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, August 17, 2015, 5:30 p.m., at the Gaston County Schools Central Administrative 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, an opportunity will be provided for the public to address the Board regarding an agenda item. If you would like to speak to the Board, please contact the Superintendent's Office.
- Consider approval of minutes of the July 13, 2015 meeting.
- Receive the following Good News:

1. More than 1,200 teachers and administrators attended the **Gaston County Schools** Teaching and Learning Conference held August 11-12 at Gaston College. The conference featured keynote speakers and professional development workshops.

2. **Gaston County Schools**' summer reading program, "Camp Achieve," served nearly 1,100 students in first, second and third grades. The four-week program held at eight school sites helped students to improve their reading and comprehension skills.

3. A group of middle school and high school teachers and counselors participated in the "Educators in the Workplace" program, which is a partnership between **Gaston County Schools** and the Gaston Chamber of Commerce. Participants were given an opportunity to learn more about the local business community through visits to eight companies: American & Efird, PSNC Energy, Firestone, *The Gaston Gazette*, ImageMark, Beam Construction, Lanxess and CaroMont Health.

4. The Gaston STAGE summer theater program at **Stuart W. Cramer High School** presented the musical "Anything Goes." The professionally directed production featured 26 students from eight schools.

5. For the first time, **Gaston County Schools** sponsored an AP (Advanced Placement) Summer Writing Camp. Rising seniors enrolled in AP courses learned effective writing strategies for tests and college and scholarship essays.

6. **Grier Middle School** hosted its Sixth Grade Transition Camp for new middle school students and their parents. Approximately 90 students participated in the program.

7. **Grier Middle School** and **Sherwood Elementary** received a donation of school supplies valued at $1,000 from First Presbyterian Church of Gastonia.

8. **Robinson Elementary** received a $1,000 grant from Walmart in support of efforts to promote reading.

9. Instructional technology facilitators **Chris Goodson** and **Lisa Montgomery** and **Mount Holly Middle School** teacher **Heather Wilson** served as advisory group members for the "Teaching Generation Z: Active and Digital Learning" conference sponsored by the N.C. Center for the Advancement of Teaching. They also presented two sessions at the conference: "Gaming Across the Curriculum" and "Getting Stakeholder Buy-in for Game-Based Learning."

- Receive information regarding the Educators in the Workplace Initiative.
- Receive information regarding Camp Achieve.
- Receive information regarding the Bit of Hope Summer Camp.
- Receive information regarding the Advanced Placement Summer Writing Institute.
- Receive information regarding the Grading Practices Document.
- Receive information regarding the Gaston Early College Application for Cooperative and Innovative High Schools.
- Consider the One District, One Book Program.
- Receive information regarding the Annual Surplus Report.
- Receive information regarding the Back-To-School Update.
- Receive information regarding the 2015-2016 Budget Update.
- Consider 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. ▪ Official Depository Designation.
  ▪ Appointment of Treasurer/Financial Secretary for Each School for Fiscal Year 2015-2016.
  ▪ Rhyne School Closure Update.
- Superintendent's Comments.
- Closed Session - Personnel.

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