

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 on Monday, June 18, 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 April 16, 2018 meeting.
- Receive the following Good News for June 2018:

1. **Gaston County Schools** had 25 students in the Class of 2018 to earn valedictorian or salutatorian honors. The students were recognized during high school graduation for their commitment to academic excellence.
2. Four students in the Class of 2018 achieved 12 or 13 years of perfect attendance: **Kevin Baker, Ashbrook; Dawson Cody, Cherryville; Allison Langley, Gaston Early College;** and **Matthew Scoggins, North Gaston.** The students received a plaque from the Board of Education during their high school graduation ceremony.
3. **Taylor Park** of **Cramerton Middle School** was named the 2018 Linda Rader New Teacher of the Year, and **Angela Yount** of **Lowell Elementary School** was chosen as the Teacher Assistant of the Year.
4. **Gaston County Schools** had seven schools and four central-level departments that had 100 percent participation to support the United Way fundraising campaign. In addition, eight schools had an increase of more than 50 percent in giving. For the 2017-2018 year, our employees from schools and central-level departments contributed approximately \$99,000 to the United Way to help fund important programs in Gaston County.
5. The N.C. State Board of Education recognized **South Point High School** teacher **Bobbie Cavnar** for serving as an adviser to the state board over the past two years. Cavnar, who was the 2016 Burroughs Wellcome North Carolina Teacher of the Year, provided valuable feedback and shared insight on how state policies influence administrators and educators at the local level.
6. **Todd Hagans**, chief communications officer for **Gaston County Schools**, was elected to serve as president of the N.C. School Public Relations Association for 2018-2019.
7. **Gaston County Schools** held its annual retirement reception on June 12 at the Gaston Country Club to recognize 112 employees who are retiring this year. The employees represent a total of 2,780 years of service to public school education.
8. The **Gaston County Schools** Class of 2018 was awarded more than \$58.6 million in scholarships – a record amount. The scholarships from some of the most prestigious colleges and universities in the state and across the country recognized students for their achievements in academics, athletics, the fine arts, and other areas.
9. Teachers in **Gaston County Schools** received approximately \$50,000 in grants through the Ron L. Ensley grant program sponsored by the Gaston County Education Foundation. The 39 grants support creative classroom activities at schools across the county.
10. The following high school students were awarded the Albert G. Myers Scholarship: **Sidney Baxter, Stuart W. Cramer; Shelden Burrell, Forestview; Chandler Crawford, Hunter Huss; Kaitlyn Haskins, North Gaston; Trevor Larter, East Gaston; Alexander Long, Cherryville; Payton McKinney, North Gaston;** and **Darius Smith, Hunter Huss.**
11. The Gaston County Association of Educational Office Professionals (GCAEOP) presented its 2018 Administrator of the Year award to **Beth Suber**, human resources coordinator, and the Office Professional of the Year honor to **Ashley Duckworth**, human resources specialist. Additionally, **Bessemer City High School** senior **Diasha Hughes** received the GCAEOP scholarship.
12. During the annual Business and Community Partners Reception on May 30, **Gaston County Schools** recognized its partners and celebrated their many contributions to schools. Again this year, the district had more than 400 businesses, organizations, churches, and individuals to step forward to provide time, money, and resources. A highlight of the reception was a musical performance by the Holbrook Middle School chorus, which is directed by Amy Daniel.
13. **Ashbrook High School** choral director **Trip McGill** was honored by Congressman Patrick McHenry, who presented to McGill an American flag from the U.S. Capitol and the Order of the Long Leaf Pine.
14. **Hunter Huss High School** held a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) pinning ceremony to honor nine outstanding students for achieving their nursing certification. The certification positions the students for entry-level jobs after graduation in the healthcare field. The students participating in the ceremony were **Lisa Chea, Peyton Herndon, Jessica Hutto, Jenny Lopez-Saldivar, Kee’Yana Moore, Alexandra Santinelli, Jayla Thomas, Josseline Vega,** and **Zariah Wallace.**
15. **Michelle Ellis**, a science teacher at **Hunter Huss High School**, was selected as a 2018-2019 Kenan Fellow and will partner with Ply Gem for a project titled “Spurring Innovation in Product Creation.”
16. Students from **Holbrook Middle School** participated in a Memorial Day ceremony in Lowell. **Kent Hyde**, a former military serviceman who previously taught and coached at Holbrook and is now at **South Point High School**, was the guest speaker. The ceremony was an opportunity for the school to join with the community in remembering the men and women who gave their lives to defend and protect our country.
17. **Julia Short** of **Stuart W. Cramer High School** was named an All-Star Scholar by The Charlotte Observer. She is one of 10 seniors in the Class of 2018 to be chosen for the regional honor that includes a \$1,000 scholarship. She plans to attend UNC-Chapel Hill.
18. **Emmily Mobley** and **Alex Klasing** of **Stuart W. Cramer High School** competed at the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Mobley received fourth place in the Earth and Environmental Sciences category, and Klasing placed third in the Energy: Physical Sciences category.
19. The United Way of Gaston County recognized Stuart LaFrancis as a Lifetime Achievement Award recipient for his 26 continuous years of service to the **Gaston County Schools** mentoring program. Additionally, Carolyn Niemeyer received the 2018 Governor’s Service Award for her creation and continued administration of the Backpack Weekend Food Program.
20. **Ben Finger** of **North Gaston High School** won the 3-A state championship in pole vault, and **Aveon Reid** of **Forestview High School** won the 3-A state championship in the 110-meter hurdles.
21. **John Delgado** of **Forestview High School** received the Michael A. DeMayo Scholarship valued at \$2,500.
22. **North Gaston High School** senior **Samuel Adams** was awarded a full-time job with Rochling after a successful internship with the company. His teacher, **Terry Cochrane**, was awarded a \$1,000 check for recommending Adams for the program.

23. **Jessica Helton** of **South Point High School** and **Mary Martin** of **Highland School of Technology** received a National Merit Scholarship. Helton plans to attend the University of South Carolina to study medicine, and Martin plans to attend the University of Alabama to study mechanical engineering.
24. **Pinewood Elementary** received a zero-turn lawn mower, backpack blower, and trimmer from Husqvarna.
25. **Brooke Hall** of **Tryon Elementary** raised \$152 by making and selling autism awareness bracelets. The proceeds were donated to Autism Speaks.
26. **Madison Phillbeck** of **Highland School of Technology** won first place in the fall 2017 InvestWrite financial literacy contest.
27. As part of Teacher Appreciation Week, students at the **Gaston Early College High School** volunteered to wash the vehicles of each teacher and staff member.
28. The **W.A. Bess Elementary** student council conducted a “Hands Around Our School” fundraiser to support Holy Angels and collected \$4,277.20.
29. **Chapel Grove Elementary** received \$2,000 worth of teaching supplies from Gastonia Elk Lodge #1634.
30. **Page Primary** was named one of the top 10 schools in North Carolina for collecting money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society’s “Pennies for Patients” program.
31. **Page Primary** media specialist **Bev Cook** received a \$750 grant to add a makerspace to the media center. She also coordinated the distribution of 1,450 books to children. The books were collected through community donations.
32. **Belmont Central Elementary** students **Bella McEntyre**, **Lillian Boyd**, **Lexi Dye**, **Valerie Brown** and **Ashlynn Shuford** were the art contest winners in the Earth Day/Arbor Day celebration.
33. **Belmont Central Elementary** fifth graders **Emmy Dawe** and **James Dover** won awards in Math Olympiad, an academic competition that involves more than 150,000 students. Dawe placed in the top two percent, and Dover placed in the top 10 percent.
34. **Webb Street School** received a \$1,500 work grant from Carmax. Employees from the Gastonia location also provided lunch for students and staff and supplied 20 students with food boxes.
35. The **Cramerton Middle School** Beta Club participated in the “Pennies for Patients” fundraiser and raised nearly \$4,500 for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. **Marilou Christopher** is the school’s Beta Club adviser.
36. The five championship sports teams from **Cramerton Middle School** were recognized by the Cramerton mayor and town commissioners during the council’s meeting on June 7. The school won the golf, boys’ soccer, wrestling, boys’ basketball, and girls’ soccer county championships this year.
37. **Cramerton Middle** teacher **Tracy Black** was selected to participate in a professional development opportunity at the Library of Congress about World War I and primary source documents. Additionally, Career and Technical Education teacher **Greg Springs** attended a professional development program at Ocracoke through the N.C. Center for the Advancement of Teaching (NCCAT).
38. **Cramerton Middle** students **Payton Jacobs** and **Karson Sloop** created and organized a fundraiser for the Levine Children’s Hospital and collected almost \$800.
39. **Cramerton Middle** students **Breanna Cardell**, **Brianna Maga**, and **Lucy Weaver** started a collection drive called “Lending a Paw” for the Tri-County Animal Rescue Center. They collected almost 200 items to donate to the center.
40. The **Cramerton Middle** chorus received several awards at “Festival Disney,” including two third place awards for the girls’ and boys’ ensembles. In addition, eighth grade student **Cameron Williams** received a special “Outstanding Soloist” recognition. **Patty Fayssoux** is the choral director.
41. **Cramerton Middle** art teacher **Brenda Bradley** organized an “Evening of Art and Music” at Floyd & Blackie’s in Cramerton. The event featured artwork and live music performances by students.

- Receive information regarding the School Nutrition 2017-2018 Annual Report.
- Consider the School Nutrition 2018-2019 Bids.
- Receive information regarding the 2018-2019 Budget.
- Consider the 2018-2019 Interim Budget.
- Receive information regarding the Summer Construction Projects.
- Receive information regarding the Annual Surplus Report.
- Receive information regarding the Teacher Induction Program for Success (TIPS).
- Consider the Edgenuity Contract Renewal: High School Credit Recovery and Virtual School.
- Consider the Community Residential Funding.
- Consider the Developmental Day Center Program Funds.
- Consider Verso Learning, Inc.
- Consider Educational Partners International (EPI).
- Receive information regarding the Policy Updates.
- Consider the 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.
 - Construction/Repair Change Orders.
 - Replacement of Classroom Technology.
 - Contracts: Waste Management 2018-2019; Commissioning Services for Belmont Middle School; FAY Innovations, LLC.
- Superintendent’s Comments.
- Closed Session – Consultation with Attorney and Personnel.

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