



# Board Highlights

February 22, 2021

## SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

BY DR. FRED RHODES

We are certainly living in unprecedented times. What a year it has been. COVID immobilized our State nearly one year ago, beginning on March 11, 2020 when the Thunder canceled their basketball game that Wednesday evening. We were further challenged with an ice storm in October. And last week, we experienced ice and snow, which presented us with additional challenges. Our preference is always to provide in-person learning opportunities, but we are thankful that learning can continue with distance learning when we experience unprecedented inclement weather conditions. Last week's low temperatures combined with power outages caused busted pipes and water damage to several school facilities. We commend all of our employees in the operations departments for responding quickly to prevent additional damage. From maintenance, plumbers, electricians, technology, energy to custodial services and campus police, we offer our deepest gratitude for working long hours to care for and protect our property. We sincerely say, "Thank you." Thank you for being there. Thank you for your loyalty to the District. Thank you for caring.

We offer a warm and sincere welcome to our newest Board member, Judy Mullen-Hopper. Many people retire and look forward to the day when they can relax and travel. Judy has chosen to be involved. She will be a strong voice at the State level and carry the banner for public education, which is so badly needed right now. Since retirement, she has dedicated herself to remaining connected through organizations such as the Parent Legislative Action Committee (PLAC). She can often be seen at the Capitol advocating for public education. We are blessed that Judy is still willing to serve.

### Comments by Board Members and Public

Charity Avery welcomed Judy Mullen-Hopper to the Board. She also thanked Sky Collins for her service. Ms. Avery thanked Shbrone Brookings and the Operations Department for the removal of tree limbs, clean-up, and maintenance.

Judy Mullen-Hopper thanked her constituents for electing her. She said she is active in PLAC, and looks forward to using her new role to educate people about public school legislation.

Jay Sherrill congratulated Judy Mullen-Hopper. Mr. Sherrill thanked Sky Collins for her service. Mr. Sherrill praised the clean-up efforts in the District after the storms. Mr. Sherrill thanked teachers. He also thanked Shannon Meeks for his service at Putnam City.

Cindy Gibbs thanked Sky Collins for serving on the Board, and welcomed Judy Mullen-Hopper.

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Meeting Date: Monday, February 22, 2021, 5 p.m.  
Location: Administration Building

Next Meeting: Monday, March 1, 2021 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.*

Present: Dr Fred Rhodes, Superintendent, Tina Losawyer, Deputy Board Clerk, Charity Avery, Judy Hopper-Mullens, Jay Sherrill, Cindy Gibbs

To Sky Collins, we say, “Thank you.” Thank you for your willingness to serve during this gap, following the resignation of Becky Gooch last summer. Sky, we know you will continue to remain involved in many ways. You are a graduate, a product of Putnam City Schools. We proudly claim you! You currently have children in our schools, and we know you will continue to provide the parent perspective that we need.

We know that many questions remain regarding the 4th Quarter plan to return to in-person learning 5 days per week. Please know that we are continually monitoring several factors that will help make that decision. We are encouraged by the reduction in the spread of the virus statewide and the delivery of the vaccine. We are cautiously optimistic, but need to wait until we get closer to the 4th Quarter to make a final decision. We appreciate everyone’s patience as we work to come up with the very best plan that is balanced and can meet the needs of our students.

Looking at the week ahead of us, this is Public Schools Week. There are ways to participate daily, including “wear red for public ed” tomorrow! Activities for the week are posted on our social media platforms. You can participate by posting your photos with #pcpublicschoolsweek. You might end up on the Putnam City social media pages!

*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>

## Comments by Board Members and Public

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Mrs. Gibbs said she’s received many e-mails this school year. She praised the maintenance staff and cafeteria staff. She thanked everyone for their work throughout this school year.

## NATIONAL PUBLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

- Sunday:** Use the frame #PublicSchoolProud by OKPLAC on your Facebook profile picture
- Monday:** Send a card or video message to your legislators, Governor, or Lt. Governor about your great school
- Tuesday:** Wear Red for Public Ed
- Wednesday:** Quote your child
- Thursday:** Share the reasons you love public schools
- Friday:** Show your school spirit

#PublicSchoolProud  
#PCProud  
#WeChoosePublicSchool  
#PublicSchoolsWeek  
#PCPublicSchoolsWeek

## Motions Passed by The Board

The Board approved the Declaration of Emergency and Resolution at District Facilities due to damage caused by inclement weather.

The Board approved the motion for the 2022-2023 District Calendar as drafted.

The Board approved the motion for the District Policy – EP for Federal Programs Complaint Procedure. (This was an Item of Information at the last meeting.)

The Board approved the motion for the District Policy – EP for homeless students. (This was an Item of Information at the last meeting.)

The Board approved the members to serve on the 2020-2021 Support Bargaining Unit Team to represent the Board of Education.

The Board approved the motion for a new job description for a role that is expected to act as a single point of contact for service requests and emergency calls.

Read full details at [www.putnamcityschools.org](http://www.putnamcityschools.org)

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