



# Board Highlights

August 19, 2019

## Stop It App Report

A successful pilot transforms into a program across all secondary school sites in Putnam City Schools. The Stop It App is now live after testing last Spring. The District Task Force on Hazing Prevention, led by Executive Director of Secondary Education, Rick Croslin, created the initiative for the Stop It App. The app allows students and parents to anonymously report bullying to site administrators. Administrators can follow up with additional questions to investigate reports while students and/or parents remain anonymous throughout the process. The administrator who received the report can have a text conversation with the reporting party all while the reporting party's identity is protected.

Administrators at each secondary site have been trained on the app. Students will attend meetings this Fall with training for reporting. The Stop It App will be downloaded to all school iPads, so if students don't have a phone of their own, they will still have access to the app. Students can use a designated access code for the site, and parents can view the report and all information. This app is a free resource provided by Oklahoma Insurance Group. This is one step in many that Putnam City is making to prevent bullying.

### **Negotiated Agreement with PCACT Accepted by Board**

The Board of Education approved a negotiated agreement with the Putnam City Association of Classroom Teachers. PCACT President, Eric Winkle, said, "The Putnam City Association of Classroom Teachers is pleased with the outcome of this summer's negotiations. We recognize that the district continues to put the needs of the teachers and students of Putnam City Public Schools as their top priority. We look forward to continuing to work with the district to assure that Putnam City Public Schools remains one of the top school districts in the state."

### Comments by Board Members and Public

Jay Sherrill thanked all of the Putnam City staff for their support for parents. He said as a parent of two elementary students he felt good leaving his children for the first day of school, and they are looking forward to the year.

Charity Avery thanked the Transportation Department for doing such a good job. She pointed out Gloria and Donna, drivers for students with special needs. She said they are wonderful and know all of the children's names.

Gail LoPresto said she appreciated and enjoyed convocation. She met new teachers at their training last week too. She said it was also interesting to take a bus tour through areas in the district with new teachers this past week. She also attended the Popsicle Party at Hilldale Elementary.

Meeting Date: Monday, August 19th, 5 p.m.  
Location: Administration Building  
Roll Call: Board members present were: Gail LoPresto, president; Charity Avery, and Jay Sherrill. Also present were Dr. Fred Rhodes, superintendent; and Sandy Leemaster, board clerk.  
Next Meeting: Monday, August 26th, 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.*

## Board Approves Boundary Change

The board approved a boundary change for Hilldale and Apollo schools for the 2020-2021 school year. The addition to the Apollo attendance area will extend the north boundary from 16th street to 19th street. The west boundary would be MacArthur, and the east boundary would be Purdue Avenue. This vote will alleviate overcrowded conditions at Hilldale.

*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 <https://www.putnamcityschools.org/about-us/board-of-education/board-meeting-minutes>

## Board Approves to Continue Concurrent Classes with OSU-OKC

The Board voted to expand the OSU-OKC concurrent program that has been offered to Putnam City North for the past two years. The expansion includes Putnam City High and Putnam City West. Because of this vote, students at those schools can also take part in the program. This is of no cost to the district. Students can select from Composition I & II, College Algebra, and Government courses.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT** *by Dr. Fred Rhodes*

► Last week, we welcomed back teachers at a fun-filled, student-led Convocation. Convocation is an event that combines the best features of a family reunion and a pep rally. Everyone enjoys seeing teacher friends they have missed over the summer and the student performances build excitement as we begin a new school year. Our thanks to all of those who helped make Convocation 2019 a huge success. See photo below.



## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT** *by Dr. Fred Rhodes*

▶ You may have seen in the press, the upcoming first annual Putnam City Athletic Hall of Fame scheduled for August 30th. Former Oklahoma City Mayor and 1976 Putnam City Graduate, Mick Cornett will emcee as Alvan Adams, Steve Largent, Sam Bradford, and a list of athletic legends return home. Tickets are on sale now through the Putnam City Foundation web site.

▶ This Friday, August 23rd, Board Member Jay Sherrill and Foundations President Jennifer Seal will be a part of a panel discussion about the working relationship between public school foundations and school boards at the OSSBA conference. Local Architectural Firm, LWPB teamed with the international firm, DLR, and together the two firms designed Capps Middle School. LWPB will present a discussion titled, "Crossing a Bridge: Architecture as a Change Agent for Learning."

### **Good News Across the District:**

Two Sport Professional Athlete, Brian Jordan, visited all three Putnam City high schools this week communicating an anti-bullying message to all student athletes and coaches at the secondary level. He connected with athletes and coaches using his success in professional football and baseball as a platform to discuss meaningful issues. Our partners, Kelly Sports Properties, Inc. made this possible.

Oklahoma Arts Council and The Endowment for the Arts awarded Putnam City a grant for the full ask of \$8,150. Through this grant students will create enormous foam art sculptures and do structural façade work. Putnam City educators are excited for this unique learning opportunity with the arts. Fine Arts, Gifted, and AP Curriculum Coordinator Brandy Sitts said, "They were very excited that our grant project includes student learning, teacher training, and community collaboration in a type of project they haven't seen before."

*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 <https://www.putnamcityschools.org/about-us/board-of-education/board-meeting-minutes>