



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, July 17, 2017, 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.
- Receive the following Good News for July 2017:

1. **Gaston County Schools** had two state winners in the School Nutrition Association of North Carolina’s culinary arts competition. **Jill Brackett, Cherryville High School** cafeteria manager, earned first place in the Miscellaneous Breads category for her strawberry bread entry. **Pearlie Croft**, cafeteria leader at **John Chavis Middle School**, captured first place in the Breakfast Entrée category for her “toast man” entry.
2. The **School Nutrition Department** earned the prestigious Lunch Bell Award from the School Nutrition Association of North Carolina for its outstanding efforts to promote School Nutrition in the media. The award recognizes media coverage in the Belmont Banner-News of U.S. Senator Thom Tillis’ visit to **Belmont Central Elementary School** in February 2016.
3. **Joanne Kirven**, an area supervisor in the **School Nutrition Department**, received the Martha Gomer Spirit Award, which honors an outstanding school nutrition supervisor in North Carolina. She earned the award for demonstrating a strong commitment to School Nutrition with infectious enthusiasm and a can-do attitude. The award was presented by the School Nutrition Association of North Carolina.
4. **Gaston County Schools** received a National Award of Merit from the National School Public Relations Association for its “Twelve Years Ago...” video. Channel 21 program manager **Tom Nencetti** produced the video that highlighted retiring W.A. Bess Elementary teacher Jill Nichols and seniors in the Class of 2016 who were in her kindergarten class in 2004. Earlier this year, the video won a Blue Ribbon Gold Award and the “Best of the Best” recognition from the North Carolina School Public Relations Association.
5. **Mary Jo Martin**, a student at **Highland School of Technology**, attended the Technology Student Association’s national conference and earned second place in the nation in the Computer-Aided Design (CAD) Engineering competition.
6. **Beth Crosby** of **McAdenville Elementary** was named the Belk Foundation Honored Educator Scholar and will have the opportunity to attend a professional development program sponsored by the N.C. Center for the Advancement of Teaching. She also received \$250 to support her classroom.
7. **Gaston County Schools** honored 96 employees for outstanding service and dedication during the annual retirement reception held on June 13 at the Gaston Country Club. This year’s retirees have a combined total of 2,002 years of service to public education in Gaston County.
8. **Hunter Huss High School** had three students to win awards at the FCCLA (Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America) state conference. **Allen Grier, Tyzera Simon**, and **Essence Currence** captured third place in the Food Innovations competition. They were challenged to make an after-workout snack with 10 grams of protein in it and created a protein pancake called “Power Cakes.” They also developed a presentation about their “Power Cakes.” As state winners, the students advanced to the national competition in Nashville, Tennessee.
9. **Todd Hagans**, chief communications officer for **Gaston County Schools**, was elected to serve as vice president of the North Carolina School Public Relations Association.
10. **Belmont Central Elementary** student **Lily Floyd** collected \$12,000 to purchase and install a swing set at the school for second and third grade students. Volunteers from Duke Energy’s Allen Steam Station in Belmont raised \$4,000 and helped with the installation.
11. **Marissa Garrison**, a student at **Stuart W. Cramer High School**, was crowned Miss North Carolina’s Outstanding Teen during the annual Miss North Carolina Scholarship Pageant in Raleigh. **Savanna Mayes**, a student at **Forestview High School**, and **Makensie McDaniel**, a student at **South Point High School**, were finalists in the teen portion of the pageant. Garrison will represent the state in the Miss America’s Outstanding Teen Pageant in Orlando.
12. The Bessemer City council recognized **Bessemer City High School** students **Brianne Davis, Summer Meeks, Ja’Ciyah Guthrie-Barber**, and **Kiazylia Degree** for winning the 4x200 meter relay race at the 1-A state track and field championship.
13. **Mary Beth Edwards**, assistant principal at **North Gaston High School**, received the Citizen of the Year recognition from the Gaston County Police Department. The award honors her for outstanding teamwork, confidence, and professionalism.

14. Sweet Frog of Gastonia provided \$5 gift cards to the counselors and parent involvement specialists who volunteer to serve as mentor coordinators for **Gaston County Schools**. The gift cards were a way to say “thank you” to the coordinators for their support of the mentoring program.
15. **Kim Harper**, a teacher at **Sherwood Elementary**, attended the Keystone Science Institute in Colorado. Georgia Pacific sponsored the experience, which gives teachers an opportunity to further develop their knowledge of science.

16. **Gaston County Schools** was recognized during the “School Tools” campaign kickoff meeting at the WSOC-TV studios in Charlotte for its “Stuff That Bus!” program. “Stuff That Bus!” is a partnership with Office Depot in Gastonia that involves school personnel and local celebrities encouraging people to donate school supplies. This year’s “Stuff That Bus!” school supplies collection is August 10.

- Receive information regarding the Summer Projects List and New School Construction Updates.
- Receive information regarding the 2017-2018 Budget Update.
- Consider the iReady Progress Monitoring.
- Consider the Student Wellness Policy.
- 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 and Repair Change Orders.
 - Contracts:
 - Renewal of Accelerated Reading Program
 - Department of Exceptional Children
 - Cobb Pediatrics
 - EDU Health Care
 - Abatement at old Pleasant Ridge Elementary School
- Superintendent’s Comments.
- Closed Session – Personnel.

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