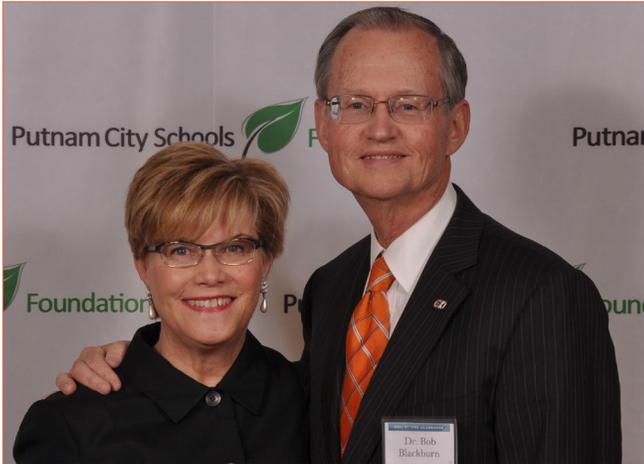


The Putnam Pioneer

A PUTNAM CITY SCHOOLS FOUNDATION PUBLICATION

SUMMER 2018

Wall of Fame 2018 Touches Hearts



Debbie and 2018 Wall of Fame Honoree Dr. Bob Blackburn at the Wall of Fame Celebration. Dr Blackburn is a 1969 graduate of Putnam City High School.

By: Jennifer Seal

Each year we host the Wall of Fame Celebration I expect it to get a little better in some way, and this year was no exception. In terms of emotional impact, the 2018 event certainly exceeded my expectations for several reasons.

Our honoree Dr. Bob Blackburn

did not shy away from speaking up for teachers. He was interrupted by applause at least twice when he voiced his support for public education.

Two of Blackburn's high school teachers were guests at his table, and he shared a little about what each man did to influence the young Bob Blackburn.

He spoke of the opportunity to share opinions in his Problems of Democracy class led by Ron Collier.

He also recalled the moment when his English teacher Stroud Holt revealed that the Beatles' lyrics were a form of poetry.

It was indeed a touching reminder

of how influential a teacher can be in a young person's life.

Prior to his taking the stage, the guests witnessed the bestowing of the first-ever Seeds of Hope Award. This honor will be given periodically to a person who has made a difference in Putnam City, though they may not have graduated from Putnam City, as the Wall of Fame currently requires. Our winner this year is quite fittingly Ms. Penny Poe. You've read about her in this newsletter

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THANKS TO YOU

Make Plans to Attend Indoor Recess on June 28



We had a ton of fun last year, so we thought we'd try it again this year! Make plans to join us at the 2018 Indoor Recess where teams of 8

compete for glory and prizes.

It's not just trivia, but a series of games and challenges your team must execute masterfully in order to be crowned champion -- or Valedictorian!

We thought it would be fun to change up the location each year, so this year we are hosting it at the newly-opened Walker Terrace at 13th

and Walker in Oklahoma City.

Your entry fee includes dinner, snacks, dessert, and drinks. We'll have a few door prizes, a raffle, and a prize for best theme.

For more information and to sign up visit [HTTP://PCF4KIDS.EJOINME.ORG/INDOORRECESS](http://PCF4KIDS.EJOINME.ORG/INDOORRECESS). Space is limited so don't delay!

Mission Focus: Golden Apple Awards



2017-18 Golden Apple Award winners, from left: Jeryl Lee, Brittani Phillips, Becky Gooch, Andrea Selfridge, Antinette "Cookie" Friday, Jason Hasty, and Paula Hardesty.

Many people don't know that the Putnam City Schools Foundation is responsible for the implementation of our district award program known as Golden Apple.

Receiving a Golden Apple is the highest award anyone in Putnam City can achieve, as it is offered to all who work or volunteer for our schools.

This year, the committee had more than 28 nominees, which made the task of determining the winners quite difficult. After careful consideration of a number of well-qualified nominations, they decided to give seven awards.

One of my favorite new traditions is the notification day, when Kris and I track down winners and surprise them with a balloon and an invitation to the presentation. People see us coming through the windows and secretly gather to congratulate their site's winners.

This year we added a new element to this excitement by inviting the winners and their families to a reception before the board presentation. We were so lucky that our own Tina Losawyer, who works in the curriculum office, made amazingly beautiful and delicious cupcakes with tiny golden apples on them.

Needless to say the Foundation is grateful to organize and execute the Golden Apple Awards because they truly reveal the heart of this district. Congratulations to this year's winners:

Antinette "Cookie" Friday
ASPIRE Teacher Assistant
Tulakes Elementary

Becky Gooch
Volunteer & School Board Member
Putnam City School Board

Paula Hardesty
Attendance Secretary
Arbor Grove Elementary

Jason Hasty
PEP Grant Manager
Physical Education/Administration

Jeryl Lee
Crossing Guard
Ralph Downs Elementary

Brittani Phillips
Leadership Teacher
Putnam City North High School

Andrea Selfridge
Teacher
Hilldale Elementary



A student in Cookie Friday's class helped deliver the news that she'd won a Golden Apple Award.

We have a blog! It comes out each Thursday on our website, and includes news about Putnam City, musings on Jennifer's time as a student and teacher in the district, and thoughts on the state of education in Oklahoma. Below is the blog from Jan. 19, 2018. Please take time to read and comment on them each week!

From the Blog: Strategic Thinking

Happy New Year to you all from the Putnam City Schools Foundation! This year, I am very excited to see the big things our trustees have in store for the future of this organization. We are embarking on a strategic plan process! Many people might not know what this means, and others know exactly what it means and wish they didn't. Likely those folks have been through a boring process, but I know ours will be great.

A strategic plan is a report generated from deep thinking about an organization that gives guidance of the organization for the next three to five years. It isn't a fundraising goal list and it's not a summary of the tasks you hope to accomplish, though both of those things could be contained

therein.

I've been through a couple of strategic plan processes in my volunteer career and have enjoyed myself each time. If one truly cares about the organization and its future, directing that organization's future

"Our goal with this process is to decide what our vision is for the Putnam City Schools Foundation, and set specific goals that meet that vision."

is thrilling. It saves so much effort when people wonder if we should be doing a certain thing or not. So many organizations — nonprofits and businesses alike — get off track

because they follow the new shiny thing, or step a little outside their expertise and then end up straying from the reason they got into the work in the first place!

Our goal with this process is to decide what our vision is for the Putnam City Schools Foundation, and set specific goals that meet that vision. Later in the process, we will invite community members to offer their input. If you would like to be invited to a session, please reach out to me. We need your energy and thoughts to keep Putnam City's schools the best around.

Read more of Jennifer's blogs at [HTTP://PCF4KIDS.ORG/PUTNAM-CITY-SCHOOLS-BLOG](http://PCF4KIDS.ORG/PUTNAM-CITY-SCHOOLS-BLOG).

Save the Date!
22nd Annual Putnam City Foundation Golf Tournament
September 17, 2018 • The Greens Country Club

Foundation Scholarships Awarded

Each year several memorial scholarships are available to both faculty and students. A committee made of up of Foundation board members meets in the spring to assess the applications and determine the winners. We are pleased to announce the 2018 recipients:

Caleb Frazier
Senior, Putnam City West
\$1,000 Dorothy Nixon Scholarship

Emily West
Senior, Putnam City North
\$250 Roger Barrios Scholarship

Makayla Johnson
Senior, Putnam City High
\$1,000 Thomas Glenn Scholarship

Grace Watson
Freshman, Putnam City North
\$500 Clay Culver Scholarship

Brittani Phillips
Leadership Teacher, Putnam City North
\$500 Ralph Downs Scholarship

Brandy Sitts
Fine Arts and Gifted Curriculum Coordinator, Administration
\$1,000 Roberta Jo Lowe Scholarship



PCSF President Jennifer Seal (left) presents a scholarship check to Roberta Jo Lowe Scholarship recipient Brandy Sitts.

Planning Your Legacy with the Foundation



One of the easiest ways you can make a lasting impact on the children of Putnam City is to make a bequest in your will. Not only can it help alleviate some tax liabilities for your family, it will provide you a chance to build a legacy. It is very simple, and

need only include language such as in the box below.

If you are considering this, but need help getting the process started, please visit our website at www.pcf4kids.org/planned-giving, or give us a call and we will connect you with

professionals whom we trust to keep your wishes top of mind.

If you've already made such a gesture, allow us to share your story and inspire others to the same type of giving.

SAMPLE LANGUAGE FOR YOUR WILL

BEQUEST OF A SPECIFIC DOLLAR AMOUNT

"I hereby give, devise and bequeath [dollars] to Putnam City Schools Foundation, a non-profit organization located at 5401 N.W. 40th Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73122, Federal Tax ID: 73-1309115, for Putnam City Schools Foundation's general use and purposes."

BEQUEST OF SPECIFIC PERSONAL PROPERTY

"I hereby give, devise and bequeath [description of property] to Putnam City Schools Foundation, a non-profit organization located at 5401 N.W. 40th Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73122, Federal Tax ID: 73-1309115, for Putnam City Schools Foundation's general use and purposes."

BEQUEST OF SPECIFIC REAL ESTATE

"I hereby give, devise and bequeath all of the right, title and interest in and to the real estate located at [address or description of property] to Putnam City Schools Foundation, a non-profit organization located at 5401 N.W. 40th Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73122, Federal Tax ID: 73-1309115, for Putnam City Schools Foundation's general use and purposes."

BEQUEST OF PERCENTAGE OF AN ESTATE

"I hereby give, devise and bequeath [percentage of your estate] to Putnam City Schools Foundation, a non-profit organization located at 5401 N.W. 40th Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73122, Federal Tax ID: 73-1309115, for Putnam City Schools Foundation's general use and purposes."

 For more information visit <http://www.pcf4kids.org/planned-giving>

Wall of Fame

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before, but suffice it to say that I call her the Angel of Putnam City for a very good reason. She is the reason we continue to help hundreds of children each year through CareShare. Her

remarks brought tears to many eyes as she thanked those involved in the program and explained what led her to start it.

Special touches this year included

a few raffle items, a candy buffet, and student artwork serving as centerpieces. Every year can't be this year, but we'll do our best to keep it an event you won't want to miss!

SCENES FROM THE CELEBRATION!

Photos by Oklahoma School Pictures, unless otherwise noted.



From left: PC Superintendent Dr. Fred Rhodes, PCN Alum and OKC Mayor David Holt, and Stroud Holt. (Photo by Vicki Clark, OKC Friday)



The Silver Strings of Putnam City entertained guests during the reception and dinner.



Kyle Carter with Rivendell Resources and Jeannie Stroud of CrossFirst Bank. Jeannie is a Foundation board member.



Longtime CareShare volunteer Sherri Boyd hugs founder Penny Poe.



Members of the PC Administration team, from left: Dr. Melani Mouse, Dr. Keely Frayser, Cory Boggs, Barbara Crump, Scott McCall, Patty Balenseifen, and Rick Croslin.



Penny Poe reacts as Foundation President Jennifer Seal presents her with the Seeds of Hope Award for service to Putnam City.



Cody & Jamie Taylor. Jamie is the 2017-18 Teacher of the Year at Arbor Grove Elementary.



From Hilldale Elementary, Jessica Towne and Principal Shanda Brody. Jessica was named a 2017-18 Excellent Educator.



Foundation board and staff, from left: DiAnne Bryant, Michael Leake Jr., Jennifer Seal, Chuck Thomas, and Roger Cude.

Thanks to YOU

Teacher Lauren Hewitt at Arbor Grove Elementary received a YES! Grant to purchase flexible seating options for her classroom. Her students were so excited about it and wanted to say thanks to YOU for supporting the Foundation!



About Us

Established in 1987, the Putnam City Schools Foundation is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization managed by a board of trustees which is comprised of involved patrons in the district, and two staff members.

The mission of the Putnam City Schools Foundation is to *enhance and enrich educational opportunities of children in Putnam City Schools*. The Foundation develops relationships with local businesses, foundations, and individuals in order to garner resources and energies necessary to address pressing needs of Putnam City Schools.

The Foundation supports many district activities, including Early Birds, ELL for Immigrant Parents Classes, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) Labs, Golden Apple Awards, Teacher of the Year/Excellent Educator Awards, YES! Fund Grants, and Community Fund.

Annual fundraising events include a golf tournament, Indoor Recess Trivia & Game Night, and the Wall of Fame Celebration which recognizes distinguished alumni.

Follow Us! @PCF4Kids

Click on the icons to go directly to our social media pages.



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- DiAnne Bryant
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- Lawrence Fugett
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- Manisone Hubbard
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- Steve Lindley, *Chief Communications Officer*
- Becky Gooch, *School Board President*
- Jennifer Seal, *PCSF President*

Contact Us!

Foundation Office
 5401 NW 40th
 Oklahoma City, OK 73122
 405-495-5200, ext. 1205

Jennifer Seal, NBCT
 Foundation President
 jseal@putnamcityschools.org

Kris Baggerly
 Communications &
 Programs Coordinator
 kbaggerly@putnamcityschools.org

www.pcf4kids.org