

# BOARD highlights

Oct. 1, 2018

A QUICK LOOK AT THE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS OF PUTNAM CITY SCHOOLS

## Board Takes Care of Business in Short Meeting

In a brief meeting Monday night, Putnam City’s board of education approved a request from Putnam City West High School Career Tech student organizations (DECA, BPA, FCCLA and HOSA) to travel to Dallas in mid-November to explore careers in the fields of marketing, information technology, culinary arts and sports management. The board also attended to other routine business such as giving their OK to minutes from the Sept. 17 board meeting, approving purchase orders, and authorizing contracts for book fairs at three schools.



### SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT by Dr. Fred Rhodes

▶ The district’s academic team has planned a very exciting day of professional development for Monday, Oct. 22, at Putnam City North. The theme for this day of learning is “Leaders Among Leaders, Lead • Teach • Learn.” and will feature more than 90 different offerings on relevant and current topics. From among our own ranks, we have many outstanding teachers who will be presenting the majority of the sessions. As Dr. Mouse has said, “Leaders Among Leaders” sessions were created by Putnam City teachers and for Putnam City teachers. We look forward to this new and fresh approach for our professional development this fall.

▶ On Saturday, Nov. 3, more than 1,000 runners and walkers are expected to participate in the 11th annual Putnam City Cancer Classic, one of the district’s great events for school staff, students and the community. The 5k starts at 8:30 a.m. and the fun run begins at 10 a.m. The socializing with friends, talking, laughing, drinking cocoa, and general enjoyment begins early and never stops. The event, which raises money for cancer research at OMRF, will be held again this year at Wheeler Park.

▶ This school year, the administrative team decided to take a new approach to our student advisory program by taking it on the road in order to visit with students at their school sites. One primary goal of these gatherings is to gather input from students and learn from them. This approach will also allow the administrative team to expand by not only visiting with high school students, but elementary and middle school students as well. The format of our meetings will include introductions, lunch, an ice breaker and small group activities. During the small group time, we will be asking simple questions like what students like about their school, what would they change, how do they use technology, etc. We believe this approach will assist us in gaining valuable insight that we might not otherwise be able to obtain.

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### COMMENTS by Public and Board Members

Cindy Gibbs said she was impressed with the sessions scheduled for the upcoming district professional day. She also said she had attended several school open houses and found students and parents excited to be there.

Gail LoPresto said the Putnam City West and Putnam City North bands performed well at the recent band contest in Yukon. She said Mr. Shriver at Putnam City High School has a set of fossil skull replicas, thanks to a grant from Cox Communications. She said she attended a recent production of *The Music Man* at OCCC, and that Putnam City High drama teacher Daniel Smith was in charge of directing more than 100 children in the play. She also said that the school data meetings she attended recently revealed a lot of hard work by principals and their staffs.

Becky Gooch said the district has received a lot of positive press recently, a notable amount due to Jennifer Seal and the Putnam City Schools Foundation.

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Meeting Date: Monday, Oct. 1, 5 p.m.  
Location: Administration Building  
Roll Call: All five members of the board were present: Becky Gooch, president; Gail LoPresto, vice president; Cindy Gibbs, Jay Sherrill and Bill Wetmore. Also present were Dr. Fred Rhodes, superintendent; and Tina Losawyer, deputy board clerk.  
Next Meeting: Monday, Oct. 15, 5 p.m.

*Putnam City Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, marital or veteran status, or disability.*

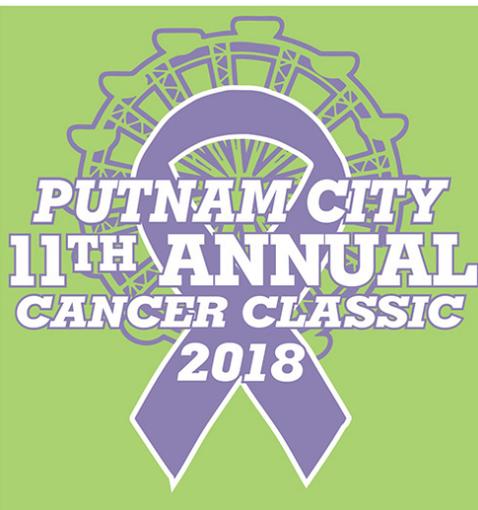
**Superintendent's Report (continued from page 1)**

▶ While we are proud of all three high school football teams, this season, we are especially proud of the Putnam City North Panthers. Their current record is 5 wins and no losses. This is the first time in several years that a district football team has reached this milestone. We were pleased to see the media coverage of the Putnam City North Panther football team this past weekend and their players' exchange of their jerseys with teachers on game day. The jersey exchange has built a lot of enthusiasm and school spirit this football season. Go Panthers!

▶ Dr. Kenneth Cooper is one of our district's most famous and outstanding graduates. He has a middle school in our district named after him and has duly been recognized by the Putnam City Schools Foundation as an inductee into the Foundation's Wall of Fame. Dr. Cooper is also an inductee into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame. At the age of 87, he is still leading a very active life, working each day in his medical practice, seeing patients and running. Dr. Cooper has been called the "father of aerobics." He coined the term "aerobics" and became a pioneer in advocating that a more physically active life would translate to a healthier lifestyle and increase the age of life expectancy. Dr. Cooper personally has logged more than 38,000 miles running! By example, he maintains a very healthy lifestyle by exercising at the Cooper Aerobics Center on a regular basis. At the invitation of the Oklahoma Hall of Fame, it was my privilege to get to visit the Cooper Institute in Dallas last week and visit one-on-one with Dr. Cooper. It was apparent from the moment I shook his hand that Dr. Cooper is very proud that he is a graduate of Putnam City Schools. He stated to me that his years as a student in Putnam City are among his most memorable and favorable. He was active in track, band and basketball and graduated as salutatorian of his class. It was the public school system that gave Dr. Cooper his start on a very successful career path. You can read more about him on the Cooper Institute website.

**Board Comments (continued from page 1)**

She said the Putnam Pioneer, a Foundation publication, is amazing, and she complimented the Foundation on their new website and its ease of use. She said the recent Foundation golf tournament earned \$16,000 and thanked donors for making it happen. She said it's time to be thinking about adopting families for CareShare, and suggested people can find more information by visiting the foundation website. She also mentioned that "Giving Tuesday" is coming up. Giving Tuesday is observed on the Tuesday following Thanksgiving and kicks off the charitable season, when many focus on their holiday and end-of-year giving. The Foundation is focusing on contributions for the district's Early Birds program for its Giving Tuesday efforts. "I can't say enough good things about the Foundation," she said, noting that the organization has contributed more than \$3 million to the district since it was founded in 1987.



**Putnam City Cancer Classic**  
**Saturday, Nov. 3**  
**Wheeler Park**  
**1120 S. Western**

- 8:30 a.m., 5k Race
- 9:15 a.m., 5k Awards
- 10 a.m., Fun Run

For more information  
 or to register, go to  
[www.pccancerclassic.com](http://www.pccancerclassic.com)

*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>