



Board Briefs

Gaston County Board of Education ■ Communication Department ■ 943 Osceola Street, Gastonia, NC 28054
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The Gaston County Board of Education will hold its regular monthly meeting on Monday, August 19, 2019, 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 June 13, 2019 and June 27, 2019 meetings.
- Receive the following Good News for August 2019:

1. **Lauren Dixon**, a science teacher at the **Gaston Early College High School**, is the recipient of the 2019 Cato Excellence in Teaching Award that is presented by the Arts and Science Council of Charlotte. Only six teachers in the Charlotte region were chosen for the award, which recognizes teachers for their creativity, innovation, and infusion of science and the arts into the curriculum. She was honored on June 11 during a reception at the Mint Museum.
2. The **Gaston County Schools** Communications Department received two Golden Achievement Awards from the National School Public Relations Association. The awards were for the “Big 50 Parade” and the “For Your Information: School Bonds 2018” marketing campaign. The Golden Achievement Awards recognize exemplary school public relations programs across the country. Gaston County was one of only four school districts in North Carolina to receive a Golden Achievement Award this year.
3. **Cherryville High School** students **Hallie Holt** and **Pierston Elliott** were selected to serve as cheerleaders for the N.C. Coaches Association’s East-West All-Star Games in Greensboro. Additionally, coach **Scott Harrill** was chosen to serve as an assistant coach for the West All-Star basketball team.
4. **Gaston County Schools** conducted its annual Teaching and Learning Conference on August 5-6 at Gaston College. The conference included hundreds of educators from across Gaston County, and it featured guest speakers and workshops that highlighted best practices and strategies to ensure effective instruction for students.
5. **W.A. Bess Elementary** held its A+ School Announcement ceremony on August 14. The A+ School distinction is granted by the N.C. Department of Public Instruction and the N.C. Arts Council. In an A+ School, arts education is added or infused across the curriculum. The school is the first one in Gaston County to earn the A+ School recognition. The ceremony featured comments by principal **Laura Dixon**, Superintendent of Schools **W. Jeffrey Booker**, Board of Education chairman **Brent Moore**, and others as well as a performance by the **Forestview High School** cheerleaders and drumline.
6. **Gaston County Schools** conducted its Summer Imaginarium Camp at **Cramerton Middle School** for elementary and middle school students. The camp gave participants an opportunity to engage in lessons and activities that focused on science, technology, engineering, and other subjects. Students also enjoyed a variety of fun, team-building activities, including sports.
7. **Gaston County Schools** conducted its annual “Stuff That Bus!” school supplies collection on August 1 at Office Depot in Gastonia. The event featured cheerleaders from **East Gaston High School, Stanley Middle School, and Stuart W. Cramer High School** and the drumline from **Ashbrook High School** as well as a number of special guests. Participants donated notebooks, paper, pencils, backpacks, folders, rulers, markers, and other items that will be distributed to our schools.
8. This summer, the **Gaston County Schools** nutrition program provided bag lunches for children at more than 90 locations across Gaston County. The summer nutrition program is designed to ensure that students have delicious and nutritious meals while they are away from school for the summer break.
9. Teachers and other school employees spent time learning about local businesses during the annual “Educators in the Workplace” program, which was held the week of July 22. The program, which is organized by the **Gaston County Schools** Career and Technical Education Department, gave participants an up-close look at different careers and provided them with information that they can share with their students. The following companies participated in “Educators in the Workplace” this year: Mann+Hummel, Academy of Aviation, PNC Bank, Farris Fab, Daimler, Lanxess, Gastonia Plumbing and Heating, and Sonic Automotive. The Gaston Regional Chamber is a co-sponsor of the program.
10. **Kiser Elementary School** hosted an Innovation Station summer camp program to engage students in fun activities and lessons that focused on science, technology, and other topics.

11. **Gaston County Schools** held its second Career Signing Day on May 30, and 12 seniors signed a “letter of intent” to accept a job offer with one of eight local companies. The students walked across the graduation stage on June 8 and took a big step into the professional world, thanks to the skills, knowledge, and work ethic they gained by being involved in the school district’s Career and Technical Education program. The following students were recognized during the ceremony: **William Bowen and Daniel Felton, Stuart W. Cramer High School; Venancio Silva Duran, South Point High School; Anthony Carroll, Elijah Hayes, Destiny Williams, and Dustin Davis, Hunter Huss High School; Aaron Nash, Highland School of Technology; Rogan Smith, Cameron Woody, and Justin Chester, Forestview High School; and Brandon Rayfield, Bessemer City High School.**

12. **Gaston County Schools** had more than 60 rising sophomores to participate in the annual Commissioners’ School of Excellence (CSE) program at Belmont Abbey College. CSE is a unique, two-week summer residential learning experience that is similar to the prestigious Governor’s School of North Carolina program, which is for high school juniors. The program gave students an opportunity to explore various areas of interest, learn more about their community, and engage in various leadership and learning experiences.

- Classroom Moment.
- Operations Committee Report.
- Curriculum and Instruction Committee Report.
- Back-to-School Update.
- New Schools Construction Update.
- Consider Out-of-County Tuition.
- 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.
 - Budget Amendments and Transfers.
 - Construction/Repair Change Orders.
 - Homeschool Dual Enrollment for Athletics Policy #3103.
 - Alternative Assessments for Warlick Academy and Webb Street School.
 - Official Depository Designation.
 - Appointment of School Treasurers.
 - Purchase of two 14-Passenger Mini-Buses.
 - Replace HVAC units at Bessemer City High School.
 - Contracts:
 - Modern Teacher Digital Platform.
 - Nursing Services.
 - CherryRoad Technologies.
- 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.