



GASTON COUNTY SCHOOLS 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 Monday, December 15, 2014, 7:00 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 November 17, 2014 and December 1, 2014 meetings.
 - Receive the following Good News:
1. **Gaston County Schools** received a donation of school supplies from the *Pins for Pencils* campaign sponsored by the Community Blood Center of the Carolinas. The supplies were collected at blood drives held over the past two months. Adam Eberhart from the Community Blood Center presented the supplies to **Valerie Yatko**, GCS director of business partnerships, for distribution to schools.
 2. **John Chavis Middle School** band director **Vickie Whitfield** was named president-elect of the North Carolina Music Educators Association (NCMEA) District II, which includes Gaston, Lincoln, Cleveland, Rutherford and Polk counties.
 3. **Gaston County Schools** support personnel participated in a five-day training program from the National Council for Behavioral Health. The following employees earned national certification as Youth Mental Health First Aid Trainers: **Katie Bass, Michelle Black, Jennifer Christy, Justine Davis, Joe Freeman, Millicent Heavener, Whitney Hill, Judy Leahy, Ashley Ligon, Barbara Martin, Sarah Martinez, Nohra Nunez, Ami Parker, Tina Peterson and Wanda Love Rauch.**
 4. The **Highland School of Technology** cafeteria and custodial staff packed 14 gift boxes and the school's Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) club provided 60 boxes for the *Operation Christmas Child* program.
 5. **Highland** received three honorable mention awards in the *What's Super About Public Schools* video contest sponsored by the North Carolina School Boards Association.
 6. The following **Highland** students were nominated for the prestigious Governor's School of North Carolina program: **Garrett Buchanan, Matthew Noles, Elise Sweezy, Katherine Purello, George Dent, Collin Hill and Savannah Lutz.**
 7. **Gaston County Schools** and Junior Achievement received a \$3,500 contribution from the Community Foundation of Gaston County to fund the *Economics for Success* program in middle schools. The Junior Achievement program teaches students about financial literacy, workforce readiness and entrepreneurship.
 8. **Gaston County Schools** received a donation of school supplies from Classroom Central. The supplies were delivered to **Tryon Elementary School**. More than 90 teachers from **Tryon, Cherryville Elementary, Beam Intermediate, Chavis Middle, Cherryville High, Bessemer Primary, Bessemer City Central, Bessemer City Middle and Bessemer City High** had an opportunity to pick up supplies for distribution to students.
 9. **Lingerfeldt Elementary** hosted an International Family Night program. Students and families made crafts, sampled international cuisine, and heard presentations about four different countries from a group of **Ashbrook High School** students.
 10. The **Lingerfeldt** student council held its annual canned food drive and collected 2,000 items for local food pantries. Student council officers **McKynzie Mauney**, president; **Kayla Pressley**, vice president; **Tykel Smith**, parliamentarian; **Brody Ganey**, secretary; **Lacie Kimray**, treasurer; **Jyasia Foster**, historian; and **T'Aynia Williams**, assistant secretary, organized the collection.
 11. **Lingerfeldt** pre-kindergarten teacher **Leslie Thomas** was named the school's Teacher of the Year.
 12. **Holbrook Middle** seventh grader **Dorianna Good** was named the *Do The Right Thing* middle school award winner for October. She was nominated for the recognition after using her allowance money to purchase a pair of shoes for a classmate in need.
 13. The **East Gaston High School** marching band participated in the Southeastern Classic competition at Newton-Conover High School and received the First Place Class 1A Band distinction and a superior rating. The band also won first-place awards in the drum major, color guard, percussion, and music categories.
 14. **East Gaston** students **Steven Griffin, Angel Bowers and Megan West** received honorable mention awards in the recycled art contest sponsored by Keep Gastonia Beautiful.
 15. **East Gaston** students **Conner Usher and Corey Lassiter** earned a first-place award in the Lake Wylie fishing tournament.
 16. **Costner Elementary** sponsored a fall festival and *Penny War* fundraiser and collected more than \$4,500 to support classroom libraries.
 17. To fulfill a pledge to make a difference in the community, **Kiser Elementary** students in **Kristy Summey's** class picked up litter around the school and organized the school's "lost and found" program. **Amy Leophard's** class also conducted a litter cleanup. **Lynn Ealey's** class sponsored a clothes drive for local charities, tended the school's flower beds, and sent teddy bears and cards to patients at Levine Children's Hospital. Additionally, all fourth grade classes visited residents at Stanley Total Living Center.
 18. The **Southwest Middle School** Beta Club collected 205 pairs of used eyeglasses for the Lions Club. The glasses will be refurbished and provided to people in need. The club donated new toys and books that will be matched by DiBella Chiropractic Center in Gastonia to *The Least of These Gaston* toy drive for foster children. The students also collected 508 cans of food for the Salvation Army.
 19. **Stanley Middle School** students collected 1,162 bags of Halloween candy to help the residents of Stanley Total Living Center with their Trick-or-Treat Extravaganza. **James Miller's** class won the school-wide candy collection with more than 400 bags.
 20. The **Pinewood Elementary** November Citizens of the Month were **Kilayah Graham, Haneen Jaan, Kaysey Hopkins, Angel Outlaw Puga, Bethany McSwain, Raegan Bartlett, Anna Zaremba, Abreona Harris, Elizabeth Harrison, Rylyn Galloway, Makenlie Nixon, Michelle Perez, Abigail Saynorath, Dylan Howell, Jason Lyons, Chandler Burleson, Logan Teno, Justin Wilson, Kacee Crowe, Dareana Baker, Avery Booker, Emma Russell, Justin Anthony, Chandler McQueen, Cameron Schmidt, Paige Wallace, Sarah Pinson, Zoe Jenerette and Robert Pittman.**
 21. The **Ashbrook High School** Air Force JROTC delivered 3,000 cans of food to the Greater Gaston Baptist Association's food bank before Thanksgiving. The cadets set a goal of 3,500 cans and planned to collect food until Christmas.
 22. The **Ashbrook High** marching band conducted various fundraisers and raised \$3,000 to help students pay for uniforms. During this season's marching competition, the band earned its highest average performance score in seven years.
 23. Eight **Ashbrook** students participated in the Phoenix Literary Festival at High Point University. **Caroline Greene** received a first-place award in the creative nonfiction category for her personal essay titled "Avocados," and **Allison Bradshaw** received a second-place award for her poem titled "Sestina for Someone I Used to Know."
 24. **Lowell Elementary** hosted a Thanksgiving celebration and had more than 200 parents and grandparents to eat lunch with the students.
 25. **Bill Busshart's** sixth grade class at **Southwest Middle School** enjoyed a presentation about careers in **Gaston County Schools**. The speakers were **Lisa Montgomery and Breanna Hodge** from the Technology Services Department and **Debby Ray**, who is the school's instructional technology facilitator.
 26. The **Southwest Middle** student council organized a collection drive for the *Operation Christmas Child* program and filled 47 shoeboxes with donations from students, staff and families.

27. The **Southwest Middle** concert and symphonic bands performed a successful fall concert at **Hunter Huss High School**. The students were accompanied by guest musician **Josh Smith** of the Gastonia Police Department, who serves as the school resource officer. **Keith Reagan** directs the bands.
28. The following schools qualified to compete in the North Carolina First LEGO League State Robotics Championship: **Belmont Middle, Costner Elementary, Cramerton Middle, McAdenville Elementary, Rankin Elementary, Stanley Middle** and **W.C. Friday Middle**.
29. **Stuart W. Cramer High School** received four awards at the N.C. Theatre Conference High School Play Festival for the production of 'Dracula,' which received an excellent rating. Student **Christy Ace** received the Barbizon Lighting Award for Outstanding Achievement in Student Design and Production. Student **Jalon Watson** won the Excellence in Acting Award, and student **Dana Frady** earned the Excellence in Costume Design Award. Theater arts teacher **Chuck Stowe** captured the Excellence in Set Design Award.
30. **Costner Elementary** hosted a book fair and raised more than \$1,500 to purchase new books and other resources for the school's media center.
31. The **Costner Elementary** November Citizens of the Month were **Sofia Parra, Stephanie Shires, Jordyn Barnes, Hannah Martin, Micah Smith, Camden Pasour, MaKenzie Strader, Nolan Jones, MaKayla Hill, Evan Welch, Hector Hernandez, Wyatt McSwain, Audrey Brandon, Hayden Davis, Charity Clark, Reagan Hood, Sandy Salgado, Chase Johnson, Rachel Dellinger, Lidea Falls, Ethan Spencer, Caroline Allred, Eric Brady, Brian Coley, Isabel Beaty** and **Rhiannon Eason**.
32. **Rankin Elementary** sponsored the *Trek-and-Treat* fundraiser and collected \$10,762 to purchase technology. Teachers **Jamie Anderson** and **Laurie Clawson** organized the event.
33. The **Gardner Park Elementary** October Terrific Kids were **Sydney Reavis, Tristan Killian, Bryson Styers, Marilyn Vera Cole, Reagan Ballard, 'Kirby' Corina Sal, Addison Townsend, Payton Peeler, Noah Tabor, Ima Jean Jolicoeur, Kie-lisha Gibson, Valeria Tapia, Miley Skidmore, Skylar Ware, Jaquelyn Paez Morales, Dylan Jennings, Naomi Alvarado, G'Yasi Young, Agustin Meza, Camryn Massey, Taylor Hirak, Erica Scharber, Ananjared Jaramillo, Abbi Moore, Rachel Reed, Haydan Ferguson, Leslie Ihes, Hannah Varney** and **Amarah Kendrick**.
34. The **Springfield Elementary** Students of the Month were **Blake Wilkinson, Bella Thomas, Caroline Cox, Conner Jackson, Abigail Price, Blake Cook, Rylee Cates, Elijah Chavis, Alyssa Nicholson, Bella Somoskey, Jakob Cribb, Tess Ballard, Holden Shook, Caney Powell, Evan Lane, Ryleigh Morris, Kalia Shepard, Samantha Gibbs, Ryan Clemmer, Rylee Clemmer, Trinity Bingham, Christian Bedard, Lucas Cope, Jayden Hannah, Jonah Smith, Haiden Murphy, Phillip Kirksey, Joshua Dodson, Bianca Bradshaw, Lerisa Richardson, Colton Carpenter, Malachi Bradshaw, Janayah Shipp, Hailey Propst, Cooper Abernathy, Keaton Martin, Mo Dixon, Lexi Hunsucker, Clara Harigs, Kaison Cupp, Jeremiah Porter, Ashlee Huss, Christopher St. Clair, Aleigh Gillenwater, Chase Floyd, Lesli Alvarez-Lara, Jasmine Tate, Emma Bumgarner, Brandon Bingham, Jayminson Robinson, Thomas Dillow, Serenity Dixon, Zane Dodd, Kyler Benfield, Logan Sheridan, Kenzie Williamson, Brandon Neal, Laney Clark, Trenton Trobaugh, Josiah Whitmire, Grace Braswell, Matthew Grammer, Addison Griffin, Brianna Pleasant, Tucker Helms, Lucy Ballard, Izabella Hord, Matthew Davis, Selina Ashe, Lincoln Davis, Nathaniel Woodie, Brady Gordon, Shyla Hunt** and **Shawn Blackburn**.
35. The **Chavis Middle School** C.A.R.E.S. (Chavis Aspires to Reach Everyone through Sharing) group encouraged students to express thankfulness in November. Students decorated paper pumpkins and displayed them in the hall, and they also collected \$840.07 in change to cover shipping costs for the *Operation Christmas Child* gift boxes. Teachers **Elishia Oliver** and **Jay Moss** are the advisers for the C.A.R.E.S. program.
36. The **Chavis Middle** student council sponsored the annual *Operation Christmas Child* collection drive and was able to provide 120 gift boxes for children. Teacher **Casey Floyd** and school resource officer **Mark Johnson** supervised the program.
37. **Carr Elementary School** hosted a "Step into Storyland" Family Night Program that featured each grade level performing a skit from a popular book. Kaye Gribble from the Gaston Literacy Council and Dianne Navey from the Dallas Public Library provided information to students and parents about books and reading.
38. **Hawks Nest Intermediate** students collected 515 canned food items for the Salvation Army. The school's *Girls on the Run* team organized a donation drive for the Hands N Feet Foundation and collected 525 pairs of socks and gloves for the homeless.
39. The following **Highland School of Technology** students received merit scholarships: **Mara Hayes**, University of Tennessee; **Julie Masluk**, Savannah College of Art and Design; and **Neyda Medina-Hernandez**, Lenoir-Rhyne University. **Tobi Adelekun** was chosen as a semifinalist for the Morehead-Cain scholarship at UNC-Chapel Hill.
40. **Highland** students in the Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) club spent time at Holy Angels decorating for a Halloween festival and conducting fun activities for the residents. The students also celebrated HOSA Week by hosting daily events. They sponsored a fundraising night at Buffalo Wild Wings for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, packed 100 boxes for the *Operation Christmas Child* program, and presented appreciation plaques to local healthcare providers for supporting the HOSA organization.
41. **Bessemer City Central Elementary** collected 514 cans of food for the Bessemer City Crisis Center. The student council sponsored the project.
42. **Mount Holly Middle School** students, teachers and parents involved in the *Project Hawk* program completed two service projects. A group of 40 parents and six teachers along with a group of **Stuart W. Cramer High School** students and parents raked and cleaned the yards of five elderly couples in Mount Holly. Another group of 30 students created 15 centerpieces for the Brian Center of Gastonia to use during the holiday season.
43. **Gardner Park Elementary** held its annual *Cans for Kids* food drive and collected 2,465 items for the Salvation Army. The project has been a school tradition since 1989.
44. **Sherwood Elementary** fourth grader **Mark Francis** designed a bumper sticker about the city of Charlotte as a project in **Jennifer Fallin's** class. The bumper sticker was presented to Charlotte mayor Dan Clodfelter, who displayed it in his office.
45. The **Sherwood Elementary** Citizens of the Month were **Khateeb Asif, Amari Mathieu, Cassidy Kendrick, Dani Motes, Britney Alvarado-Flores, Asher Vang, Lily Edwards, Tekayla Belton, Nora Langschwager, Lizzie Branton, Amor Polanco, Miles Funderburk, Nichole Watson, Landon Whitley, Elijah Hill, Alyssa Hanif, Jasmine Sanders, Serenity Benbow-Lane, Nicole Herrera, Makayla Davis, Kynsee Zorens, Brittany Calzada, Noah Fargher, Hannah Glandon, Owen Lovell, Breanna Overstreet, Joseph Serrano, Jaden Robinson, Kayley Arthur** and **Matthew Walker**.

- Receive information regarding the Master Facilities Planning Committee Update.
- Consider the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.
- Receive information regarding the School Performance Grades.
- Receive information regarding the Gaston County Growth Patterns and Trends.
- 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.
 - Approval of Board Policy:
 - Policy 6130 – Administering Medications to Students and Policy 6172 – Emergency Epinephrine Auto-Injector Devices.
- Superintendent's Comments.
- Closed Session – Personnel.

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