

# Gaston County Schools

## *Fast Facts* 2011-2012

**Accreditation:** Gaston County Schools is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools as a top rate quality school system. Accreditation is extremely important for students going to college.

✓ **Ninth largest school district in the state**

✓ **Largest employer in Gaston County**

Number of Employees – 3,824

✓ **Total Number of Schools – 55**

- Elementary Schools – 30
- Intermediate Schools – 2
- Middle Schools – 11
- High Schools – 10
- Special Needs School – 1
- Alternate School – 1

**Total Number of Schools – 55**

✓ **Student Enrollment 2011-12**

- Grades K-5 – 14,165
- Grades 6-8 – 7,410
- Grades 9-12 – 9,458
- **Total K-12 – 31,033**
- Preschool – 586

**Total PreK-12 – 31,619**

✓ **Students receiving Special Services - 2011-2012**

- Academically Gifted and Talented: 3,759
- Special Needs Children: 3,776

# GCS *Fast Facts* 2011

## ✓ Student Ethnic Distribution

- 19.8 % – African American
- 0.2 % – American Indian
- 1.4 % – Asian
- 65.9 % – Caucasian
- 9.1 % – Hispanic
- 3.5 % – Multiracial
- 0.1% – Hawaiian or Pacific Islander

## ✓ Student Teacher Ratio

- Grades K-3 – 1-21
- Grades 4-12 – State does not place a cap on student teacher ratio, but Gaston County Schools' goal is to keep student teacher ratios as low as possible within the budget constraints that the district must work.

✓ **Student Computer Ratio:** 1 computer to 2.38 students

## ✓ Graduation Rate

- 2006 – GCS Graduation Rate – 68.1      State Graduation Rate – 68.1
- 2007 – GCS Graduation Rate – 71.17      State Graduation Rate – 69.4
- 2008 – GCS Graduation Rate – 72.3      State Graduation Rate – 69.7
- 2009 – GCS Graduation Rate – 70.0      State Graduation Rate – 71.8
- 2010 – GCS Graduation Rate – 72      2011 State Graduation Rate – 77.7
- 2011 – GCS Graduation Rate – 75.4

*\*The 2011 National Graduation Rate is 70 percent*

## ✓ High School Students - 2011 Graduates

Graduates: 2,086

- Scholarship Money Offered Graduates: More than \$41 million

- Graduates' Plans:

Graduates Continuing Their Education

Post-Secondary Education      86%

    Four-Year College      40%

    Two-Year College      41%

    Vocational/Trade/Business      5%

Military - 5%

Employment - 8%

Other - 1%

# GCS *Fast Facts* 2011

## ✓ Student Dropout Rate

- 2000 - 5.10 %
- 2001 - 4.49 %
- 2002 - 3.93 %
- 2003 - 3.83 %
- 2004 - 3.30 %
- 2005 - 3.47 %
- 2006 - 3.80%
- 2007 - 4.39%
- 2008 – 4.02%
- 2009 – 3.84%
- 2010 – 3.05%

## ✓ Student Attendance

- 2005-06: 93.6 – 113<sup>th</sup> out of 115 school districts
- 2006-07: 93.7 – 111<sup>th</sup> out of 115 school districts
- 2007-08: 93.8 – 111<sup>th</sup> out of 115 school districts
- 2008-09: 95.1 – 49<sup>th</sup> out of 115 school districts
- 2009-10: 94.99 – 35<sup>th</sup> out of 115 school districts
- 2010-11: 95.3

## ✓ Employees -2011-2012

- Total Number of Employees – 3824 full- and part-time permanent employees
- Total Number of Teachers – 1864
- Teachers Average Years of Experience – 11
- Teachers Average Age – 41
- Advanced Degrees (master's and doctorate) 27%
- Number of Guidance Counselors: 86
- Number of School Nurses: 22
- Number of Social Workers: 23
- Beginning Teacher Pay: \$30,430 and \$1,480 local supplement - same
- Average Teacher Salary: \$40,168 and average supplement is \$2,220

## ✓ Transportation - 2011-2012

- Total Number of Students Transported Daily – 14,177
  - Senior High – 3,592
  - Middle School – 3,192
  - Elementary – 7,200
  - Exceptional Children – 193
- Miles Traveled Daily – 11,929
- Number of School Buses – 213
- Number of Activity Buses – 40

# GCS *Fast Facts* 2011

## ✓ **School Nutrition**

- Breakfasts Served Daily – 8,456 – 2010-2011
- Breakfasts Served Annually – 1,522,080 – 2010-2011
- Lunches Served Daily – 21,632 – 2010-2011
- Lunches Served Annually – 3,893,760 – 2010-2011
- Cost of Student Lunch – 2011-2012
  - Elementary: \$2.20
  - Middle and Senior High: \$2.30
  - Adults (staff and visitors): \$3.00
- Cost of Student Breakfast K-12 – All Grades: \$1.20
- Percent of students on free and reduced lunch
  - 58 percent – 2011 – 2012
  - 57 percent – 2010 – 2011
  - 56 percent – 2009 – 2010
  - 53 percent – 2008 – 2009
  - 47 percent – 2007 – 2008
  - 45.6 percent – 2006 – 2007

## ✓ **English as a Second Language Program**

- Number of Hispanic - Spanish Speaking Students – 2,132
- Number of students born in another country (National Origin Minority Students) – 2,516
- Different Languages Spoken – 47
- Of the 47 Languages – 1,648 students are identified as Limited English Proficiency (LEP) students
- Programs in all schools
- No. of Second Language Teachers – 30
- Spanish Translator /Parent Coordinator – 1
- A Newcomer Center at Gardner Park serves Spanish speaking children in grades 1-8
- Plyer vs. Doe Case
  - Students cannot be refused enrollment due to lack of legal documentation.
  - Schools are not to inquire into legal status of students.

## ✓ **School Safety**

- Outstanding School Safety Record
- Lower incidents of violence than state average
- Gaston County Schools Average – 4.9 incidents of violence per 1,000 students
- State Average – 7.9 incidents of violence per 1,000 students
- Of the ten largest school systems in the state, Gaston County has the lowest incidents of violence
- Number of Resource Officers
  - High school – Ten, one per school
  - Middle school – Eleven, one per school

# GCS *Fast Facts* 2011

## ✓ **Advanced Placement Program**

- Number of Courses Offered – 115
- Number of Student Taking AP Courses – 2,443 – many students take three or four AP courses, but the student is only counted once
- Average for students scoring at or above grade level is above both the nation and state.
  - Gaston County Average: 70.1 %
  - North Carolina Average: 59.4 %
  - National Average: 60.5 %

## ✓ **Finances**

**Total Budget - 2011-2012: \$265,000,000**

**Total Budget - 2010-2011: \$274,300,963**

### **Total Budget - 2010-2011**

#### **Sources of Revenue**

State – North Carolina	\$ 150,078,746	54.7%
Local – Gaston County	43,310,022	15.8%
Federal – U. S. Government	48,999,143	17.9%
School Nutrition Sales	17,060,000	5.4%
Other Restricted Grants	14,853,052	6.2%
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 274,300,963</b>	<b>100 %</b>

#### **Major Categories of Expenditures**

Instructional Services	\$ 159,788,360	64.3%
Instructional Support	16,229,937	6.5%
School Administration	13,517,461	5.4%
Operational Support Services	17,184,387	6.9%
Administration	14,619,219	5.9%
Transportation	7,579,636	3.1%
Children Nutrition	16,164,360	6.5%
Other	3,016,385	1.4%
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 246,493,043</b>	<b>100%</b>

## ✓ **Magnet Programs**

- Highland School of Technology – Grades 9-12