



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, February 16, 2015, 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 for the January 23, 2015 and January 24, 2015 Board of Education retreat.
 - Receive the following Good News for January/February 2015:
1. Four **Gaston County Schools** instructional technology facilitators were selected to serve as presenters at the N.C. Technology in Education Society conference. **Jason Mammano** and **Sean Markwith** will present the "Chromebook Revolution" session and **Chris Goodson** and **Lisa Montgomery** will present the "Minecraft for Non-Gamers" session.
 2. The following educators were chosen as finalists for Gaston County Teacher of the Year 2015-2016: **Kim Brooks, Springfield Elementary; Martha Bumgardner, Belmont Middle School; Bobbie Cavnar, South Point High School; Laradon Pilot, Bessemer City High School; and Carolyn Spencer, Stuart W. Cramer High School.**
 3. **Pleasant Ridge Elementary** held a Family Literacy Night program that featured storyteller Eric Jones, crafts and writing activities. Media specialist **Ann Perkins-Davis** organized the event.
 4. Every second grade student at **Woodhill Elementary** received a bicycle, helmet and lock from the Gastonia Rotary Club. Club members presented the bicycles during a special program that featured a hot dog lunch for students and their families, bike and helmet safety lessons by the Gastonia Police Department, and games led by the **Hunter Huss High School** Interact Club. Parent involvement coordinator **Lisa Bolding** worked with Rotary Club representative Cheryl Rhoades to coordinate the program.
 5. The **Gaston County Schools Communications Department** won eight Blue Ribbon state awards for excellence in school communications and public relations. The school district received recognition in the following categories: Electronic Media, Excellence in Writing, Handbooks, Marketing Campaign, Newsletter, and Website. The awards were presented by the N.C. School Public Relations Association.
 6. **Hunter Huss High School** named its basketball court in honor of University of North Carolina women's basketball coach **Sylvia Hatchell**. A Hunter Huss graduate, Hatchell is among the most successful coaches in women's college basketball.
 7. **Ashbrook High School** student **Allison Bradshaw** received a full-tuition scholarship valued at \$250,000 to attend Yale University.
 8. **Ashbrook** student **Aaron Froelich** received a grant through the Teens Changing Gaston County Foundation to purchase \$800 worth of toiletries for students in need. He worked with school social worker **Justine Davis** to determine what items were needed and was able to buy 750 items, including toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant and shampoo.
 9. Students in the **Ashbrook** Air Force JROTC program collected 4,750 cans of food for the Greater Gaston Baptist Association Food Bank, surpassing their goal of 3,500 items.
 10. The **Cramerton Middle** Students of the Month were **Brooke Barnes, Abbey Curtis, Jimena Vazquez, Brandy Carringer, Briley Williams, Hannah Early, Michaela Long, Aleaha Duncan, Millicent Simmons, Grace Miller, Bailey Hall, Blaine Lewis, Calvin Chavis, Bryton Holland, Sarah Stamey, Brooklyn Pierce, Assis Ayala, Lake Smith, Tyler Kelly** and **Dane Dejuje**.
 11. **North Gaston High School** junior **Kendal Cloninger** surpassed scoring 1,000 points during her basketball career.
 12. The following **Highland School of Technology** students were awarded college scholarships: **Kelsey Tanner** and **Kyra Earhart**, Savannah College of Art and Design; **Neyda Medina-Hernandez**, Columbia College; **Reilley Mathews** and **Lilian Hyman**, Gardner-Webb University; **Lillian Abernathy**, Johnson and Wales University; **Kenric Barnes**, Mercer University; **Madison Dellinger**, Queens University; **Evan Escobedo**, University of Alabama at Birmingham; **Miki Salamon**, High Point University and Elon University; and **Kayla Carter**, Mars Hill University.
 13. The **Highland** Quiz Bowl team qualified for the High School Championship of the National Academic Quiz Tournaments. Team members are **Andrew Dixon, Tobi Adelekun, Baldev Desai, Brian Koo, Ryan Thurston, Ethan Wu** and **Evann Wu**.
 14. **Highland** teacher **Lia Smith** and media specialist **Kalani LaFrancis** hosted a Poetry Night program for students in the creative writing classes and their guests.
 15. The following **Highland** students were selected for all-county band: **George Dent, Savannah Lutz, Marlin Ludwig, Nathaniel Pressley, Mary Joanna Martin, Kayla Britton, Reilly Gallagher, Sarah Weaver, Haley Euler, Brandon Parker, Will Carpenter, Corinthia Friday, Grace Dent, Levi Helton** and **William Wallace**.
 16. **Highland** students in the Dental Science I program worked with dentists Stephanie Lowry and Ashley Blacktree to provide screenings for more than 100 children in the Head Start program. The students learned about dental charting techniques and sterilizing instruments and led fun activities to teach the children about brushing and flossing.
 17. The following **Highland** students captured awards at the HOSA (Health Occupations Students of America) district competition and have the opportunity to advance to the state competition: **Amber Courtemanche, Alex Ninyeh, Zachary Buchanan, Hannah Kelly, Cassie Wells, Carleigh Ballard, Christian Rodgers, Julie Masluk, Preston Marisiddaiah, Haley Huler, Marlin Ludwig, Tatiana Aquino, Mary Anna Chewning, Genesis Dingle, Jessica Lopez, McKenzie Houser, Ja'elle Ross-Brown, Corinthia Friday** and **Sonny Whitlock**.

18. **Highland** students **Caleb Sherman, Matthew Noles, Nicole Wolf, Katie Purello, Alex Matthew, Ryan Thurston, Miriam Okonkwo, Evann Wu, Ellie Sweezy** and **Emily Lopez** were award winners at the N.C. Beta Club convention.
19. The **Highland** HOSA (Health Occupations Students of America) club partnered with Buffalo Wild Wings and raised \$500 for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.
20. **W.C. Friday Middle** collected 1,573 cans of food for the Dallas Christian Ministry.
21. The following **South Point High School** students won awards at the DECA (Distributive Education Clubs of America) regional competition: **Samy Abouseria, Nicholas Ashe, Morgan Bryant, Walker Featherston, Jessica Helton, Zach Mosteller, Kaylee Thagard, Parker Thorneburg, Kendall Thorneburg, Mikayla Withers, Madison Canterbury, Madison Rollins, Bailey Thomasson, Kristen Whitson, Jarrett Cooper, Carson Potter, Clay Julen, Trevor Pace, Trevor Stryker, Dakota Bartish, Sean Chauthry, Max Neisler, Breanna Floyd, Taylor Foulk, Logan Hobson, Hannah Keel, Victoria McAlister, Addie McElveen, Vallie Dulin, Ryan Furukawa, Rosy Huynh, Claire Turner, Yale Loucks, Susannah Pennington** and **Sanval Ali**. The students captured top honors in the Quick Serve Restaurant, Sports and Entertainment Marketing, Apparel and Accessories Marketing, and Principles of Marketing categories.
22. **Belmont Middle School** students collected more than 100 new and gently used books for the Teen Room at the Gaston County Battered Women's Shelter.
23. **Belmont Middle** seventh grader **Kevin Li** won the school competition of the National Geographic Bee. Eighth grader **Steven Murphy** took second place and seventh grader **Ryan Proud** earned third place.
24. The **Belmont Middle** Beta Club collected 3,375 canned goods for the Belmont Community Organization.
25. **Forest Heights Elementary** teacher **Jenna Peterson** was selected to participate in the "Success from the Start: Foundational Skills for Beginning Teachers" seminar presented by the N.C. Center for the Advancement of Teaching.
26. **Pinewood Elementary's** Girls on the Run team raised \$160 for the American Red Cross.
27. **Pinewood Elementary** students signed a banner pledging to accept Rachel's Challenge of showing kindness and compassion toward others. The students also celebrated the 100th day of school on February 6 by dressing as centenarians.
28. The **Pinewood Elementary** February Citizens of the Month were **Kameron Sherrill, Olivia Russell, Sophie Hoerst, Kara Heath, Tryce Turner, Alina Kpor, Ryleigh Lovvorn, Ryan Teague, Brock Maroz, Jayla Rozzelle, Jackson Hennard, Lily Price, Sarah Burlinski, Carter Goodling, Kaisen Brewster, Nathaniel Greene, Jaylia Brooks, Paje Stone, Bree Marr, Eliu Alfonso, Linden Stanley, Jackie Fuller, Tabetha Zander, Candice Harlow, Hunter Nealey, Shelbi Beck, Liam Brady, Madison Forsythe, Kaylynn Bliss, Bella Blake** and **Christopher Davis**.
29. The **Costner Elementary** December Citizens of the Month were **Dalton Owens, Jimmy Ruiz Lopez, Jon Gavin Dellinger, Krystal Ledford, Azayla Bolton, Ella Hullett, Lorabella Rodriguez, Samantha Syboutlan, Trevor Harbert, Emma Brandon, Olivia Lawrence, Chloe King, Alex Elliott, Xavier Friday, Maddi Carr, Jacob Mason, Bryson Blanton, Skylar Harris, Nate Mills, Emili Perkins, Annett Rodriguez, Luke Baker, Dylan Chastain, Kaylan Stroupe** and **Nicholas Cooper**. The January Citizens of the Month were **Bailey Sumner, Lillian Zollo, Kaleigh Lewis, Allie Beam, Zachery Ledford, Garret Reed, David Carrell, Masin Ammons, Leah Webb, Jay Wetmoreland, Preston Martin, Leland Knight, RJ Syboutlan, Morgan Hardy, Angelina Diaz, Jesse Free, Lane Betts, Alaina Williams, Alyssa Wilson, Joshua Blanco, Caleb Moser, Johnathan Moose, Daylan Hanna, Kelsey Burr, Kyle Nicholson** and **Ragan Jones**.
30. **Carr Elementary** collected 903 cans of food for the Dallas Christian Ministry. Student council adviser **Diane Baron** and social worker **Kim Cobb** coordinated the collection.
31. Fourth grade students at **Bessemer City Central Elementary** performed "Jingle Bell Jukebox" for the holiday PTO meeting.
32. The **Forestview High School** HOSA (Health Occupations Students of America) club collected 90 socks, gloves and hats for the Hands N Feet Foundation.
33. The **Gardner Park Elementary** November Terrific Kids were **Emily Piercy, Eliana Amador Ramos, Justin Diaz, Ethan Piercy, Pedro Vital Roque, Bishop Woods, Oscar Lin, Megan Scharber, Simone Pacheco, Mack Canipe, Katherine Molano, Isaac Stacy, Amy Lopez-Vasquez, Tyshawn McKay, Johan Lopez, Simya Jean, Caden Newton, Jennifer Gamez, Joshua Watkins, Abby Campbell, Xandra Hope, Emilio Fernandez, Bo Fan Fang, Devin McCoy, Kie-nai Gibson, Madison Wall, Jonte Taylor, Cameron Pendleton** and **Jacob Surratt**.
34. The **Gardner Park Elementary** December Terrific Kids were **Ima Silvers, Landon Evans, Addison Dawsey, Ryan Beam, Reagan Ballard, Donta Degree, Daniel Vazquez, Lucas Creasman, Ricky Rodriguez, Phoebe Thomas, Isaiah Ojeda, Lamaria Love, Gracie Fuller, Catherine Mans, Abigail Demmers, Abby Poteat, Jayden Jennett, Brian Castillo Morado, Toni Davis, Pedro Nieto Morales, Eaken Vue, Julissa Hernandez, Carmela Bush, Nick Flack, Anahi Paez, Janiye Soils, Skylar Ferguson, Kearsten Shamblin** and **Adam Johnson**.
35. The following **York Chester Middle School** students captured multiple awards in the Gaston County wrestling tournament: **Damarious Davis, Prince Bemah, Monte Chambers, Shiquan Ratchford, Devonte Moffat, Dondra Burris** and **Jahaad Wilson**.
36. The **Chavis Middle School** December Students of the Month were **Andrew Goretory, Kimberly Belman, Lizbet Castillo, Matthew Rhnye, Jessica Carver, Krystal Deveney, Payne Wallace, Carlie Grace Jackson** and **Gabe Shumaker**. **Ed Ware** was named the December Teacher of the Month. The January Students of the Month were **Ella Harmon, Kinzie Little, Colton Godfrey, Kaitlyn Hutchinson, Nykera Bush, Mallory England, Sydney Narron, Luke Rayfield** and **Shamyiah Jefferies**. **Jeanna Spiker** was named the January Teacher of the Month.
37. **Chavis Middle** students **Ashlyn Beattie, Allie McCloskey, Becca Knowles** and **Macie Drum** were selected to participate in the N.C. Middle School All-State Chorus.
38. The **Chavis Middle** Beta Club sponsored a canned food drive and collected 616 items. **Catherine Pace's** homeroom class contributed the most items.
39. **Chavis Middle** students **Maddie Daggerhart, Avery Grace Walker** and **Payton Huffman** were selected for the all-district band. The following students were chosen for the all-county band: **Madison Philbeck, Kaitlyn Holt, Jenna Sherrill, Sophie Phiefer, Megan Smith, Maddie Daggerhart, Chloe Nelson, Nathan Anthony, Joseph Gunter, Maggie Barnes, Kenny Koschny, Will Elmore, Jessica Carver, Austin Lackey, Blaise Shiver, Sydney Narron, Carlie Grace Jackson, Emma Rayfield, Gracie Jackson, Mary Meeks, Jaime Whitley, Victoria Pruet, Kayla Hill, Kaylee Brooks, Madison Hedgepeth, Avery Grace Walker, Hannah Carroll, Ashley Sparks, Sean Kostiuk, Nathaniel Lackey, Brigitte Lynn, Winston Wise, Luke Rayfield, Jace Brittain, Maddie Hampton, Payton Huffman** and **Peyton Sisk**.
40. **Chavis Middle** sixth grader **Wyatt Wilson** earned first place in the school's geography bee. Eighth grader **Nathan Jeffers** took second place.
41. The **Stanley Middle** wrestling team, the **W.C. Friday Middle** volleyball team, and the **Mount Holly Middle** boys' soccer team won the county middle school championships.
42. Students from **W.C. Friday, York Chester, Chavis, Stanley** and **Holbrook** middle schools performed with the mass band at the McAdenville Tree Lighting Festival.

43. The **Springfield Elementary** December Students of the Month were **Nyla Johnson, Payton Lenox, Isaiah Peeler, James Vickers, Jayce Martin, Destiny Taylor, Amari Simelani, Brayden Clemmer, Reed Osborne, Daniel Wooten, Peyton Coulter, Katelyne Payne, Katelyne Willis, Ellie Lewis, Hannah Payne, Michael Payne, Kelsi Gaddis, Destiny Redmon, Riley Bailey, Savannah Price, Sara Clippard, Jayden McCorkle, Harrison Smith, Lillie Rankin, Christopher Newell, Wesley Schuner, Katherine Richardson, Brooke Addair, Jerran Lemley, Zachary Murks, Austin Webb, Morgan Waugh, Noelle Hamid, Riah Alexander, Dalton Rogers, Olivia Speight, Hayden Bell, Makayla Featherstone, Destiny Eagle, Tucker Thornburg, Ava Mauldin, Nevaeh Lowell, Matthew Craig, Cameron Carver, Cameron Burnette, Breanna Love, Madison Dameron, Ashlyn Higdon, Aleigha Lowery, Nevaeh Lowery, Osmairy Reyes, Elijah Usery, Haile Jo Gosnell, Garrick Spake, Natalie Symonds, Charity Brown, Gabriel Chandler and Caden Riddle.**
44. The **Springfield Elementary** January Citizens of the Month were **Rylee Cates, R.J. Love, Anala Garland, Jayce Martin, Kody Kirkland, Chantz Chadwick, Ryleigh Martin, Marisiddaiah Crocker, Emily Brooks, Landon DuMont, Connor Gooch, Andrew Fisher, Mayleen Alvarado, Shanna Clark, Logan Kluttz, Aleah Hartsell, Emily Davis, Caryson Simmons, Dylan Carver, Jayden Wise, Kai Lucas, Destiny Lowery, Karlee Reid, Cole Morton, Nathan Stroupe, Allison Martinez, Ashlyn Price, Aleijah Gillenwater, Cassie Harris, Curt Mazon, Jaiden Wilson, Blake Burgess, Jayse Flood, Emma Doss, Allison Morton, Addie McCaw, Jaiden Wicks, Logan Pruitt, Jacky Bratton Vergara, Cydney Roberts, Marshall Grammer, Courtney Morton, Devon Easter, Donovan Reid, Timmy Swift, Timothy Amos, Madison Shaw, Mia Hibbert, Lucy Ballard, Jordan Lockridge, Lyra deMendonca, Hannah Jordan, CJ Doss and Caiden Seay.**
45. The **Rankin Elementary** December Principal's Pride award winners were **Jocelyn Gordon, Shelby Trotter, Isabella Peterson, Gwen Campau, Brady Cook, Davis Jessen, Jayden Storms, Daniela Marvin, Emily Beasley, Mikala Johnson, Jordan Buckner, Carson McClure, Sarah Herzberg, Wyatt Suttentfield, Isaac Dutton, Camryn Lowrance, Cloe Griffiths, Zander Derby, Trinity Nance, Lilly Bardon, Jan Cruz, Kylie Brooks, Nicholas Stutzman, Parker Stafford, Anna Beach, Samoria Coley, Abby Houser, Noah Millard and Abbie Crisp.**
46. The **Rankin Elementary** December Students of the Month were **Jayden Edwards, Jatavia Brooks, Chloe Norris, Broc Radford, Arhip Sushko, Carter Jessen, Hunter Jackson, Jada Worley, Carter Fraley, Laura Cummings, Dillion Gaddy, Destiny Wright, Zoey Snyder, Natalie Craig, Kadyn Sellers, Emily Palm, Christian Heffner, Christopher Green, Dominick McCorkle, Hunter Moffitt, Jackson Pierce, Averie Kelly, Morgan Harris, Deziree Morgan, Jeremiah McCormick, Kentrell Davis, Martavius McCorkle and Michael Thomassin.**
47. The **Rankin Elementary** January Principal's Pride award winners were **Madi Blanton, Josh Oxendine, Aiden Cloninger, Austin Davis, Luke McGinnis, Bryan Tran, Madeline Hope, Alyssa Lodato, Sage Marsh, Mikala Johnson, Monica Coria, Sarah Herzberg, Madison McGinnis, Dana Thomas, Abigail Wright, Corey Holloway, Jada Charles, Ridge Nixon, Anna Broome, Camryn Clawson, Kent Kido, Isaiah Worley, Calvin Winchester, Jaden Simpson-Moore, Avery Robnett, Mia Morton, Emmie Rushing and Diksha Sharma.**
48. The **Rankin Elementary** January Students of the Month were **Bailey Short, Breanna Allen, Sara Painter, Jayda Foster, Kaiden McCorkle, Ty'Qwailyn Cunningham, Sean Dutton, Addison Davis, Santiago Colon Ruiz, Taelan Whitley, Micah Harrison, Leilani Clark, Parker Miller, Nola Garton, Owen Mach, Hayden Mauldin, Miranda McKenzie, Maxwell Gambrell, Kailey Null, Kemara Horton, Brianna Tadlock, Karter Johnson, Jocelyn Sexton, Gracie Crisp, Addison Kirby, Lydia Tench and Leslie Uscanga.**
49. **Rankin Elementary** student **Carter Jessen** received the school's *Do The Right Thing* award for January.
50. The **Bessemer City High School** boys' basketball team won the annual Bud Black-Dennis Tate Holiday Classic Tournament for the second time in three years.
51. **Lowell Elementary** hosted a holiday luncheon for students and more than 200 parents. Mayor Larry Simonds, Quality Service Center and Jack's Towing surprised the school's teachers by giving them a free tank of gasoline as they left for winter break.
52. **East Gaston High School** students **Naomi Carpenter** and **Brandon Rodgers** were selected to participate in the prestigious Mars Hill University Choral Festival.
53. **Tryon Elementary** students held a "Soc-tober" activity and collected 235 pairs of socks and other items for the homeless. In December, the students contributed more than 970 canned food items to local crisis ministries.
54. **Holbrook Middle School** students shared holiday cheer with the residents of Meadowwood Nursing Center. Students, parent volunteers and faculty members distributed handmade cards, sang Christmas carols and read holiday stories.
55. The **Page Primary** December Students of the Month were **Jent Miller, Suri Shelton, Lana Glenn, Sophie Watson, Jenna Towe, Evy McKee, Walker Spargo, Jake Jenkins, Kendall Summerville, Isabella Denton, Eliza Green, Izzy King, Colby Beach, Owen Wilcox, Ethan Sherrill and Mary Ellen Lovelace.** The January Students of the Month were **Oliva Teders, Ila Turner, Kaci McClellan, Atticus Michael, Brayden Fortenberry, Dylan Theel, Jack Thompson, Stratton Tripplet, Jaden Shaw, Samuel Morgan, McKenna Grice, Hannah Rodden, Trenton Taylor-Bolan, Mason Wells, Rylee Walls and Bennett Nixon.**
56. **Kiser Elementary** fourth grade students enjoyed a rocks and minerals program presented by the Schiele Museum. The fun program included a panning for gemstones activity. The fourth graders also traveled to Camp Thunderbird and participated in canoeing and lessons about animal adaptations and habitats.
57. **Kiser Elementary's Zoe Jenkins**, a student in **Lauren Calvert's** fifth grade class, had her artwork design selected for the DSM holiday card. She received a \$50 gift card and a pizza party for her class.
58. **Kiser Elementary** recognized **Melissa Combs' third grade class, Tracie Jenkins' fourth grade class and Mary Allen's fifth grade class** for having the best overall attendance for the first semester. The classes enjoyed a pizza lunch provided by parent volunteer **Billy Davis**, who also gave a \$1 coin to each student who had perfect attendance.
59. **Robinson Elementary** received a \$1,000 grant from Walmart to purchase books and a donation of gift cards for teachers from Hickory Tavern. The school also held a parent outreach event at the Hoffman Homes neighborhood with hot chocolate and doughnuts provided by the PTO.
60. **Lingerfeldt Elementary** hosted a sports trivia night program for more than 90 children and parents. To answer the questions, participants used Chromebooks and the Kahoot! game software. Parent involvement specialist **Thressia Greer** organized the event.
61. **W.A. Bess Elementary** third grade teacher **Faith Dibble** was chosen to present the "Interactive Read Alouds" workshop at the N.C. Reading Conference.
62. The **W.A. Bess Elementary** beautification committee partnered with Ebenezer Baptist Church to sponsor Volunteer Day of Service activities.
63. The **W.A. Bess Elementary** December Citizens of the Month were **Austin Payne, Brennan Fesquet, Ethan Mistry, Kingston Johnson, Morgan Spivey, Tiffany McEntire, Jania Zaleski, Brody McCannless, Ford Poag, Chloe Villareal, Shyam Patel, Luke Denton, Ryan Stewart, Davis Brown, Adept Ngyen, Katja Sills, Samuel Christopher, Madison Lewis, Gavin Rogers, Faith Caudle, Ian McIlveen, Jade Juarez, Ellie Johnson, Luke Barber, Cam Doster and Alia Armstrong.**

64. The following **Cherryville High School** students were selected for the all-county band: **Haley Little, Maddie Green, Baylee McSwain, Justin Hannah, Caitlin Norris, Makenzie Summer, Emily Kaylor, Chenoah Millwood, Bristan Bradley, Cassidy Murri, Hannah Weidenhamer, Taylor Paputseanos, Tiffany Green, Katie Scronce, Abby Pace, Erica Boswell, Steffany Cruz, Michelle Munoz, Ashley Britton, Tristan Hedgpeh, Austin Scronce, Taylor Hope, Aaron Putnam, Sarah Leetham, Crystal Meadows, James Barker and Taylor Newton. Madison Green and Taylor Hope** were chosen for the all-district band.
65. The January *Do The Right Thing* award winners were **Anna Joy Brown, Gardner Park Elementary; Libny Monfil-Barragan, Mount Holly Middle; and Aurora Ziemer, South Point High School.** The February winners were **Aubrey Stines, Kiser Elementary; Owen Kelly, W.A. Bess Elementary; Parker Huffman, York Chester Middle; LeDerick Weary, Bessemer City Middle; X'Zayvier McCleave, Hunter Huss High School; and Erika Barnes, Gaston Early College High School.** The monthly recognition program is presented by *The Gaston Gazette*.
66. **Bessemer City Primary** teacher **Angela Rimmer** designed a technology lesson for her kindergarten students using what she learned from the Gaston County Schools Pinnacle Program. The students created holiday ornaments with QR codes, which were displayed at the Daniel Stowe Botanical Garden. Kindergarten teacher **Jane Thornburg** and instructional facilitator **Aubrey Caldwell** assisted with the activity.
67. The **Gaston County Schools Office of Professional Learning and Human Resources Department** hosted an International Celebration at the Rader Staff Development Center. The event gave teachers involved in the Education Partners International program and teachers from other countries an opportunity to meet one another, share ideas and enjoy food donated by South Fork Deli in Cramerton, Texas Roadhouse and Zaxby's.
68. **Bessemer City Central Elementary** fifth graders learned about forces and motion by playing hockey as part of a science lesson developed by teacher **Michael Langschwager**.
69. **Bessemer City Central Elementary** had 158 students to meet or exceed their Accelerated Reader goals for the second nine-week grading period.
70. **Sadler Elementary** students in **Jessica Ellison's** fifth grade class participated in mental math, coding, programming and other collaborative activities during the four-hour "Raspberry Pi" event. Members of the UNC-Charlotte Outreach Team led the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) program.
71. **Gaston County Schools** received a \$4,000 grant from the Gaston County Community Collaborative to purchase 200 Youth Mental Health First Aid manuals. The Student Support Services Department is using the manuals to train secondary school staffs about the signs and symptoms of mental health issues in youth.
72. **Cramerton Middle School** band director **Lisa Ratchford** was recognized by WSOC-TV Channel 9 as an Outstanding Educator.
73. **North Gaston High School** sophomore **Jaydan Hush** was selected for the 2015 High School Honors Performance Series at Carnegie Hall in New York City. Hush plays the tuba and will perform with the honors orchestra, which is an opportunity made available only to the top rated high school musicians from across North America.
74. **Bessemer City Middle School** eighth grader **Chloe Lovelace** received a \$1,000 scholarship from the N.C. Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators. Lovelace will use the scholarship to attend a summer enrichment program at a N.C. college or university. She was one of only nine students in the state to receive the scholarship award.
75. Students at the **Gaston Early College High School** entered the Constitution Day essay and poster contest sponsored by Gaston College. The students, who were competing against adult college students, captured all of the awards. The poster contest winners were **Chelsea Lewis**, first place; and **Alexis Jones**, second place. The essay contest winners were **Camden DeBardenleben**, first place; **Madison Knowles**, second place; and **Talyah Regusters**, third place.
76. The **Technology Support Services Department** held its second annual "Pinnacle Smackdown" at **Ashbrook High School**. More than 40 teachers participated in the program and shared their favorite apps and technology tools for the classroom. Superintendent of Schools **Jeff Booker** kicked off the event by sharing his favorite app, Fine Scan. The Pinnacle Leaders and their fellow teachers presented their ideas and highlighted how to use Kaizena, Edpuzzle, Braingenie and other technology programs.
77. The **Sherwood Elementary** December Students of the Month were **Samantha Lopez Cano, Jackson Carter, Makenzi Floyd, Jarrien Boyce, Genesis Summers, Kyra Floyd, Bryan Schemelenksy, Damaris Esquinca Adame, Natalie Faris, Julia Weatherly, Zach Wilbanks, Nevaeh Pena, Sarah Jones, Jordyn Hampton, Eayon Hinson, Jocelyn Ricardo-Vera, Noemi Cano-Pelallo, Sarah Barr, Michaela Lockhart, Anazarae Bolton, Jacob Sain, Mariah Kendrick, Brooke Hope, Sarah Layton, Abbi Branch, Farris Smith, Ra'Keem Neal, Jaidyn Mitchell, Jocelyn Welsh, Jordan Overstreet and Amelia Rostmeyer.**
78. The **Sherwood Elementary** January Students of the Month were **Landon Pena, Brian Nguyen, Caroline Rumfelt, Brianna Cunningham, Austin Horton, Ana Fuller, Luke Snyder, Vernice Flores, Antonio Smith, Emily Motes, Elijah Carn, Lucas Franco, Kenyel Matthews, Zachary Turner, Nolan McQueen, Erica Tetteh-Ocloo, Angelee Gomez, Haniya Morrison, Savannah Neese, Brandon Laverde, Karson Sloop, Lila Grace Sermersheim, Journee Gordon, Chance Davis, Jasmine Cloud, Justin Messer, Nivea Ferrell, Jacob Mygatt, Nailah Saleem, Ashlie Butler and Aaron Benitez.**

- Board of Education Recognition.
- Receive information regarding the Athletic Training Program.
- Consider the Reduction in Force – Professional and Classified Employees.
- Consider the Security Camera Replacement Projects.
- Consider the Highland School of Technology Entrance Requirements.
- Consider the School Choice Options.
- 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.
- Superintendent's Comments.
- Closed Session – Personnel.

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