

GASTON COUNTY SCHOOLS

Board Briefs

Gaston County Board of Education ■ Communication Department ■ 943 Osceola Street, Gastonia, NC 28054
 Telephone: (704) 866-6118 or 866-6117 ■ Fax: (704) 866-6175 ■ Internet: www.gaston.k12.nc.us

The Gaston County Board of Education will hold its regular monthly meeting on Monday, April 16, 2018, 5:30 p.m., at the Gaston County Schools Central Office, 943 Osceola Street, Gastonia. At that time, the Board will . . .

- Recite the Pledge of Allegiance.
 - Consider formal adoption of the Board Agenda as required by Robert’s Rules of Order (revised edition).
 - Recognize Students and Employees.
 - Provide an opportunity for Public Expression. At each Board meeting, the public has an opportunity to address the Board.
 - Consider approval of minutes of the February 5, 2018 and February 19, 2018 meetings and February 19, 2018 special meeting.
 - Receive the following Good News for April 2018:
1. **Stuart W. Cramer High School** students **Emmily Mobley** and **Alex Klasing** qualified to participate in the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) in Pittsburgh. Their projects will be among 2,000 entries in the international event that involves students from more than 80 countries.
 2. **Madison Davis** of **South Point High School** and **Megan Farris** of **Ashbrook High School** were chosen to receive the North Carolina Teaching Fellows Scholarship. The scholarship is valued at \$8,250 per year and awarded to students who make a commitment to teach in a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) or special education area.
 3. **South Point High School** teacher **Bobbie Cavnar** received the “key to the city” from the City of Belmont. He was honored by the Belmont City Council for being named the NEA Foundation’s top teacher in the nation.
 4. A group of culinary students from **East Gaston High School** and **Hunter Huss High School** qualified to compete in the first-ever North Carolina Junior Chef Competition. During the competition held at Guilford Technical Community College, the students were challenged to prepare, cook, and present their recipes for a panel of judges. Gaston County is the only school district to have more than one culinary team to qualify for the state competition.
 5. **Gaston County Schools** hosted the Piedmont Digital Learning Conference, a professional development program for educators from across North Carolina that focused on the effective integration of technology in schools. Dave Burgess, the New York Times best-selling author of “Teach Like a Pirate,” was the keynote speaker. The program was funded by a digital learning initiative grant from the N.C. Department of Public Instruction.
 6. **Carr Elementary** students participated in the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) Tour at the Charlotte Motor Speedway. In addition to enjoying a series of racing-related STEM activities, the students heard from Governor Roy Cooper, who joined them for the event to promote the Students@Work program. Governor Cooper talked about jobs of the future and highlighted the importance of careers in technology, advanced manufacturing, and other fields.
 7. **Jennifer Reed**, math teacher and yearbook adviser at **North Gaston High School**, received the “Teachers Getting Results” award from WJZY Channel 46 in Charlotte.
 8. Fifth grade students from **Gardner Park**, **Lingerfeldt**, and **Sadler** elementary schools had the opportunity to learn about character and reaching for their dreams during a presentation by NFL punter Kasey Redfern and attorney LeKeisha Carey. The program was held at the Gastonia Conference Center and sponsored by Paradigm 360.
 9. The finalists for **Gaston County Schools** Central Office Administrator of the Year are **Brett Buchanan**, Career and Technical Education; **Derrick Jackson**, Accountability; **Melissa Buchanan**, Title I; **Curtis Poplin**, Technology; **Carrie Minnich**, Exceptional Children; and **Kathleen D’Avria**, Academic Services. The winner will be announced during the Evening of Excellence ceremony on May 10.
 10. **Lowell Elementary** hosted a “wax museum” program that featured fourth grade students dressing up as historical figures. During the program, the students had the opportunity to share information about the people they portrayed.
 11. More than 2,300 middle school students in **Gaston County Schools** were given an opportunity to explore future career possibilities during Students@Work Day. Each middle school was paired with an area business or organization, and students toured the facilities, heard from business representatives and community leaders, and discussed career options. The Gaston Regional Chamber co-sponsored the program.
 12. **Jakobe Cherry** of **South Point High School** is one of 65 students chosen for the Kennedy-Lugar Youth Exchange and Study Abroad Scholarship, which makes it possible for him to spend his senior year studying in Indonesia. The experience is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State and will give Jakobe a jump-start on his goal of pursuing a career in international relations.
 13. The East Division winners in the annual Elementary Battle of the Books competition were **New Hope Elementary**, first place; **W.A. Bess Elementary**, second place; **Belmont Central Elementary**, third place; and **Rankin Elementary**, fourth place. The West Division winners were **McAdenville Elementary**, first place; **Gardner Park Elementary**, second place; **Tryon Elementary**, third place; and **North Belmont Elementary**, fourth place.
 14. **Skyler Miller** of **Cherryville High School**, **Judah Tucker** of **Highland School of Technology**, and **Anna Ramsey** of **Bessemer City High School** represented **Gaston County Schools** in the 1-A West vs. Midwest girls all-star basketball game.
 15. Students at **Sadler Elementary School** participated in Junior Achievement Day and had the opportunity to enjoy fun lessons and activities that focused on economics, business, and personal finance. The event was presented by Junior Achievement of the Central Carolinas in partnership with Burlan, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Firestone Fibers and Textiles, Go Source, Omega Psi Phi, Paradigm 360, the Professional Football Players Mothers Association, and Truliant Federal Credit Union.
 16. **Rankin Elementary** first grader **Beckham Clawson** won fourth place in the N.C. Department of Transportation Aviation Art Contest. More than 1,200 students from 130 schools across the state participated in the competition.
 17. Students at **Robinson Elementary School** have been on their best behavior, and as a reward, a group of kindergarten and first grade students had the opportunity to have lunch with Superintendent of Schools **W. Jeffrey Booker**. Students are able to earn points through the ClassDojo app for making good decisions, and they can redeem their points for prizes, Hat Day and Pajama Day activities, and lunch with a special guest.
 18. The following students earned awards in the Keep Gastonia Beautiful Arbor Day poster competition: **Esmeralda Lopez** of **Forestview** captured first place, **Reilly Phillips** of **Highland** earned second place, **Melissa Schleicher** of **East Gaston** won third place, and **Itzel Dias** of **Cherryville** received an honorable mention in the high school division. **Cameron Lopez** of **Mount Holly** took third place and **Trevor Graham** of **Warlick** received an honorable mention in the middle school division. **Raylei Gidney** of **W.B. Beam Intermediate** placed second in the grades 3-5 division.
 19. Students in the firefighting program at **Hunter Huss High School** had the opportunity to participate in an extrication training class conducted by the Gastonia Fire Department.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>20. Grier Middle School principal Loretta Reed along with six teachers presented a workshop at the N.C. Association for Middle-Level Education conference. The workshop focused on “It’s All About the H.Y.P.E.! (Helping Young People Excel!),” the school’s instructional plan to increase student achievement.</p> <p>21. The Bessemer City High School baseball team collected \$275 and signed get-well cards for a member of the Piedmont Community Charter baseball team.</p> <p>22. Forestview High School won the inaugural High School Battle of the Books competition. East Gaston High School, Highland School of Technology, and Stuart W. Cramer High School also had teams to participate in the event.</p> | <p>23. During the school’s “Wonderful Week of Reading,” students at Rankin Elementary surpassed their goal of reading for 500,000 minutes and also raised \$9,217.37. Among the special guests who joined in the reading celebration were Superintendent of Schools W. Jeffrey Booker and representatives from the Mount Holly Police Department, Mount Holly Fire Department, Belmont Abbey College, and other community organizations.</p> <p>24. Gaston County Schools had several school groups and PTO organizations to participate in the annual Community Foundation Run in downtown Gastonia. The event featured a 5K run, a 2K fun walk, and other activities to help nonprofit organizations raise money.</p> |
|---|--|

- Consider the National School Library Month Proclamation.
- Classroom Moment.
- Receive information regarding the 2018-2019 Superintendent’s Budget Request.
- Receive information regarding the AdvancED Accreditation Review.
- Receive information regarding the 2018 School Bond Referendum.
- Consider the Title III and English as a Second Language Grant Application.
- Consider the Calendar Update.
- Consider the Consent Agenda. The Board previously authorized the use of a Consent Agenda for routine items. The following items will be considered under the Consent Agenda:
 - Recommended Personnel.
 - Budget Amendments and Budget Transfers.
 - Construction/Repair Change Orders.
 - Sole Source Provider – Identity Management System.
 - Webb Street School Playground.
- Superintendent’s Comments.
- Closed Session – Consultation with Attorney and Personnel.

For more information, please contact the Communications/Public Information Department, Todd Hagans, (704) 866-6118.