



Crystal Hernandez is and always has been a fierce advocate for children. Not only is she a mother of three (ages 4, 8, and 12), but she has been involved in education all her life. Mrs. Hernandez has served children in a variety of ways from teaching Preschool, to teaching K-12 Music for over 10 years and most recently, serving as a public school administrator. In her last four years as Principal, Mrs. Hernandez led her school to a “good standing” status according to NYS requirements. Additionally, she led her school through the pandemic.

Mrs. Hernandez holds a Bachelor’s degree in Music Education and has 3 Master’s Degrees in the following areas: Music Education, School Leadership, and Literacy and Language. Mrs. Hernandez is currently working towards an Advanced Certificate in School District Leadership (Anticipated award date: May, 2023).

Having served as a teacher and as an administrator, Mrs. Hernandez brings a unique perspective to the Putnam Valley Board of Education. Being the mother of three, all of whom will be attending the Putnam Valley Central School District in September of 2024, also gives her an important vantage point as she would be the only Board of Education Trustee who would have children in the Putnam Valley Schools.

Mrs. Hernandez is fully bilingual in English and Spanish, and has extensive knowledge on how to support academic success for all students including English Language Learners and Exceptional Students.

**The choice is CRYSTAL clear. Vote for HERNANDEZ!**

### **Why are you running?**

I am running for the Board of Education because I have a desire to see the Putnam Valley Central School District flourish and be well supported by its community. As an educator myself, I understand many of the challenges that districts face, and I would like the opportunity to take the knowledge I have gained in my 17 years of serving public schools to better our school community right here in Putnam Valley. Just like many others in our community, I want to see *all* students succeed, including those students who are English Language Learners and those who are Exceptional Students. I believe that there is an incredible amount of potential in our school district and that if we work hard and work together, we can become one of the highest performing school districts in the United States.

### **What do you hope to accomplish on the BOE?**

I hope to improve the lines of communication between the district and other stakeholders such as families, community based organizations, and staff. Transparency as we move forward will be key, and hearing the voices of all members of the community will be a top priority. I would also like to focus on improving student outcomes and continuing to build programs of academic excellence in our schools. As a Board of Education member, I understand that it is not my duty to be “in the weeds” of this work, however, I do want to be able to work with the other members of the Board to hear the thoughts of all stakeholders so that we can support our school community with the very best resources available.