
- 8 SAT Registration Deadline (Test May 7th)
- 8,9 Student Directed One Acts - 7:30 pm - Theater
- 9 ACT Testing
- 10 Student Directed One Acts - 2:00 pm - Theater
- 14 PTSO - 6:00 pm - B113
- 16 Prom - Pier Wisconsin
- 20 MEPA - 7:00 pm - B113
- 22 First Day of Spring Break

Mark Your Calendar!

Wednesday, February 9th, 6:00-8:00 pm The First Annual "Nicolet Open House"

What used to be called "8th Grade Orientation" is now "Nicolet Open House!"

Not only is this night for incoming 8th grade students and their families, but it is for anyone interested in learning about Nicolet. Come see Nicolet in ways you've never seen before. Please invite a friend, relative and/or neighbor. Help us show the community what makes Nicolet the best high school in the State of Wisconsin.



Comments and inquiries should be sent to:
Ferne Hecker, Editor
Nicolet High School
6701 N. Jean Nicolet Rd.
Glendale, WI 5321



Nicolet Unified School District Foundations

BAND TOGETHER

FOR A FUNDRAISER TO BENEFIT

Fox Point-Bayside Foundation | Glendale-River Hills Foundation | Maple Dale-Indian Hill Foundation | Nicolet High School Foundation

**FEATURING THE UW - MADISON MARCHING BAND
PERFORMING IN THE NICOLET HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASIUM**

APRIL 3, 2011

12 p.m. Community Tailgate

Instrument "petting zoo" | Performances by local school bands

Silent auction and ticket raffles | Concessions

with Bucky Badger sponsored by Andrew Cegielski

No ticket required

**2 p.m. Performance of the renowned "5th Quarter" by the famous
University of Wisconsin Marching Band**

Ticket Cost: \$12

Tickets available on a first come, first serve basis at all four district offices

Fox Point - Bayside

7300 North Lombardy Road

Maple Dale - Indian Hill

8377 North Port Washington Road

Glendale - River Hills

2600 West Mill Road

Nicolet High School

6701 North Jean Nicolet Road

For more information on ticket sales please contact Chris Macon at (414) 351-7561

