Motions Passed Tonight

Many motions were passed by the Board tonight. A full agenda with more details can be found online at www.putnamcityschools.org. Below are a few highlights.

A declaration of vacancy for Board Seat #3 was declared by the Board.

Three new job descriptions were passed. The positions include: School Nurse COVID Risk Assessment Coordinator, Reserve Teacher, and Equity Coordinator. See the Superindent’s Report on page two of this issue of Board Highlights for more information on these COVID-related positions.

Several contracts were renewed tonight including the renewal of agreement with Oklahoma Building Services for Custodial Services. This continued service will be helpful when additional overnight sanitizing is needed in buildings.

Please see the Superintendents Report on page two for more details on this week’s COVID update. New information can be found there. We are PC proud that highlights from our Return to Learn plan were on many tv and print media outlets this week. The most frequently covered aspects of the plan were the mask requirement and the Teacher Safety Kits.

July 20, 2020

Comments by Board Members and Public

Daniel Young, a PCN teacher spoke. He said there was a lot to compliment in the Return to Learn plan. Many aspects made him feel valued and safe. He asked the District to be cautious and proactive and offered two suggestions for the beginning of school.

Gail LoPresto thanked everyone who worked on the Return to Learn plan. She said she prays for the staff and the kids.

Charity Avery thanked the committee that worked on Return to Learn. She said she has heard from parents. She is also a concerned parent, but she knows Putnam City will make the best choice for kids. She also thanked Becky Gooch for her service on the Board.

Jay Sherrill said thank you to everyone who worked on Return to Learn. He said it was comprehensive, answered many questions, and provided options. Mr. Sherrill said he has heard from staff. He also said he supports any needed changes. Mr. Sherrill said he knows PC will be looking for the best practices.
We are very excited that the District’s Return to Learn plan was released this week! We appreciate the efforts of the planning committee that received input from parents and teachers, as well as guidance from the State Department of Education, state, county and local healthcare professionals and agencies. The Return to Learn plan is very comprehensive and provides several options for parents so they can feel comfortable by selecting the best option for their child. The Plan can be found on the District website under the COVID-19 tab.

Putnam City, for good reason, has the reputation of being a leader among leaders. We all recognize the anxiety, uneasiness and uncertainty of returning back to school due to all the issues related to COVID-19. As part of our ongoing effort to provide a safe learning environment for our teachers and students, on the board agenda tonight is the recommendation of two new positions to help us more fully reach that goal. One proposed position is a COVID-19 Risk Assessment Coordinator. The job description states that the Coordinator will conduct contact tracing for positive COVID-19 cases, as well as collaborate with district administration in matters related to district communication, preventative measures to mitigate the spread, decisions regarding quarantine, isolation and closures based on state health department guidelines.

Another position being proposed tonight is “Reserve Teachers.” The concept is that reserve teachers will create a pool of full-time substitutes, ready to staff PC sites to alleviate absences of teachers during this unprecedented time. If approved, these two positions will serve both district staff and students in managing COVID responses.

Thanks to all who have been diligently working to provide a safe beginning to this next school year.

Good News from

Ryan Wilkinson will be an Administrative Intern at Putnam City North. The Panthers are happy to welcome him.