



highlights

Jan. 23, 2012

2012-2013 Calendar Approved

The board on Monday night approved the district calendar for the 2012-2013 school year. The calendar calls for classes to begin on **Friday, Aug. 17, and end on Thursday, May 23.** The year will run later if snow days are necessary. The full calendar is below.

Tuesday, Aug. 14
Teachers Report

Friday, Aug. 17
Classes begin

Monday, Sept. 3
Labor Day (no school)

Friday, Sept. 28
Parent conferences (no school)

Wednesday, Oct. 10
Professional day (no classes)

Thursday, Oct. 11, and Friday, Oct. 12
Fall break (no school)

Thursday, Oct. 18
End of 1st quarter (41 days)

Wednesday, Nov. 21 - Friday, Nov. 23
Thanksgiving break (no school)

Wednesday, Dec. 19
End of 2nd quarter (41 days)

End of semester (82 days)

Thursday, Dec. 20
Christmas break begins (no school)

Wednesday, Jan. 2
Professional day (no classes)

Thursday, Jan. 3
Classes resume

Monday, Jan. 21
Martin Luther King Jr. Day (no school)

Friday, Feb. 15
Parent conferences (no school)

Make up snow day

Monday, Feb. 18
Make up snow day (no school)

Friday, March 8
End of 3rd quarter (45 days)

Monday, March 18 - Friday, March 22
Spring break (no school)

Thursday, May 23
Last day of classes (if no snow days are needed)

End of 4th quarter (49 days)

End of semester (94 days)

Day after classes end
Professional Day

Friday, May 24
Snow day (if needed)

Monday, May 27
Memorial Day

Tuesday, May 28
Snow day (if needed)

Wednesday, May 29
Snow day (if needed)

Thursday, May 30
Snow day (if needed)

COMMENTS by Public and Board Members

Board members thanked Shannon Meeks and Dr. Brian Chastain for their presentations. They congratulated Putnam City North's pom squad on their state championship, and thanked district personnel for their work in creating a calendar for next school year.

Gail LoPresto said she was very impressed with the new and improved gym at Putnam City North. She said the gym at Putnam City West looks spectacular. She said she attended Christmas programs at Hilldale Elementary, Arbor Grove Elementary, Mayfield Middle School and Putnam City West, and said all were great programs. She especially complimented Mayfield on their program and a "beautiful buffet." She also asked people who know potential board member candidates in district 2 to encourage them to apply for the board seat.

Cindy Gibbs said the organizers of the Putnam City Invitational did a great job. She complimented Putnam City

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Meeting Date: Monday, Jan. 23, 5 p.m.
 Location: Administration Building
 Roll Call: Four members of the board were present: Becky Haliburton, vice president; Cindy Gibbs; Gail LoPresto; and Tammy West. Also present were Paul Hurst, superintendent; and Debbie Baldwin, board clerk.

Next Meeting: Monday, Feb. 6, 5 p.m.

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**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT** by Paul Hurst

- ▶ Congratulations to Mr. Lunn and Will Rogers Elementary School, The Sonic Drive-in at N.W. 122nd and Council Rd. donated \$2,000 to the school for the acquisition of classroom technology.
- ▶ Congratulations also go to Western Oaks Middle School for winning the district's Science Olympiad Competition this weekend. We appreciate the hard work of the students and their sponsor, Mark Fuller.
- ▶ Our schools have each selected their teacher of the year. A selection committee is working with the applications to determine the district's teacher of the year. In that regard I want to remind everyone of the date of the recognition banquet for these outstanding educators. That event is scheduled for Tuesday, March 13. We will have firm times for this at a later date.
- ▶ Likewise as a reminder to our patrons, the application filing period for the District 2 board of education seat ends at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 1. Given that date I would suggest that our Feb. 6 board of education meeting agenda include the interview process for the board's potential appointment of that seat. We appreciate the interest of our patrons in service to the boys and girls of this district.

Board Approves E-rate Submissions

The board on Monday night approved submission of paperwork that will allow the district to apply for e-rate reimbursement for cell services and web hosting of school and teacher websites.

E-rate is the discount that schools may receive for the acquisition of telecommunication services as a result of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. The level of discount, between 20 and 90 percent, is based upon the district's level of eligibility in the federal free and reduced-price lunch program.

The district will apply for e-rate reimbursement for cell services through Sprint and web hosting of school and teacher websites through SharpSchool.

For the past several years school and teacher websites have been hosted by SchoolCenter. However, SchoolCenter has been purchased by another company and there is some uncertainty about the future of their school website business.

Teachers to Get Math Perspectives

The board on Monday night approved a contract with the Math Perspectives Teacher Development Center to bring workshops to district teachers in February and March.

Math Perspectives will present eight two-day workshops for teachers of students in pre-kindergarten through grade 2. The workshops will focus on ways to help children develop understanding and competence with counting, number relationships, addition, subtraction and place value. The workshop will also cover how teachers can use grade-level appropriate assessments from the *Assessing Math Concepts* series to identify the instructional needs of their students.

Participants for the training sessions are already identified.

The \$60,000 cost of the workshops will be covered by federal funds.

Board Hears Budget Update

Putnam City has been notified that it will receive a \$2.4 million increase in funding from the state, Shannon Meeks, the district's executive director of Finance, told board members Monday night.

Increases in the number of 4-year-old students in full-day programs, economically disadvantaged students, and special education students are leading reasons for the increase in funding from the state, Meeks told board members.

Meeks told the board that over the last five years, funding to the district for economically disadvantaged students has increased substantially. In fiscal year 2008, the district received about \$7.1 million for education of economically disadvantaged students. This year, the district will receive about \$10.5 million for education of the same group of students. The increases in funding directly reflect the district's increasing numbers of students on free or reduced-price meals.

Meeks said the district's fund balance at the end of the fiscal year, initially projected to be about \$12.6 million, is now expected to be about \$15.8 million.

Board Comments (continued from page 1)

North's student spirit group, The Zoo, for doing a good job and attracting attention in the right way. She expressed her appreciation for a recent art project at Coronado Heights Elementary that was featured on Oklahoma City Museum of Art Facebook and Twitter pages and drew a note from famed glass artist Dale Chihuly. She also noted that the Putnam City North pom squad accepts all who try out and is outstanding in what they do.

Tammy West said it is a privilege to be on the teacher of the year committee and have a chance to review applications and learn again what fantastic teachers the district has. She thanked members of the Putnam City West football team who recently volunteered at the Infant Crisis Center, saying it was mutually beneficial.

Becky Haliburton said the district has 35 students who were part of OMEA honor choirs, ensembles, band and orchestra, giving the district a strong presence among the state's finest high school musicians. She said the students drew praise not only for their talent, but also for their excellent behavior. She expressed her appreciation for the district's strong fine arts program that gives such students a chance to excel. She also spoke about overhearing encouragement given by the Putnam City High head coach to a player during a basketball game time-out, saying she was impressed and pleased.

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>