



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, May 16, 2016, 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 regular meeting, an opportunity will be provided for the public to address the Board.
 - Consider approval of minutes of the March 21, 2016 and April 11, 2016 meetings.
 - Receive the following Good News for May 2016:
1. **South Point High School** students **Avery Horne** and **Jordan Franco** won the North Carolina Moot Court competition. Their adviser is **Melinda Pierce**.
 2. **Emmily Mobley** of **Belmont Middle** captured first place for middle schools and **Kyle Rhodes** of **East Gaston High School** earned third place for high schools in the N.C. Student Academy of Science competition.
 3. **W.C. Friday Middle** teacher **Heather Scercy** received the Mutual of America Community Partnership Award for her service to the Project Unify program. She was honored at a ceremony in Raleigh with state superintendent June Atkinson.
 4. **W.C. Friday Middle School** hosted its fourth annual Career Fair for eighth grade students with 30 local professionals and business representatives talking to students about job opportunities. The event was organized by school counselor **Elizabeth Miller**.
 5. The **Forestview High School** golf team won the 3A state championship. It is the fifth consecutive state golf title for the school.
 6. More than 300 middle school students were given a chance to explore their futures during the first-ever Students@Work Day, a program partnership between **Gaston County Schools** and the Gaston Regional Chamber. Each of the county’s 11 middle schools was paired with an area business, and eighth grade students had the opportunity to tour business facilities, hear from company representatives, and discuss career options.
 7. **Gaston County Schools** had several school teams to participate in the RoboFest regional competition. **Pinewood Elementary** won the first place research project award and had the only team with a perfect score from the judges. In the teamwork challenge category, **Brookside Elementary** won second place and **Carr Elementary** took third place. **Holbrook Middle** finished as the overall runner-up in the middle school contest.
 8. More than 100 teachers from **Gaston County Schools** and the greater Charlotte region came to the first-ever EdCamp Gaston, a professional development “unconference” where attendees developed discussion topics and determined the agenda after arriving for the program. The event was held at **Stuart W. Cramer High School**.
 9. **Ronnie Summey** of **Catawba Heights Elementary** was honored as the Elementary Custodian of the Year at the Keep Gastonia Beautiful awards luncheon.
 10. **Isabella McGinnis**, a **North Belmont Elementary** third grader, won the “Proudest Kid in Gaston County” essay contest. The runner-up was **Bronwen St. Romain** of **New Hope Elementary**. Honorable mentions were **Jacob Grier, Lingerfeldt Elementary; Britain Williams, Sherwood Elementary; and Nayla Garvin, Woodhill Elementary**.
 11. **Ashbrook High School** senior **Mallory Alman** represented **Gaston County Schools** in Houston, Texas at I-SWEEEP, the International Sustainable World Energy, Engineering, and Environment Project. Her work to create plastic from kudzu earned a silver medal and was recognized as one of the top engineering-based science projects in the world.
 12. **Ashley Rimmer’s** English class at **Ashbrook High School** received an e-mail from Michelle Obama in response to a letter they sent as part of a global awareness project.
 13. The ESL (English as a Second Language) class from **Ashbrook High School** took a field trip to the Levine Museum of the New South to view its exhibit, “NUEVolution.”
 14. The **Belmont Middle School** Battle of the Books team won first place in the regional competition for the second year in a row.
 15. The **Belmont Middle** Beta Club sponsored a candy sale and raised \$660 to provide meals for two schoolchildren through the Backpack Weekend Food Program.
 16. The **Bessemer City Central Elementary** student council held a candy sale and collected more than \$450. They chose to make a donation to the Bessemer City Crisis Center.
 17. **Cameron Hall**, a junior at **Bessemer City High School**, qualified for the 1A state golf championship.
 18. The **Bessemer City High School** girls and boys track and field teams won the Southern Piedmont 1A Conference Championship. Senior **Shamila Roberts** was voted Most Valuable Female Field Athlete after winning the long jump and triple jump competitions. **Bryan Nichols** was named the Girls Conference Coach of the Year, and **Chris Lance** was named the Boys Conference Coach of the Year.
 19. **Cayden Bishop**, a sixth grade band student at **Bessemer City Middle**, was named the 2016 Junior Talent Search Brass Winner at the annual Western North Carolina Church of God Teen Talent competition held at the Union Road Church of God in Gastonia.
 20. **Bessemer City Middle School** staff members raised \$850 for the Bessemer City Crisis Center. The center provides assistance for students and families, and the school staff wanted to say “thank you” by helping the crisis center as it relocates to a new building.
 21. **Bessemer City Primary** second graders in **Stacey Messer’s** class received a new American flag. State Representative John Torbett presented the flag to the school.
 22. The Bessemer City Community Garden donated two gardening beds to the second grade classes at **Bessemer City Primary**. The teachers are using the gardening beds to enhance their students’ STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) experience.
 23. The **John Chavis Middle School** seventh and eighth grade bands both earned a superior rating at the Carowinds Festival of Music. **Vickie Whitfield** is the band director.
 24. **John Chavis Middle School** honored **Ilene Dellinger** as the March Teacher of the Month. The Students of the Month were **Breanna Christopher, Katie Ramsey, Skye Reed, Ashley Reep, Hannah Williams, Christian Hahn, Emma Rayfield, Madison Garren** and **Avery Grace Walker**.
 25. **Joshua Higgs**, a seventh grader at **Cramerton Middle**, is the first student in a wheelchair to participate in a regular athletic event at either the middle or high school level. He competed in the 100-meter dash, discus and shot put activities.
 26. **Cramerton Middle** sixth grader **Tala Eid** won first place in the Cramerton Arbor Day art poster contest. Her poster was used to advertise the Arbor Day celebration at Goat Island Park.
 27. The **Cramerton Middle School** chorus groups earned excellent and superior ratings at the N.C. Music Performance Adjudication in Hickory.
 28. Students in **Justin Allison’s** Advanced Art class at **East Gaston High School** participated in the Vans Custom Culture 2016 Contest. Students were challenged to create shoe designs in four categories. The class brainstormed ideas for their shoes, then voted on designs, and collaborated to make their designs a reality.

29. **Costner Elementary School's** student council members held a Penny War to raise money for the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life and collected \$1,708.75.
30. **Forestview High School** student artwork was featured in the Eco-Fab fashion show at Discover You in Mount Holly. **Lilly Gray, Caroline Cabe** and **Whitney Marr**, who are students in **Deborah Hamer's** class, had clothing and jewelry designs on display.
31. **Forestview High School** principal **Chad Carper** and teacher **Al Froneberger** were recognized in the "Best of Gaston 2016" contest sponsored by *The Gaston Gazette*.
32. The April "Do the Right Thing" award winners were **Sheryl Magee, Gardner Park Elementary; Jevante Burton** and **Joshua Woolbright, Mount Holly Middle School;** and **Geraldine Martinez, Hunter Huss High School.**
33. The **Hawks Nest Intermediate School** robotics team presented a demonstration to the Gastonia East Rotary Club. They shared information about being a part of a robotics team, performed their project presentation, and conducted a robot run.
34. Members of the Technology Student Association at **Highland School of Technology** attended the North Carolina TSA Conference. The students placed first, second, or third in eight events that tested their STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) and Career and Technical Education skills. Also, **Alexis Porter** was elected to serve as reporter for the TSA state officer team.
35. **Highland School of Technology's** Future Health Professionals (HOSA) club was named the top chapter in the state and received numerous group awards during the N.C. Future Health Professionals (HOSA) Leadership Conference in Greensboro. Many students earned top 10 finishes in their competitions and qualified to participate in the national conference. Additionally, the school was recognized as the largest district 1A chapter in the state with 128 members and was honored as an Outstanding HOSA Chapter, Gold Star Chapter, and earned Century Club Membership recognition.
36. Students in **Laura Long's** class at **Highland School of Technology** visited WTVI PBS Charlotte and took a tour of the television station. The class also visited the Charlotte Broadcast Hall of Fame and watched a taping of the "Carolina Impact" program.
37. **Highland** students participated in the high school math contest at Lenoir-Rhyne University. The Math II team scored third place out of 16 schools, and **Vaishvi Patel** earned the fourth highest individual score, thus qualifying to participate in the state finals.
38. The following **Highland** students received scholarships: **Ciara Kranzler**, Delta Kappa Gamma Rho Chapter's Ruth Angel Grant-In-Aid Scholarship; **Collin Hill**, District 6 HOSA Scholarship and the N.C. Health Science Education Teachers Association Scholarship; **Kayla McManus-Viana**, Georgia Institute of Technology Scholarship; **Brady Miller**, Scholarship for Military Children; and **Caroline Cole**, Whirlpool Academic Scholarship.
39. **Laura Long**, library media coordinator at **Highland School of Technology**, co-authored an article titled "Dispositions of Exemplary School Librarians" that was published in *Teacher Librarian: The Journal for School Library Professionals*.
40. **Highland** student **Kelsey Best** won first prize in the Rotary 4-Way Challenge essay and speech competition.
41. **Highland** student **Michael Grayson** was selected for a six-week summer internship at the Max Daetwyler Corporation, a machinery and fabrication company.
42. **Highland** student **April Jauri** earned academic scholarships from Wofford College, Furman University, Elon University, and N.C. State University.
43. JROTC cadets from **Hunter Huss High School** volunteered to help with the **Sadler Elementary School** field day. Led by commanding officer **Dale Hague**, the cadets arrived at 7:30 a.m. to set up the stations, then helped to run the events and work with elementary students, and stayed to clean up after the event. The experience gave the students an opportunity to show leadership and service to the community.
44. **Lingerfeldt Elementary** community business partner Chemtura provided art teacher **Matt Psomadakis** with a clay pot for each first grader to paint. Students were also provided soil and seeds as part of celebrating Earth Day.
45. **South Point High School** senior **Reginald Dawkins** received the Paul Fuller Scholarship. The \$1,000 scholarship, which is renewable for four years, is presented to a student who has been involved in the **Gaston County Schools** mentoring program.
46. **South Point** senior **Grace Russell** was awarded a \$2,500 scholarship from the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. As a Merit Scholar, she was chosen from more than 15,000 outstanding finalists in the 2016 National Merit Scholarship Program.
47. **South Point High School** had 13 teams and 153 students to earn scholar-athlete recognition from the N.C. High School Athletic Association for the fall and winter sports seasons. The recognition is based on team and student grade point averages.
48. **Gaston Early College High School** student **Rachael Dewey** received a perfect score on the English and reading portions of the ACT (American College Test).
49. The **Southwest Middle School** cafeteria staff received a rating of 100 percent on the April inspection by the Gaston County Health Department.
50. **Stanley Middle School** eighth grade band students participated in the wreath laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery. **Leah Carpenter, Lillian Warren, Nate Medici** and **Collin Robb** were given the privilege after submitting an essay about what it would mean to them. Band director **Kelly Robb** arranged the opportunity as part of the band's trip to Washington, D.C.
51. The **York Chester Middle School** April Students of the Month were **Tavares Schenck, Dominic Zapata, Colton Shroyer, Ariana Guerrero-Valencia, Rudy Gonzalez** and **Miracle Currence**.
52. **York Chester Middle** collected \$470 through the "Pasta for Pennies" fundraiser to benefit the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.
53. **York Chester Middle** students have read more than 74 million words since the beginning of school. The 55 students who met their Accelerated Reader goal for the third nine weeks were treated to a reward party, and the following 16 students joined the Million Word Club: **Lillian Cohen, Taylor Ramsey, Talya Hunn, Bob Kearley, Crystal Flores, Michelle Murphy, Aiden Kimmons, Kaitlyn Perez, Skylar Kaiser, Makayla McGregory, Steven Zaporta, Faith Moss, Trey Matheson, Beatriz Gonzalez, Ivan Gonzalez,** and **Colton Shroyer.**

- A Classroom Moment.
- Curriculum and Instruction Committee Report.
- Report from Joint Meeting with County Commissioners.
- Receive information regarding the 2016-2017 Budget Update.
- Consider the Gaston College Board of Trustees Appointment.
- Receive information regarding Gaston Links to Success.
- Receive information regarding the Annual Career and Technical Education (CTE) Planning System Grant Renewal and Updates.
- Consider the School Year 2016-2017 Student Paid Lunch Meal Price.
- Consider the School Year 2016-2017 School Nutrition Software Purchase.
- Receive information regarding the Board Standards and Expectations.
- 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 – Consultation with Board Attorney and Personnel.

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