

THE BUZZ

Congratulations

2016-2017

Teacher and Support Associate of the Year



L-R: Marilyn Johnson, Support Associate of the Year; Phyllis Criswell, Superintendent of Putnam County Schools; Bobbi Okesson, Teacher of the Year

Every year, nominations are made for Teacher and Support Associate of the Year by principals, teachers and administrators. This year, our 2016-2017 Teacher of the Year banquet was held January 21, 2015 at the Ravine State Gardens with over 200 people in attendance.

Suzanne Beck, the 2015-2016 Teacher of the Year, spoke to the group about the teachers that inspired her; with Bobbi Okesson being her most memorable mentor. Bobbi Okesson, representing Price Middle School, was announced the 2016-2017 Teacher of the Year.

“Marvelous” Marilyn Johnson was announced the 2016-2017 Support Associate of the Year, representing James A. Long.

Congratulations to all of the nominees, these individuals are exemplary leaders, going above and beyond the call of duty to ensure that our public school children receive a high-quality education.

TEACHER LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM

You may qualify if your loans were disbursed after 10/1/98 AND you teach full-time for five consecutive and complete academic years at a Title I school or educational service agency that appears on the Department of Education's Annual Directory of Designated Low-Income Schools for Teacher Cancellation Benefits.

The Teacher Loan Forgiveness Program forgives part or all of your educational loan debt, provided you fulfill certain work-related requirements.

Call 800-433-3243

9am – 6pm Weekdays, 9am-3pm Saturday or

Visit the website: <http://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/>



"I don't know what sort of salary you're offering,
but on my last job I made a lot of dough!"

Questions & Answers...

Have an HR question?

Please submit questions to

staffservices@my.putnamschools.org

Look for the answer in the next newsletter...

ESE Courses

Available

There are now two independent study module ESE courses for 20 hours that will satisfy the ESE requirement. They can be taken from the link below.

[Teaching Students with Disabilities](#)

[Effective Teaching Practices for Students with Disabilities: Focusing on the Content Areas.](#)

<http://www.fl-pda.org/>

You will register under Independent Study Modules. The attached documents will walk you through registering and any questions you may have for each course.

You can check NEFEC's website for all facilitated course offerings or the above site for statewide offerings.

<http://www.nefec.org>

Please contact Karen Hager for more information regarding the ESE courses available.





Principals' Meeting

4



Executive Secretary's Meeting

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Valentine's Day

14



President's Day

15



Assistant Principal's Meeting

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FAMILY MEDICAL LEAVE

FMLA requires covered employers to provide up to 12 weeks of job protected leave to “eligible” employees for certain family and medical reasons. Family Medical Leave is unpaid leave. However, if you have available sick time, vacation time, personal time, etc., you will be required to use that leave time, along with your FMLA leave, so that you will continue to get paid. Employees are eligible if they have worked for a covered employer for at least one year, and for 1,250 hours over the previous 12 months, and if there are at least 50 employees within 75 miles.

- Leave forms are required in addition to the Family Medical Leave Request Form.
- Please be sure to include start and end dates. Your request can not be processed without both dates – they can be amended, as necessary.
- Turn in all forms as soon as you know you will be out on leave. If possible, 30 days prior notice is requested. Turn in all forms to your executive secretary



SCHOOL BOARD WORKSHOP/MEETING

The District School Board of Putnam County will meet in workshop session Tuesday, February 16, 2016 at 2:00pm in the Board Meeting Room located at 200 Reid Street, Palatka, Florida. The topic for this workshop will be presentation and update from the Finance Department on Internal Accounts.

The School Board meetings for February are February 2 and February 16, 2016 at 3:30pm in the Board Meeting Room.

STAFF SERVICES

Deborah Decubellis, Director
Patsy Munch, Executive Secretary
Sheri Wilkinson, Certification Specialist
Christine Wright, Executive Secretary

Antoinette Deaver, Personnel Specialist
Jackie Smith, Personnel Specialist
Melissa DeRossett, Personnel Specialist