

# 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, November 17, 2014, 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 of the October 6, 2014 and October 20, 2014 meetings.
  - Receive the following Good News:
1. The following **Gaston County Schools** teachers were selected to present at the N.C. Council of Teachers of Mathematics conference: **Diana Baxter, Lowell Elementary; Allison Wells, Gardner Park Elementary; Jennifer Crisp and Selina Bryne, Costner Elementary; Chris Smith and Sarah Crisp, Brookside Elementary;** and curriculum facilitator **Diane Price.**
  2. **Cherryville High School** student **Tanner Jones** was named to the Southern Piedmont 1A All-Conference cross country team.
  3. A special ceremony was held during a recent **Cherryville High** football game to present state championship rings to members of the track team. **Gabriel Branning, Trent Friday, Jamar Wright and Rodolpho "Junior" Martinez** won the 1,600-meter relay race at the state championship meet this past spring.
  4. The **Cherryville High** marching band won several awards during the Pirate Cove Classic competition at Porter Ridge High School. The band earned first place in marching, second place for drum major and color guard, and received an overall superior rating. The color guard also earned fourth place out of 21 bands in the competition.
  5. **Forestview High School** hosted the North Carolina Association of Educational Office Professionals (NCAEOP) district meeting. Gaston County Board of Education Vice Chairman **Jeff Ramsey** and Superintendent of Schools **W. Jeffrey Booker** shared remarks during the opening session, and Chief Communications Officer **Todd Hagans** presented a workshop titled "Lights, Camera, Customer Service!"
  6. **Kirby Widener**, a student at **Gaston Early College High School**, received a merit scholarship from Gardner-Webb University.
  7. The following students were chosen as the November *Do the Right Thing* award winners: **Kevin Walters, Hawks Nest Intermediate; Dorianna Good, Holbrook Middle;** and **Dontavis Walker, East Gaston High School.** The students were honored during a special luncheon at the Gaston Country Club.
  8. The **Stuart W. Cramer High School** wind ensemble was chosen to participate in the Appalachian State University concert band clinic.
  9. **Bessemer City Central Elementary** third grade teacher **Tessley Moss** was named the school's Teacher of the Year for 2014-2015.
  10. **Bessemer City Central Elementary** celebrated Spirit Week to encourage community spirit in conjunction with **Bessemer City High School's** homecoming. Students and staff participated in Superhero Day, Hat Day, Crazy Sock Day and School Spirit Day.
  11. The following **Springfield Elementary** students were recognized as the top fundraisers in the PTO's fall catalog sale: **Kahla Jefferies, Abigail White, Mandalen Darnell, Jayce Martin, Caroline Cox and Taylor Ann Nolan.**
  12. The **John Chavis Middle School** September Students of the Month were **Blair Baker, Sam Kostiuik, Ashlyn Beattie, Chase Abernathy, Richard Gomez, Ashley Richardson, Carter Grace Estes, Logan Barrett and Haley Dover.** Technology teacher **Lance Beam** was named the September Teacher of the Month.
  13. **John Chavis Middle School** eighth grader **Emily Torres** earned second place in the recycled art contest sponsored by Keep Gastonia Beautiful. Her artwork titled *Pineapple Lamp* is currently on display at the Gaston County Public Library.
  14. **John Chavis Middle School** teacher **Kristen Clark** was named the school's Teacher of the Year for 2014-2015.
  15. The following **John Chavis Middle School** students were chosen for the All-County Chorus Festival: **Allie McCloskey, Devon Hannah, Andrey Gorettoy, Katie Branch, Chloe Tate, Caleb Mercer, Macie Drum and Niya Bush. Becca Knowles, Carter Smith and Dawson Moore** were named alternates.
  16. The **Page Primary** September Students of the Month were **Gabriel Paredes-Azamar, William Monteith, Buxton Smith, Leighton Bizzell, Bryson Marler, Eliza Lefler, Avett Pippin, Jackie Pham, Ella Kimble, Taylor Culbertson, Lena Wells, Austin Kellogg, Ka'Leya Watson, Katherine Graham, Elizabeth Schweers and Andrew Brown.**
  17. **Robinson Elementary** first grade teacher **Mary Peeler** was named the school's Teacher of the Year for 2014-2015.
  18. The following **Ashbrook High School** and **Forestview High School** students participated in the Sister Cities "Peace through People" exchange program between Gastonia and Gotha, Germany: **Bailey Chavis, Anna Marie Farrier, Kristian Gravley, Breanna Howe and JaJi Watson** from **Ashbrook** and **Nicolas Aguilar, Daniel Burgess, Melic Cleveland and Max Flores-Palacios** from **Forestview.** The students traveled to Germany this summer to learn more about the German language and culture.
  19. The following **Highland School of Technology** students received college merit scholarships: **Cody Wallen, Lenoir-Rhyne and Gardner-Webb; Autumn Clemins, Wingate University; Noele Jones, Mars Hill College; Hannah Ramsey, Gardner-Webb; and Morgan Young, University of Tennessee.**
  20. The **Highland** Students Against Violence Everywhere (SAVE) club received a grant from the National SAVE organization and the Allstate Foundation to support violence prevention, anti-bullying, and texting while driving awareness activities. Students **Haley Abernathy, Sidney Roberts and Kelsey Best** and SAVE adviser **Ami Parker** had an opportunity to attend the Teen Safe Driving Summit in Raleigh.
  21. **Highland** student **Elise Sweezy** was selected to serve as a Governor's page and will spend a week in Raleigh working in the Governor's Office. The program gives students an opportunity to learn about state government and the importance of public service.
  22. The **Highland** student council sponsors various activities in an effort to perform a good deed each month. In September, the students created welcome cards for new teachers. In October, they sold spirit links and Homecoming t-shirts to donate \$500 and give more than 50 Halloween costumes to the West Gastonia Boys and Girls Club. This month, they are collecting 5,000 cans of food for Crisis Assistance Ministries in Gastonia.
  23. **Sadler Elementary** received a check for more than \$1,600 from the Bridgestone Firestone Trust Fund to give fifth graders an opportunity to participate in the Junior Achievement BizTown program. The students will be involved in a simulation that shows what it is like to operate a city for a day.
  24. **Sadler Elementary** enjoyed a surprise visit from state senator **Kathy Harrington**, who brought a donation of school supplies and toured the school with principal **Rebekah Duncan.** The school also had a surprise visit from country music singer **Jimmy Wayne.**
  25. To celebrate Fire Prevention Week, fourth graders at **Sadler Elementary** participated in a fire safety program conducted by firefighters from the Gastonia Fire Department.
  26. The **Sadler Elementary** School Improvement Team held its first "Hallway Huddle" of the year to recognize the following employees for outstanding contributions to the school: **Phyllis Windham, Nicole Pollard, Charlotte Ware, Troy Winder, Isha Hardin, Edith Benson, Marisela Shumway, Bob Felker, Becky Perkins, Valerie Schoen, Jessica Ellison, Pam Hoffman, Becky Cochran, Ansley Putman and Todd Moser.**
  27. **Pinewood Elementary** sponsored Halloween-themed events in the school library to promote reading. The students were challenged to decorate a pumpkin as a character from their favorite book. The school also held a "Boo, Books and Boogie" family event to support the library's book fair.

28. The **Hawks Nest Intermediate** September Good Citizens were **Candran Hudson, Cayden Greene, Ryan Harris, Aisha Moreau, Gabby James** and **Henry Eisenhuth**. The October Good Citizens were **Kevin Walters, Nate Cheatham, Blake Bostic, Laney Linder, Alexis Childers** and **Elana Vanderbilt**. The November Good Citizens are **Kasey Belton, Holly McHenry, Andie Combs, Ethan Robinson, Ty Pettis** and **Seth Robinson**.
29. The **Carr Elementary** third grade classes presented a musical performance titled "A Spookin' Good Time." The program featured students wearing Halloween costumes and performing "spooky" songs. Music teacher **Stacie Bell** directed the program.
30. **Kiser Elementary** fourth graders participated in a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) program presented by "Rocket Ryan," a scientist who visited the school. The "You Don't Phase Me" program taught the children about the moon.
31. **Kiser Elementary** fifth grade students in **Lauren Calvert's** class pledged to make a difference in the community. To fulfill this pledge, each student selected a book to read aloud to a student in **Jamie Gunter's** third grade class.
32. The **Costner Elementary** Citizens of the Month award winners were **Karter Long, Alyssa Haney, Kaleigh Lewis, Preston Burgess, Addison Norwood, Jackson Livingston, Trace Frietch, Kylie Hubers, Madison Davis, Jaley Long, Rylei Rhyne, Sammy Johnson, Samuel Ugalde, Grace Reid, Claire Hayes, Lani Boye, Reese Sharpe, Addi Handrix, Chloe Worley, Gabe Baker, Peyton Davis, Sara Williams, Makayla McSwain, Nora Reed, Evan Perkins, Lauren Falls** and **Olivia Greeter**.
33. **Stanley Middle School** students in **Angela Erwin's** eighth grade science class created edible race cars.
34. **Lingerfeldt Elementary** received a spirit rock from Lee Construction Company of the Carolinas in Pineville. The school is planning a fundraiser for cancer research and will allow students who donate to write their name on the new spirit rock.
35. The **Sherwood Elementary** September Citizens of the Month were **Jaiden Ellis, David Herrera, Tatiyana Washington, Christian Ali, Eli Glandon, Noah Doyne, James Gordon, Nicolas Miranda, Alexandria Sanders, Iziah Jones, Desmin Froneberger, Trevion Allison, Carson Reed, Rihanna Dorsey, Natalie Commanda, Joe Fargher, Emilie Hernandez, Brianna Rivera, Andrew Ortiz, Haley Roseberry, Shanyae Justice, Kaylee Wilbanks, Faith Rhodarmer, Camren Early, Jackson Sheehan, Tori Richardson, Kate Allen, Skye Reed, Christopher Samaniego** and **Bruce Brown**. The October Citizens of the Month were **Sara Mygatt, Aramis Points, Brayden Pressley, Tala Alzaghari, Nazire Davis, Amani Neely, Jaila Williams, Jana Abu Baker, Nolan Phoummalayvane, Jordan Laverde, Fatimah Abbasi, Emily Laverde, Delayna Edwards, Mia Webster, Bailey Cunningham, Abby Fallin, Emma Langschwager, Alexis Marion, Luke Rumpfelt, Lillie O'Neill, Angie Velasquez, David Morales, Tatiana Hernandez, Samantha Miranda, Aisha Williams, Gabe Wellman, Agustin Iglesias, Jaden Robinson, Jazzmyn Boyce** and **Heaven Pena**.
36. The **Forestview High School** Beta Club and Thespian Society collected 2,700 cans of food for the Shelter of Gaston County to help people affected by domestic violence.
37. **North Gaston High School** received \$2,500 from Walmart to make it possible for ninth and tenth grade students to visit colleges in March.
38. The following **Ashbrook High School** students were selected to participate in the Mars Hill College Choral Festival: **McKenzie Rankin, Caroline Bowyer, Julia Towner, Madeline Swann, Danny Cullum, Moe Al-Nashir, Carter Starnes** and **Cameron Fagala**.
39. The **Ashbrook** student council sponsored a powderpuff football game and raised \$750 for the Gaston Literacy Council.
40. **Ashbrook** student **Xavier Robinson** received a track and field scholarship from Appalachian State University. For the past two years, he has qualified for the state championship meet in the high jump competition.
41. **Ashbrook** student **Allison Bradshaw** received the N.C. English Teacher Association Poet Laureate Award for her poem, "Symphony." She is a student in **Jesse Birnstihl's** English class.
42. For the past two years, **Southwest Middle School** has partnered with First Baptist Church of Gastonia to provide food for students in need. The church has given more than 12,000 pounds of food to the school.
43. **Stanley Middle** math teacher **Andru Lockridge** was invited to present a session at the Association of Middle Level Education national conference in Nashville, Tennessee.
44. The **East Gaston High School** marching band was named the Class 1A-2A Grand Champion at the Chase High School Trojan Tournament of Bands. The band earned first-place honors in the drum major, percussion, color guard and music categories and received the Trojan Pride Award for outstanding sportsmanship during the competition.
45. **East Gaston** theater arts teacher **Jeffrey Beech** was selected to serve as a chaperone for the Broadway Experience program sponsored by the N.C. Blumenthal Performing Arts Center. He will accompany high school students to New York City where they will attend Broadway shows and go behind-the-scenes to learn about theater production.
46. The **Springfield Elementary** September Students of the Month were **R.J. Love, Mason Merrill, Victoria Reep, Caleb Smith, Kameryn Stines, Kendra Anderson, Braeden Cook, Jayla Floyd, Raegan Lilja, Za'Mya Aiken, Hannah Massey, Jacob Featherstone, Erin Dove, Corey Simpson, Gavin Burton, Gavin Mattar, Katelyn Smith, Hunter Hurst, Matthew Gibson, Dakota Bridges, Savannah Brown, Neveah Shelton, Jayce McGinnis, Amelia Shirk, Allison Martinez, Lewis Davis, Kevin Escorcia-Puente, Maddie Walters, Jocelyn Hawkins, Andrew Caudill, Madison Hulett, Anna Rowland, Ashlyn Price, Holly Smith, Alyssa Harrison, Matilda McDaniel, Emma Myers, Devin Trite, Jackson Cope, Paiten Spencer, Makayla Deal, Silas King, Leeland Petty, Brady Gordon, Joseph Hawkins, Justin Garcia, Raymond Savage, Patrick Spake, Autumn Wicks, Ashley York, James Petty, Ethan Lougee, Jacob Rhyne, Kylie Thao, Hannah Jordan** and **Curtis Martin**.
47. The **Springfield Elementary** October Students of the Month were **Lewis Davis, Amina Elliott, Hope Goss, Raelyn Hilton, Rylee Vann, Brayden Green, Ashleigh Fox, Lucy Christenbury, Luke Bryant, Reygan Stowe, Jackson Messer, Ashley Contreras, Lilli Canipe, Kaeden Hutchison, Dalton Rogers, Melody Seigle, Brianna Justice, Kirin Mobes, Zeke Tucker, Aiden Wood, Laila Murphy, Grace Ellen Carpenter, Caiden Seay, Kayla Carithers, Loren Dove, Justin English, Austin Carey, Ella Leophard, Faith Cunningham, Destry Ballard** and **Mahkiya Bickell**.

- Receive information regarding the Master Facilities Planning Committee Update.
- Receive information regarding the Pay for Performance Plan.
- Receive information regarding the Department for Exceptional Children Continuous Improvement Performance Plan.
- Consider the Gaston County School Improvement Plans.
- Consider the American Education Week 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.
- Closed Session – Award, Personnel, and School Safety Plans.
- Superintendent's Comments.