



Board Highlights

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

BY DR. FRED RHODES

A draft of the Return to Learn plan for school year 2021-2022 was posted on our website last week. There is a form for public comment. The draft is open for public review until midnight tonight. We look forward to hearing our PC families' input on this plan that a committee of community stakeholders updated.

There is good news from the Oklahoma State Department of Education! Oklahoma is now second in the nation in expectations for elementary-level reading. The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) made the announcement. The timing is perfectly aligned with new professional development being released by the Oklahoma State Department of Education to train teachers who work with young readers.

The Putnam City Schools Foundation Wall of Fame celebration is this Thursday, June 24th. Dr. Greg Walton, a 1980 graduate of Putnam City High School, is the night's honoree. Dr. Walton is co-owner of the WeightWise Bariatrics Program, which has transformed the lives of over 7,500 people. Dr. Walton survived a horrific accident as a college student and has a triumphant story of success in completing his undergraduate degree and medical school. His story of inspiration and determination embodies the PC spirit. It will be a memorable night!

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June 21, 2021

Comments by
Board Members and Public

Judy Mullen Hopper complimented Carole Buhr, the faculty and staff of PCN, and the PCN PTO for their work on the 2020 graduation ceremony. Ms. Mullen Hopper also said she has reviewed the feedback from the recent survey. She believes PC needs to include everyone in conversations. She said, "We are a family."

Steve Burger commended Carole Buhr on the PCH graduation ceremony. Mr. Burger also praised Jennifer Seal and the work the Foundation is doing. He welcomed former Superintendent, Paul Hurst, to the meeting.

Meeting Date: Monday, June 21, 2021, 5 p.m.
Location: Administration Building

Next Meeting: Tuesday, July 6, 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, Jay Sherrill, Charity Avery, Steve Burger, Judy Mullen Hopper, and Gail LoPresto.

The world was watching as the OU Women's Softball team took home the championship title. But, did you know that a former Putnam City High School teacher and coach is recognized as being highly responsible for bringing the Women's College World Series to Oklahoma City years ago? Not only that but the OU Women's Home Field is named after Marita Hynes for all of her contributions to the OU Women's softball program. Ms. Hynes taught and coached four sports at Putnam City High School for five years before taking over as head softball coach at the University of Oklahoma. She won 256 games and sent three teams to the World Series while with the Sooners.

We were excited this morning to see Director of Communications, Sheradee Hurst and her daughter, Maelee, on the Today Show as part of the virtual Block Party. They were contacted by the Today Show producer on Friday inviting them to be a part of the event as a follow up to a segment they did earlier in the year during the pandemic.



2020-2021 Graduating Senior Awards

Oklahoma Academic All-State

James Lee
Putnam City High School

National Merit Semifinalist

James Lee
Putnam City High School

QuestBridge Scholarship Finalist

Delaney Fulp
Katie Acosta
Chloe-Carmen Ashu-Takor
Tommy Pham
Bill Le
Khanh Le Nhat Nguyen
Putnam City North School

Venicesa White
Joshua Ogunbase
Putnam City West School

QuestBridge Scholarship Match

Katie Acosta
Putnam City North School

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

Gail LoPresto said it is good to see Paul Hurst at the meeting, and thanked him for serving on the Foundation. She said she has many memories of working with him for PC.

Charity Avery echoed the previous comments of other board members. She also commented that it was good to see a PC grad on the Recommended Hire List. She said it's nice to see people that come through PC who then work for PC.

Jay Sherrill agreed with Ms. Avery that it is good to "grow our own talent." Mr. Sherrill thanked the Foundation board members who were present at the meeting. He thanked them for all they do to keep Putnam City cutting edge with grants.

Motions Passed by The Board

The Board approved a motion to begin contributing the employee portion of OKTRS on behalf of support personnel who are regularly employed for 20 hours or more per week, beginning July 1, 2021. Senate Bill 683 permits support personnel who are regularly employed for 20 hours or more per week join the OKTRS upon hiring. This decision is irrevocable. If an employee elects to opt out during the 30 day option period then they will not be permitted to join OKTRS in the future. The only exception is if the employee moves from a support position to a certified position, even then only years of service credit will be awarded for the periods of contribution. Approval will omit the financial stress on current and future employees and will further improve the benefits package for staff employed by Putnam City Schools.

The Board approved a motion for the agreement with Barlow Education Management Services for Federal Program Management of CARES, ESSER II/III Grants, CDAP for the 2021-2022 school year.

The Board approved a motion for the agreement with the Putnam City Public Schools Foundation.

The Board approved a motion for the agreement with Messiah Lutheran Private School to provide services to students who qualify under the IDEA guidelines.

The Board approved a motion for the renewal of contract with Total Wellness, Corporate Health.

The Board approved a motion for the renewal of contract with Sign Language Resource Services, Inc. (SLRS).

The Board approved a motion for the renewal of the Memorandum of Agreement with the Oklahoma City-County Board of Health.

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