



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 9, 2018, 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 May 7, 2018, May 21, 2018, and May 22, 2018 meetings.
- Receive the following Good News for July 2018:

1. **Gaston County Schools** has 23 teachers who were chosen to serve as Pinnacle leaders: **Mariagnes Airhart, Diane Baron, Sharon Beckford, Brittany Beckham, Donna Biddix, Jenny Caper, Karen Coffey, Diana Davenport, Jennifer del Castillo, Jennifer Gosnell, Jami Grissom, Andru Lockridge, Kelsey Borchert Maynard, Brian Mitchell, Melissa Pruitt, Britnee Reid, Amy Simmons, Kelli Smith, Karen Solis, Molly Tessnear, Aristella Torres, Allison Wells, and Tyler White.** The Pinnacle program trains teachers to integrate technology into the classroom and serve as school technology leaders.
2. **Gaston County Schools** had 57 students to attend the James S. Forrester Commissioners’ School of Excellence. Commissioners’ School is a two-week summer enrichment program held at Belmont Abbey College that teaches rising tenth graders about Gaston County and prepares them for leadership roles at school and in the community.
3. **Julia Murrow**, a 2018 graduate of **Highland School of Technology**, was chosen as the winner of the Katie Bunch Memorial Youth Tour Scholarship, which is sponsored by the N.C. Association of Electric Cooperatives. The scholarship is valued at \$2,000 and is presented each year to one of 45 students who participated in the Rural Electric Youth Tour. Murrow will attend Duke University this fall to major in political science and neuroscience.
4. The following **Gaston County Schools** students were chosen by the N.C. Softball Coaches Association for the all-state softball team: **Heather Griffiths, Natalie Peregory, Anna Ramsey, and Haley Guenther, Bessemer City; Carley Womack, Tiara Davis, and Gracie Wright, Stuart W. Cramer; and Hannah Bruce, Forestview.** In addition, **Guenther** was named the Class 1A Co-Pitcher of the Year.
5. The following **Gaston County Schools** students were chosen by the N.C. Baseball Coaches Association for the all-state baseball team: **Wesley Summey, Bessemer City; Jared Emory, Cherryville; and Dalton Williams, North Gaston.**
6. **Bessemer City Middle School** received a \$2,500 donation from Gastonia Elks Lodge #1634. The donation will help fund the school’s summer enrichment program. School counselors **Hannah Clements** and **Christy Waldvogel** are the program advisers.
7. The North Carolina High School Athletic Association recognized **Forestview High School** (Big South 3A Conference) and **South Point High School** (Southwestern 2A Conference) as the Wells Fargo Conference Cup champions. The Wells Fargo Cup recognizes schools that achieve the best overall interscholastic athletic performance in each of the state’s four competitive classifications.
8. For the third consecutive year, **Belmont Middle School** won the Gaston County all-sports trophy. In addition, **Chavis Middle School** was voted the winner of the Sportsmanship Award, which is named in honor of longtime **Southwest Middle School** athletic director **Karen Sheppard.**
9. As a community service project, members of the **Hunter Huss High School** football team assisted with construction of two Habitat for Humanity homes.
10. **Gaston County Schools** has 19 schools participating in the Community Eligibility Provision program, which is part of the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 and sponsored by the USDA Food and Nutrition Service. All students at the 19 schools receive free breakfast and lunch meals. The schools qualify for the program based on the number of students eligible to receive free or reduced-price meals.
11. **Bessemer City Middle School** received a \$10,000 grant from Lowe’s Home Improvement to convert an old greenhouse into a sustainable garden and student-use area.
12. **Stuart W. Cramer High School** theater arts teacher **Chuck Stowe** attended the Appalachian Summer Theater Education Program (AppSTEP). AppSTEP is the state’s premier university-based professional development program for theater education. It trains teachers and theater professionals every summer, who in turn influence more than 100,000 North Carolina students each year in theater arts classrooms across the state.
13. **Ashbrook High School** student **Megan Farris** is the recipient of the inaugural Coach Larry Rhodes Athletic Scholarship sponsored by former NBA players and Gastonia native James Worthy. The scholarship is worth \$2,000 and will be applied toward Farris’ education at Elon University where she plans to major in secondary education and special education.

14. **Bessemer City Central Elementary** received a “Tools for Education” grant from Lowe’s Home Improvement. The school will use the \$3,000 grant to create an innovation station in the media center.
15. As part of their final exam, students in the forensic science class at **South Point High School** staged a “murder mystery” event at Stowe Manor in Belmont and put their crime-solving skills to the test. The experience was like playing the “Clue” board game complete with a lot of suspense, fun, and teamwork to solve the “whodunit” mystery.
16. During the Ron L. Ensley grants reception in May, the Gaston County Education Foundation presented two new grants to support the fine arts. The special grants are named in honor of Jennie Stultz, who served as the Foundation’s executive director for 20 years. The grants were presented to teachers **Marty Hutchins** of **Highland School of Technology** and **Peter Haley** of **East Gaston High School**.

- Receive information regarding Summer School Graduation.
- Receive information regarding the Standards Revisions Update for Math and Reading, K-12.
- Consider the Synovia Solutions Contract.
- Consider the Adoption of 2018-2018 Budget Resolution.
- 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.
 - Board Policy Updates.
 - Contracts: Turnitin
- Superintendent’s Comments.
- Closed Session – Award and Personnel.

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