





2021 ANNUAL REPORT



EVERY STUDENT, IN EVERY CLASSROOM, EVERY DAY.

2021-2022 **SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS**



Dr. Leigh Wallace Tabak | Theresa Seem President

Elizabeth (Libby) Gutterman Vice President

Marilyn Franklin Clerk

Treasurer

Dr. Delicia Randle-Izard Member

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2021-2022 ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Greg Kabara Superintendent

Joe Patek Principal

Nicole Nelson Director of Technology

Jeff Pruefer Director of Business Services

David Coyle Associate Principal

Cristy Bauer Associate Principal

Dr. Brenda Turner Director of Teaching & Learning

Dr. Anne Ignatowski Director of Student Services

Amy Lee Board Secretary

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TEACHING. LEARNING & STUDENT SERVICES

MULTI-LEVEL **SYSTEMS OF SUPPORT**

The Student Support Team proved to be invaluable to the varying needs of students and adaptable to changing learning environments during the 2020-2021 school year. Led again by Chip Johnston, this team of teachers and paraprofessionals created a robust system to track student needs and student progress to ensure that all students were provided with the assistance and support they needed to be successful.

During the first semester, the Student Support Team met virtually with students individually and in small groups to support academic work and maintain positive student connections to school. As the school transitioned to offer in-person learning beginning in January, this team quickly adapted to the concurrent learning model by dedicating certain staff to in-person learners while continuing to offer remote learners with assistance.

Nicolet students continue to benefit not only from the staff-based Student Support Team but also from the enthusiastic support of our student leaders serving as Student Tutors, Peer Mentors and Writing Center Mentors. Academic, social, and emotional support is easily accessible to all students through this systematic support system.

Another benefit of student support is ongoing weekly meetings with the SST (Student Solutions Team) to provide a team approach and problem solve for students with specific, extensive needs. In addition, this team monitors trends in student grades. The SST consists of Student Services staff, Student Support Coordinator, literacy/math specialists, and administrators.

STUDENT SUPPORT

- Support Staff (teachers and paraprofessionals)
- Peer Tutors
- Peer Mentors
- Writing Center
- Supplemental Instruction

FRESHMAN TRANSITION

- Freshman Team
- Junior Knights Day
- Freshman Orientation
- Freshman Study Hall

SCHOOL COUNSELING

- Academic and Career Planning
- Social emotional
- competencies
 Culturally responsive
- practices

FRESHMAN TRANSITION

Nicolet serves students and families from five communities, and each incoming class draws students from over 30 different schools.

Providing students with a positive, engaging welcome to our Nicolet community is an essential component in building a foundation for academic success and social-emotional wellness. In 2020-2021, our Freshman Transition Team: consisting of 3 Staff Lead Advisors, 34 Faculty Advisors, and 71 Peer Mentors, planned and conducted three separate orientations. A virtual school start orientation in August focused on building connections with their new school, classmates, and teachers. Return to In-Person Learning orientations in January and April focused on introducing students to the building and COVID-19 safety protocols.

During the first semester, Freshman Advisors met with small groups of freshman students in advisory groups. The focus of the advisory meetings was to onboard students into various aspects of being a successful high school student. Freshman advisors worked with their groups on building personal learner profiles, understanding grading and assessments, and study and organizational skills. Advisory groups also engaged in lessons centered on social-emotional skills and strategies, as well as activities to build positive connections and relationships.

The PRICE character traits of Perseverance, Respect, Integrity, Courage, and Empathy were also discussed in Advisory. Students set academic SMART goals for the first semester as well.

In May, our transition team welcomed our Junior Knights, class of 2025, for a building tour, student panel and STAR testing.

REMOTE **LEARNING**

On March 17, 2020, Nicolet shifted to a fully remote learning environment, utilizing the Canvas Learning Management System. Nicolet has been trained and utilizing Canvas for several years; this was crucial for the seamless transition to remote learning. This experience, along with intensive remote learning training during the summer of 2020, enabled Nicolet the ability to offer a safe, quality, synchronous, remote learning experience for all students during the first semester of the 2020-2021 school year.

The remote only option for first semester resulted from concerns of the spread of COVID-19 and the district's focus to "stay safe to stay open." Following the data, the concerns of spread lessened during the first semester. With guidance from the North Shore Health Department, the Nicolet Board of Education voted to transition back to in-person learning for the second semester.

By January 28, 2021, Nicolet offered a concurrent model that included both in-person and remote learning. At the end of the second semester, 67% of students participated through in-person learning and 33% of students engaged via remote learning.

The hard work, dedication, flexibility, and resilience of the staff enabled Nicolet to offer a personalized approach focused on the social, emotional, and educational needs of students.

The Nicolet staff is excited to start the 2021-2022 school year in person. We will be welcoming back students on the first day of school with the long standing tradition of the Nicolet red carpet.

A YEAR IN REVIEW: A MESSAGE FROM SUPERINTENDENT

DR. KABARA

The past two years have provided us with unbelievable challenges and unprecedented changes. Through this time, I have been impressed by the flexibility and resilience of our students to overcome the unforeseen obstacles. The support of our teachers, staff, families and community reminded me of the caring learning environment that we work to create for our students.

The 2020-2021 school year included many highlights but also many opportunities to refine Nicolet. With our refreshed mission and vision and our new strategic plan, this is the perfect time to recommit to our Nicolet

standard of excellence. I look forward to continuing our work to maximize the achievements of our students and staff and to building on the outstanding reputation of Nicolet, ensuring that our students contribute to our local and global community.

I am incredibly proud of the Nicolet community and will be committed to ensuring that we accelerate the achievement of every student, in every classroom, every day.



BUILDING & GROUNDS

COVID-19 was obviously a significant challenge and focus for the 2020-2021 school year to ensure the safety of all Nicolet stakeholders. Safety measures taken included: installation of lexan partitions, relocation of furniture to enable social distancing, significant attention to cleaning and sanitization protocols, and continued focus on preventative maintenance of both air handling equipment and exhauventing equipment. We continue to follow ASHRAE recommendations for increased air filtration, along with drastically increasing outside air infusion. Although students didn't return to the building until January, the Facility Services still responded to 6,353 work orders, which is very similar to a normal school year. The most notable project completed during this school year was the conversion of the math/science and social studies office areas into large classroom spaces to enable appropriate social distancing for classes with a greater number of students. The District utilizes the SchoolDude work order management program to track corrective, preventative and facility set-up work orders. It also enables the District to compare Nicolet to other school districts across the country with Key Performance Indicators (KPI's).

Compared to the top 20% of districts using SchoolDude nationwide, Nicolet maintenance and grounds crew staff more than doubled the average number of work orders completed per technician. Custodians at Nicolet complete 1.8 times more work orders per person than the top 20% of the national average.

When you compare Nicolet to the national average, we complete 5.63 work orders per student enrolled compared to the top 20% national average of .85 per student. This reflects the high expectations of the Nicolet stakeholders.

When it comes to preventative maintenance requests, Nicolet completes 3.46 requests per student in comparison to the national average of .42 per student. This significantly high number can be attributed to the extensive care and maintenance that is critical to HVAC units that are well beyond their life expectancy.

The Nicolet community can be very proud of their dedicated Facility Services staff! Despite the significantly larger workload compared to national averages, the staff works efficiently and professionally to meet the many needs of our school community!

RICHARD E. MASLOWSKI GLENDALE COMMUNITY PARK

The dream set by Richard E. Maslowski became a reality during the spring of 2021. The community park was completed through a collaboration between Nicolet, the City of Glendale and Milwaukee School of Engineering. This unique partnership between public, private and municipal entities has generated a state-of-the-art baseball and softball facility for our community.

The American Sports Builders Awards Committee and Board of Directors announced the Nicolet High School/MSOE University Baseball Field, at the Richard E. Maslowski Community Park, was the winner in the Single Field category of its annual awards. The award winning baseball field is accompanied by a synthetic turf competition softball field that hosts high school and college softball and a natural grass recreation softball field.

softball field.

The fields are part of Nicolet's ongoing comprehensive athletic facilities project. For more information,

visit nicolet.us/activities/nicolet-athletic-facilities-

master-plan.cfm



TECHNOLOGY AT NICOLET

Personalized learning with technology enhances learning that is student-centered, engaging and growth oriented.

DISTRICT TECHNOLOGY GOALS

- Students are able to think critically, communicate and collaborate as they creatively solve problems and demonstrate their understanding.
- All students have equal access to opportunities through the use of technology and tools.



FACILITY PLANNING PROCESS

We believe our facilities should enhance learning and improve academic performance by









Nicolet launched a comprehensive facility planning study in the fall of 2019 to help plan for the future of Nicolet High School. The original building construction was completed in 1957, and our first step was to complete a comprehensive review of our current facility needs. After concluding our review in May 2020, we conducted a community survey in the fall of 2020. The results of the survey indicate that there is a strong interest in a facility renovation. This fall we will be participating in a more in-depth facility study with professional architects to prioritize our needs and explore potential solutions to address our existing facilities. We will continue to work this year by engaging stakeholders in numerous opportunities to provide input and feedback. Please review our Facility Planning Process at https://www.nicolet.us/district/facility-planning-process.cfm

ACTIVITIES.ATHLETICS & RECREATION





For the 2020-2021 school year, the participation rate was 79.5% for all activities: including sports, clubs, theatre, National Honor Society, and more.



Senior athletes planning to compete at the collegiate level this upcoming school year



Nicolet 2021 graduate, William Navarre, was named the Gatorade Soccer Player of the



Boys and girls athletic teams





26 Senior Athletic Scholarships & Awards were given to senior athletes in 2021

NICOLET **RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

The Nicolet Recreation Department provides recreational and lifelong learning opportunities for Nicolet area residents and surrounding communities in an effort to enhance physical and intellectual well-being for ALL. During the pandemic the Recreation Department was able to offer over 400 programs, serving close to 5,000 participants! The Nicolet Recreation Department used every precaution and guideline available to provide a safe and healthy experience for their residents and participants. They offered unique programming such as:

Water Safety Instruction
 Archery

Get Ahead with Spanish

Zumbini

- Virtual ACT Workshop
- Smartphone video & Editing
- Tai Chi
- Adult Tennis Instruction
- Walk the Halls



NICOLET ALUM ('20) SELECTED IN NBA DRAFT

Jalen Johnson was selected #20 overall by the Atlanta Hawks in the 2021 NBA Draft.



INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING FAIR

Ethan Zentner (2023) won 1st place in the Material Science category. For this achievement Ethan received \$5,000, a \$1,000 grant for Nicolet High School, and a \$1,000 grant for the local science fair (which is held at Nicolet). Ethan was also awarded \$3000 and a CIA STEAM Challenge Coin from the Central Intelligence Agency in the category of Material Science.







EXCELLENCE AT NICOLET

1087

students were enrolled at Nicolet during 2020-2021 Consistently named a RFST HIGH SCHOOL'

by US News and World Report and ranked within the TOP 5% OF SCHOOLS NATIONALLY



TEACHING STAFF:

12-1
Student Teacher ratio

Nationally Board Certified Teachers

4

Teachers who have earned their doctorate degrees

Michelle Walny was recognized in the category of Notable Women in Education by the Biz Times.

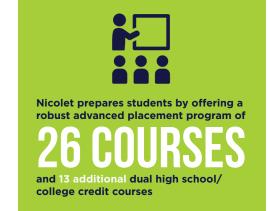
THE ONLY PUBLIC School in the State To Offer Hebrew



National Merit Scholarship Finalists Ranked

SIGNIFICANTLY EXCEEDS EXPECTATIONS

by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction showing one of the most significant levels of improvement in the "Closing the Achievement Gaps" score in the Milwaukee area.

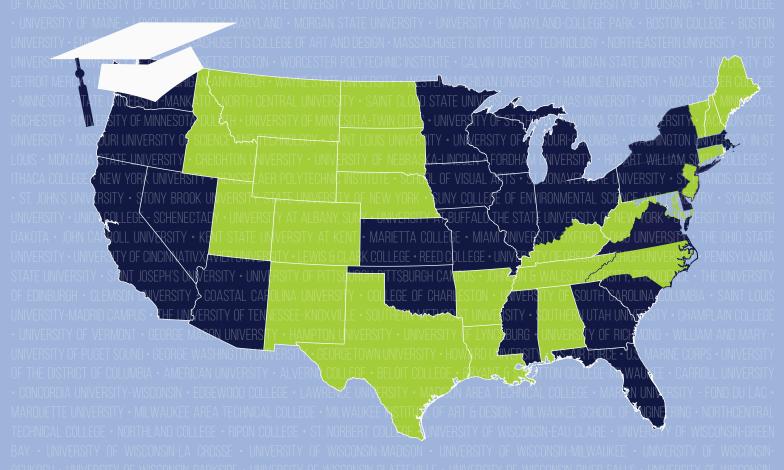




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Global Scholars certificates for the graduating class of 2021

CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2021



The Class of 2021 was accepted into over 199 colleges across the globe! We are incredibly proud of our graduating Knights and we can't wait to see what exciting things they'll do next

ARIZONA -4 California - 7 District of Columbia - 1 Florida - 4

GEORGIA - 2 ILLINOIS - 11

INDIANA - 8 IOWA - 3

ISRAEL - 1

LOUISIANA - 1 Maryland - 1 Massachusetts -

KANSAS - 2

MASSACHUSETTS - 2 MICHIGAN - 2 MINNESOTA - 20 MISSOURI - 3

NEVADA - 1 NEW YORK - 1 OHIO - 5 OKLAHOMA - 1 OREGON - 1 PENNSYLVANIA - 1 TEXAS - 1

WASHINGTON - 1 Wisconsin - 116

by 322 stud

During the 2020-2021

school year, 673 advanced

placement tests were taken

BUSINESS SERVICES & BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

BUSINESS SERVICES & BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

The Nicolet Union High School Business Office manages the annual budget, financial operations, transportation, food service, and building and grounds, to meet the district's objectives within the financial constraints of Wisconsin school funding.

THE BUSINESS OFFICE AIMS TO MANAGE COMMUNITY RESOURCES RESPONSIBLY TO SUPPORT PROVIDING THE BEST EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE POSSIBLE.

The State of Wisconsin imposes a revenue limit on public school districts. The revenue limit is increased or decreased annually based primarily on the state budget, student enrollment and special exemptions.

Nicolet's revenue limit is the maximum amount of revenue that may be raised through state general aid and property tax for the General and Non-Referendum Debt Fund, also referred to as Funds 10 and 38.

In order to maintain small class sizes, innovative technology, and a wide scope of educational programming, the Nicolet community voted to exceed the revenue annual limit by \$3.15M annually through the 2021-2022 school year. This is the final year of the previously authorized six year referendum. A new referendum was approved in April 2021 that will allow the District to exceed the revenue limit by \$3.9M annually through the 2027-2028 school year.

WHERE DOES THE DISTRICT'S MONEY COME FROM?

79.86%PROPERTY TAXES

2.20%

LOCAL SOURCES

1.89%

INTER-DISTRICT SOURCES

2.66%

FEDERAL SOURCES

13.38%

STATE FOUALIZATION/220 AID

HOW IS THE MONEY **SPENT?**

PERSONNEL (FUNDS 10 & 27)

\$17,076,510 • 74.66%

DEPARTMENT BUDGETS

\$255.049 • 1.12%

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

\$1,109,257 • 4.85%

TRANSPORTATION (FUNDS 10 & 27)

\$828,000 • 3.62%

ATHLETICS/CO-CURRICULAR

\$521.400 • 2.28%

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

\$557,103 · 2.44%

STUDENT SERVICES/SPECIAL EDUCATION (FUNDS 10 & 27)

\$464,520 · 2.03%

STUDENT OPTIONS (OE, VOUCHERS, YOUTH OPTIONS)

\$510.563 · 2.23%

BUILDING AND GROUNDS (INCLUDES UTILITIES)

\$1.050.000 • 4.59%

LIBRARY

\$73,901 • 0.32%

FUND 10 GRANTS (NON-PERSONNEL)

\$73,200 • 0,32%

DEBT

\$353,278 • 1.54%



The Nicolet Union High School District continues to maintain the highest possible bond rating, Aaa, by the bond rating agency Moody's.

NICOLET IS ONE OF ONLY THREE OF WISCONSIN'S 421 PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO HOLD THE TOP RATING.

THE DISTRICT HAD A FAVORABLE YEAR FINANCIALLY IN 2020-2021 AND WAS ABLE TO CONTRIBUTE \$1.2M TO FUND 46. WHICH IS THE DISTRICT'S LONG-TERM CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT TRUST FUND.

A School Board with an approved long-term capital improvement plan (minimum of 10 years) may establish a "trust" (Fund 46) that is funded with a transfer from the general fund. The goal of Fund 46 is to pre-fund future capital improvement projects.

The District faculty study from 2019-2020 identified capital improvement needs such as: the school's science labs, HVAC upgrades, roofing and electrical device replacements, bathroom/locker room upgrades, school safety needs, and implementation of the athletic facilities master plan.

The costs associated with the identified needs exceed the District's annual capital improvement budget. The funds being set aside will go towards any identified future projects.



ADDITIONAL SAVINGS FROM THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR PROVIDE FOR FUTURE BUDGET FLEXIBILITY AND HAVE IMPROVED THE DISTRICT'S FINANCIAL OUTLOOK FOR FUTURE YEARS

2021-2022 FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

For the 2021-2022 school year, the District eliminated one custodial position and decreased transportation expenses. The District worked with the bus contractor to reduce per bus cost and gain efficiencies in routing, while still providing door to door service throughout the community. The District also added a new faculty position for family and consumer science to accommodate growing student enrollment in the culinary arts and pre-nursing programs.

"THE DISTRICT CONTINUES TO EMPHASIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF EQUITY-BASED DECISION-MAKING TO POSITIVELY IMPACT ALL STUDENTS"

These budget changes resulted in a planned \$10,267 surplus for the upcoming 2021-2022 school year.

The District is also planning for additional resources from the Federal government as the result of ESSER III funding which has become available for schools to access in 2021-2022.

BUSINESS SERVICES & BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS



THE DISTRICT TAX LEVY IS PROJECTED TO DECREASE 3.65% FROM 2020-2021 TO 2021-2022. DETAILS CAN BE FOUND IN THE TABLE BELOW:

PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX LEVY					
Funds	Audited 2019-2020	Unaudited 2020-2021	Proposed 2021-2022		
General Fund (Fund 10)	\$17,862,073	\$18,135,668	\$17,992,772		
Non-Ref Debt (Fund 38)	\$1,018,069	\$1,115,447	\$586,168		
Comm. Svc. (Fund 80)	\$255,455	\$342,000	\$300,000		
Total School Levy	\$19,135,597	\$19,593,115	\$18,878,940		
Increase/decrease from prior year	(0.26%)	2.39%	(3.65%)		

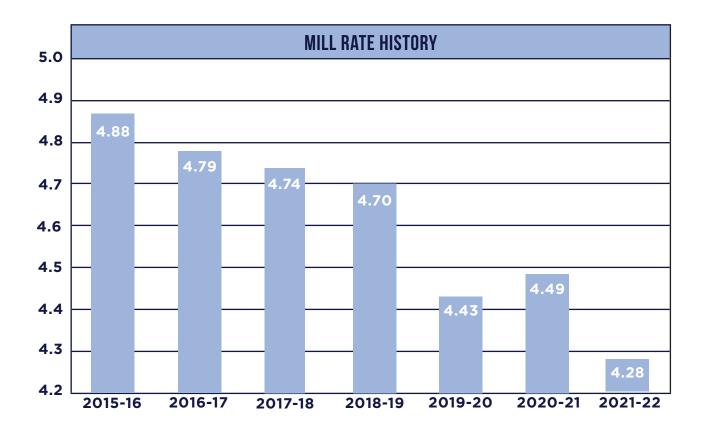
THE TAX LEVY IS DISTRIBUTED AMONGST INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY OWNERS BY CONVERTING THE TOTAL LEVY INTO A MILL RATE. A MILL RATE IS THE AMOUNT AN INDIVIDUAL PAYS PER \$1,000 OF HOME VALUE. AN ILLUSTRATION OF THE SHIFT IN MILL RATE FOR THE PAST TWO YEARS, AS WELL AS THE PROJECTED MILL RATE FOR 2021-2022, ARE SHOWN BELOW:

PROPOSED MILL RATE				
	Audited 2019-2020	Unaudited 2020-2021	Proposed 2021-22	
Mill Rate*	\$4.43	\$4.49	\$4.28	
Increase/decrease from prior year	(5.76%)	1.41%	(4.60%)	

^{*}Total School-Based Tax Levy / Equalized Property Value x 1,000 = Mill Rate

THE PROPOSED 4.60% DECREASE IN MILL RATE WILL HAVE THE FOLLOWING IMPACT ON PROPERTY TAXPAYERS:

MILL RATE IMPACT ON PROPERTY TAXPAYERS					
Home Value	2020-2021 RATE	2021-2022 RATE	Difference		
\$200,000	\$898	\$856	-\$42		
\$400,000	\$1,796	\$1,172	-\$84		
\$600,000	\$2,694	\$2,568	-\$126		
\$800,000	\$3,592	\$3,424	-\$168		



DISTRICT MISSION

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

DISTRICT VISION

Nicolet High School commits itself to excellence and equity by intentionally engaging each student to achieve personal success and to contribute to the local and global community.

DISTRICT VALUES

We are committed to.

- Ensuring all students learn at high levels in an equitable learning environment
- Engaging creativity, innovation and risk taking
- Building future ready skills
- Ensuring an inclusive school culture where all are valued
- Engaging in continuous improvement utilizing research based best practices
- Cultivating collective responsibility for the success of all
- Connecting our communities
- Teaching with a focus on personalized learning



ACCELERATING ACHIEVEMENT: EVERY STUDENT, EVERY CLASSROOM, EVERY DAY