



BOARD highlights

A QUICK LOOK AT THE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS OF PUTNAM CITY SCHOOLS

Feb. 4, 2019

Substitute Teacher Pay Receives Bump

The board on Monday night approved modification of the district’s Rates of Pay Schedule that increases substitute pay for certified and non-certified substitute teachers who have substituted more than 20 days during the fiscal year.

With the change, substitute teachers who are certified will be paid \$80 a day after substituting 20 days in the fiscal year. Certified substitute teachers who have substituted less than 20 days will receive \$75 a day, which prior to the change was the pay for all certified substitute teachers regardless of how many days they taught during the fiscal year.

Substitutes without active teacher certification will receive \$65 a day after substituting 20 days in the fiscal year. Non-certified substitute teachers who have substituted less than 20 days will receive \$60 a day, which prior to the change was the rate for all non-certified substitute teachers.

The Rates of Pay Schedule sets the pay for temporary jobs covered by certified and support personnel and is approved each year by the board. Tonight’s revision to pay for substitute teachers is effective Feb. 5, 2019.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT by Dr. Fred Rhodes

Historically, the patrons of Putnam City have been overwhelmingly supportive of maintaining and improving our facilities for our students and entire school community. In 2014 patrons passed the \$120 million Centennial Bond, the most comprehensive bond in the 100-year history of the district. In 2017 patrons supported a much smaller interim bond, the \$22 million Momentum Bond for completion of the new Capps Middle School, technology, safety and transportation, which passed by more than 80 percent, the highest percent of passage in recent history. It is now time for us to begin making plans for the next comprehensive bond proposal, the 2020 Bond. In the next few months, we will ask local school communities, the patrons of the district and all stakeholders to submit ideas for the 2020 Bond. As you walk school hallways, visit classrooms and attend events, please be thinking about what schools need that should be included in the 2020 bond proposal. We are truly blessed to have incredible facilities. There is the “Putnam City standard” that other districts strive to achieve. As leaders in the district, it is our duty to be good stewards of the facilities we have been entrusted to maintain. As patrons of the district, we have a moral obligation to provide the very best for our students. Let’s all work together to catch the vision – the perfect vision – of the 2020 Bond.

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COMMENTS by Public and Board Members

Patron Dick Click expressed concerns about facilities and facility construction at Putnam City West High School and specifically asked the board to consider construction of a new gym, repainting of the stadium and renovation of locker rooms.

Jay Sherrill asked for the board to be updated on facilities. He asked how the community can submit ideas for the 2020 bond proposal and learned that an idea submission mechanism will be included in the new district website. He also congratulated the district on earning a Top Workplaces distinction from The Oklahoman.

Bill Wetmore thanked five members of the Hefner Middle School orchestra for their performance at the meeting, saying they were fantastic.

Cindy Gibbs said she appreciated a thank you note she received from a student. She also joined Sherrill in congratulating the district on earning Top Workplaces status.

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Meeting Date:	Monday, Feb. 4, 5 p.m.
Location:	Administration Building
Roll Call:	All five members of the board were present: Becky Gooch, president; Gail LoPresto, vice president; Cindy Gibbs, Jay Sherrill and Bill Wetmore. Also present were Dr. Fred Rhodes, superintendent; and Tina Losawyer, deputy board clerk.
Next Meeting:	Tuesday, Feb. 19, 5 p.m.

Putnam City Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, age, marital or veteran status, or disability.

Superintendent's Report (continued from page 1)

▶ Ms. Patty Balenseifen and her Human Capital team have been preparing for the annual Putnam City Schools Teacher Job Fair to be held from 2 to 6 p.m. on Tuesday, March 26, at the Francis Tuttle Technology Center Reno Campus. We are pleased that in the last year, our district has been named a Top Workplace by The Oklahoman because of factors such as salaries that are among the best in the metro area, 100-percent district-paid teacher retirement, employee child care and a salary schedule that honors all years of out-of-state service. Please help us get the word out about our upcoming job fair.

▶ District administrators have been working with Eric Winkle of the Putnam City Association of Classroom Teachers to formulate a plan to send a delegation from Putnam City to the Capitol during this legislative session. The details of this plan will soon be released, but our intent is to allow rotating five-member school teams, representative of administration, certified teachers, support staff, parent and student who will visit with key legislators regarding current educational issues and proposed legislation. The board's negotiated agreement has a provision that allows the PCACT legislative days for this purpose and others will use personal leave or professional development leave to attend. Prior to going, members of each team will go through an orientation that will provide guidance regarding the proper and professional protocol for approaching and engaging legislators, as well as talking points related to current educational issues.

▶ Dr. Dick Balenseifen, the district's athletic director, has been working with the district athletic council to begin a new event to honor to athletes and coaches who have brought significant recognition to the district. More details will be forthcoming, but the first annual event will be sometime in early fall. In addition to honoring these athletes, the council wants to provide a way to help graduates to reconnect with the district and also give them a chance to be among the first to tour our new athletic facilities before the inaugural season. Nominations for those to be recognized should be sent to Dr. Balenseifen.

Board OKs SIOP Workshop

The board on Monday night approved a contract with The Center for Applied Linguistics for three days of Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol (SIOP) professional development for 30 Putnam City teachers.

SIOP is a research-based instructional model that is highly effective in addressing the academic needs of English learners. The workshop, to take place Monday, June 3, through Wednesday, June 5, will enable ESL teachers, instructional coaches and other teachers to learn and practice the eight components of the SIOP model in order to effectively integrate language and content instruction. Workshop participants will be equipped with skills to support English Language Learners, identify the most significant factors affecting second language acquisition, and develop lesson plans with effective content and language objectives to meet the language demands of grade-level content lessons. Workshop participants will each receive a copy of the book *Making Content Comprehensible*.

The \$13,765 cost of the three-day workshop will be covered by federal funds.

Board Comments (continued from page 1)

Gail LoPresto said she attended legislative advocacy training at the Oklahoma State School Boards Association and found it interesting and motivating. She also thanked Hefner Middle School orchestra members for their performance.

Becky Gooch said the district had a good plan in place for legislative advocacy. She also introduced Charity Avery to the audience. Avery ran unopposed for the Office No. 4 board seat and will join the board in April, replacing Bill Wetmore.

In Memory

The staff of Putnam City Schools laments the recent passing of Mr. Nick Jackson, the P.E. teacher at Hilldale Elementary School. Mr. Jackson was the favorite teacher of many students in the school and was unfailingly helpful to his colleagues. He is greatly missed by his Putnam City family.

Board Highlights is not a comprehensive review of every item that takes place at board of education meetings. Its purpose is merely to provide information about items that seem of most interest to district employees and patrons. Complete board meeting minutes may be found at <http://www.putnamcityschools.org/BoardofEducation/BoardMeetingMinutes/tabid/565/Default.aspx>

Orchestra Students Heading to London for New Year's Performance

The board on Monday night approved a contract with Performance Travel Ltd. that will allow orchestra students from Putnam City High School, Putnam City North High School and Putnam City West High School to participate in the 34th Annual New Year's Day Parade and Festival in London later this year. The contract includes language related to performances, flight, lodging, meals, educational tours and more.

Students will depart from Dallas/Ft. Worth on Dec. 28, 2019, and return to the U.S. on Jan. 4, 2020. No school days will be missed.

A combination of community sponsors, parental payments and fund-raising events will be used to pay for the trip.



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