



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, December 7, 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.
- Receive the following Good News:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ashbrook High School student Solomon Collins was selected for the Carolina Panthers “Community Captain” program. Only 10 students in North and South Carolina are chosen for the program, which honors individuals who exemplify excellence on the field, in the classroom and in the community. 2. Ashbrook senior Mara Branham received a scholarship to play softball at Erskine College. 3. Bessemer City Central Elementary and Bessemer City Primary sponsored canned food drives for the Bessemer City Crisis Center. Bessemer City Central collected 1,098 items and Bessemer City Primary collected 800 cans of food. 4. W. Blaine Beam Intermediate School students and staff collected more than \$4,000 for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. 5. The John Chavis Middle School October Students of the Month were Annika Huskey, Matthew Estep, Amelia Queen, Madison Smith, Kimberly Belman, Brian Ortega, Kirsten Goodman, Jovani Ortega and Wyatt Ford. Spanish teacher Kristen Clark was named the Teacher of the Month. 6. The following John Chavis Middle students were winners in the Keep Gastonia Beautiful recycled art contest: Wyatt Ford, first place; Mallory England, third place; and Kirsten Goodman, honorable mention. 7. East Gaston High School sophomore Landon Maxwell won the U.S. Track and Field North Carolina Junior Olympics boys cross country championship in the 15-16 years age division. He was also the runner-up in the Big South Conference championship. 8. The following East Gaston students earned awards in the Keep Gastonia Beautiful recycled art contest: Shawn Hedgecoe, first place; Cameron Tarte, second place; and Rachel McFarland, honorable mention. 9. The Forest Heights Elementary October Bus Riders of the Month were Bailey Hughes, Jayden Case, Melanie Zavala, Elia Hamilton, Isabella Castano-Estrada, Madison Polk, Madison Purvey, Lyric Ames, Savanni Harris and Ruth Cano Pelallo. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 10. Forest Heights Elementary hosted Cardinal Unity Day as students showed they were united in the fight against bullying by wearing the school colors. Students also assisted in making public service announcement videos to support National Bullying Prevention Month efforts. 11. The Forestview High School television broadcasting class earned second place in the N.C. School Board Association’s High School Video Contest. The students created a short video on the topic “What’s Super About Public Schools.” Cameron Kurtiak, Conrad Tolbert, Seth Denton, Erin Sanders, Jacob Lineberry, Jordan Pippins, and advisor Melissa Heilig were honored for their work at a ceremony in Greensboro. 12. The W.C. Friday Middle November Students of the Month were Lindsay Hannah, Eric Brady, Austin McClure, Kagen Webb, Bryleigh Weigum, Hunter Thomas, Sarah Walters, Courtney Treadway, Hailey Frady, Morgan Chupp, Traic Johnson and Maria Rivas. 13. W.C. Friday Middle sponsored a “Pennies for Pasta” fundraiser for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society and raised \$2,724.47. Betsy Sigmon’s sixth grade class raised the most money and enjoyed an Olive Garden luncheon. 14. The eighth grade classes at W.C. Friday Middle sponsored a school-wide canned food drive and collected 1,835 cans for the Dallas Food Bank. 15. Sarah Kistler’s seventh grade class at Cramerton Middle School was featured on Channel One, a news network for students and schools. The channel asked classes to post pictures of places they have been by using the hashtag #CH1geoweeek, and the school’s submission was featured on the November 20 broadcast. 16. Members of the Ashbrook High School, Stuart W. Cramer High School and Highland School of Technology FBLA chapters attended the Future Business Leaders of America Regional Fall Leadership Conference. More than 200 students from across the region participated in various workshops and activities and heard a presentation by keynote speaker Sarah Cherne, president and CEO of Junior Achievement of Charlotte. |
|--|--|

17. **Woodhill Elementary** received a special visit from Senator Kathy Harrington, who congratulated the school for its fundraising campaign for Heifer International.
18. The **Highland School of Technology** HOSA (Health Occupations Students of America) chapter participated in the District 6 Fall Leadership Training held in Huntersville. The program provided team building and leadership strategies for HOSA officers. Students **Jenna Payne, Haley Abernathy, Sidney Roberts, Kelsey Best, Savannah Duncan** and **Austin Lowry** attended the training with chapter advisor **Waheebah al-Uqdah**.
19. The following **Highland** students received college scholarships: **Zytavis Parks**, Johnson and Wales University; **Nick Stines**, Western Carolina University; **Tierra Brown**, Johnson and Wales University; **Corinthia Friday**, Mars Hill University; **Em'Pris Orr**, Gardner-Webb University; **Haley Roberts**, Lenoir-Rhyne University and Mars Hill University; and **Maria Araujo**, Gardner-Webb University.
20. **Lowell Elementary** hosted a Community Partner Luncheon. Leaders from businesses, churches and organizations enjoyed a barbecue lunch while students shared a Google slide presentation featuring good news about the school. Guests also visited classrooms to observe the school's Reading Workshop program.
21. **North Belmont Elementary** raised \$1,118 for the United Way of Gaston County. Students were able to buy raffle tickets to throw a pie in the face of principal **Ryan Smith** and teachers **Todd Walker** and **Jennifer Cory**.
22. Students from **North Gaston High School** and **Stuart W. Cramer High School** earned awards for their performances at the N.C. Theatre Conference High School Play Festival, which is the largest high school theatre event in the Southeast. The **Stuart W. Cramer** students performed "Home - Portrait of a Family." They received awards for Excellence in Scenic Design, Excellence in Acting (**Ava Smith**), and Excellence in Design and Technical Production (**Ambrea Campbell**). The **North Gaston** students performed "Meeting Sam" and received the Excellence in Characterization Award and the Excellence in Stage Management Award (**Kylie Jacobs**).
23. **Hunter Huss High School** conducted a food truck fundraiser to support the culinary arts students in the International Baccalaureate program. Teachers **Alisha Hester** and **Camille Jackson** organized the event to raise funds for food supplies, equipment and field trips to visit culinary universities and restaurants.
24. **Sherwood Elementary** observed National Homeless Youth Awareness Month by sponsoring a donation drive for the Women's Shelter of Gaston County. Students and families collected diapers, toothpaste and toothbrushes. School social worker **Angela Ferguson** organized the collection.
25. **South Point High School** received the Region 6 Field of the Year designation from the North Carolina Baseball Coaches Association.
26. **South Point High School** had students to earn awards at the DECA Marketing Competitive Events Conference in Lincolnton. **Jessica Helton, Riley Nichols** and **Jake Kauer** received the highest exam scores in their categories and **Jessica Helton** and **Jake Kauer** were third place overall winners. The following students earned scores of "proficient" in their categories: Apparel and Accessories: **Madison Canterbury, Kendall Thorneberg, Lauren Andrews, Mikayla Withers, Vallie Dulin, Arman Ali**; Sports and Entertainment: **Jessica Helton, Jacob Stinnett, Walker Featherston, Trevor Pace**; Quick Serve Restaurant: **Nolan Beaty, Isiah Carter, Rosy Huynh, Madison Rollins, Steven Schultz, Kaylee Thagard**; and Principles of Marketing: **Jake Kauer, Katelyn Shipman, Grace Campbell, Isabella Vargas, Sophie Hanafin, Riley Nichols, Hemail Patel, Ethan Lassiter, Braden Arnold, Clay Gotte, Ethan Jackson, Kaci Minshall**. The DECA club advisor is **Rhonda Van Pelt**.
27. **Southwest Middle School** seventh grader **Sarah Williams** won first place in the N.C. Association of Educators' American Education Week essay contest and received a \$50 savings bond.
28. The November winners of the "Do The Right Thing" awards sponsored by *The Gaston Gazette* were **Ava Cooper**, fifth grade at **McAdenville Elementary**; **Jesse Harris**, sixth grade at **Bessemer City Middle**, and **Hanna Calvert**, tenth grade at **South Point High School**.

- Classroom Moment.
- Curriculum and Instruction Committee Report.
- Operations Committee Report.
- Consider the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.
- Consider the N.C. Works Career Coach Program.
- 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 Budget Transfers.
- Superintendent's Comments.
- Closed Session – Personnel.

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