



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, November 16, 2015, 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 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 5, 2015 and October 19, 2015 meetings.
- Receive the following Good News:

1. **Lynne Myers’ class at Mount Holly Middle School** enjoyed a lesson about songwriting that included a FaceTime call with country music star Jimmy Wayne. The students were able to talk with Jimmy Wayne about what he does to create a song.
2. **Hunter Huss High School student Jorge Espinoza** took seventh place in the state 2A cross country championship. Also competing in the state championship were **Landon Maxwell, East Gaston; Bryce Walton, Ashbrook; and Sophia Raspanti, Forestview.**
3. **Board of Education member Dot Guthrie** was appointed to serve on the Publications Committee for the Coretta Scott King Book Awards. She also is serving as national co-chair of the 2017 National Conference of African American Librarians in Atlanta.
4. **Bessemer City High School senior Alex O’Brien** received an art scholarship to attend Gaston College.
5. The **North Gaston High School** theatre students and **Stuart W. Cramer High School** Stagestruck Players earned awards for their performances at the North Carolina Theatre Conference High School Play Festival. The **North Gaston** awards were for Excellence in Characterization and the Barbizon Design and Production Award for Excellence in Stage Management. The **Stuart W. Cramer** awards were for Excellence in Scenic Design, Excellence in Acting, and Excellence in Design and Technical Production.
6. The following high school students qualified for the 3A state golf championship: **Maddy Mathis, North Gaston, Madison Carr, South Point; and Kasey Owenby, Forestview.**
7. The **Cramerton Middle School** October Students of the Month were **Brenton Elliot, Madyson Ross, Riley Biddy, Layne Maitra, Kendall Davis, Haley Pippens, Ella MacArthur, Hunter Hogue, Kaylee Bess, Kelly Inman and Adrian Mistry.**
8. **Forest Heights Elementary** hosted its first START (Share Time and Read Together) workshop on October 30 with many students and their families participating in the program. **Board of Education member Lee Dedmon** visited with the parents and read stories to children.
9. The **York Chester Middle School** “Jazz Collective” band participated in a dinner and music program at the Schiele Museum’s Backcountry Farm. Students **Miguel Escobedo, Niko Huitt, Obet Garcia, Laurynn Thomas, Chase Jefferson and Corinthia Friday** performed for the fundraiser.
10. The **York Chester Middle** student council held a “Pickles for Purple” fundraiser and donated \$103 to the Shelter of Gaston County for Domestic Violence Awareness Month.
11. Teachers and staff at **York Chester Middle** got a surprise from Sam’s Club. Store representatives attended a recent faculty meeting to present \$1,400 in gift cards as part of the Sam’s Club Teacher Appreciation Rewards Program. The teachers received \$50 gift cards to purchase classroom supplies and staff members received \$20 gift cards.
12. **W.C. Friday Middle School** teacher **Heather Scercy** participated in the *Walk Now for Autism Speaks* event with some of her students. Her group raised more than \$500.
13. **W.C. Friday Middle** students **Hunter Thomas and Maria Cisneros** were the school-level winners for the October “Do the Right Thing” awards program.
14. **W.C. Friday Middle** counselor **Elizabeth Miller** introduced the “Career Cafe” program for seventh grade students. The program involves local professionals visiting with students during lunchtime and speaking about their career field. The first program featured a visit by N.C. Senator Kathy Harrington.
15. The **W.C. Friday Middle** October Students of the Month were **Michael Harris, Trinity Gibson, Sarah Rudisill, Isabel Beaty, Jhoselin Dionicio, Ashton Law, Mikayla Hardin, Alyssa Woody, Savannah Baldwin, Devin Ghattt, Rebekah Schulz, Payton Waddell and Brayan Marroquin LeoCampo.**
16. The **John Chavis Middle School** September Students of the Month were **Jackson Fowler, Khya Brooks, Sydney Abernathy, Colton Godfrey, Ashley Sparks, Lavonte Hughes, Kristin Heffner, Jeremy Varela and Trey Brafford.** Eighth grade math teacher **Trista Dye** was named the Teacher of the Month.

17. The **East Gaston High School** cheerleaders supported the PurpleStride fundraising race in Charlotte by cheering for participants as they completed the course. The event raised more than \$245,000 for the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network.
18. **East Gaston High School** students **Shawn Hedgecoe** (first place), **Cameron Tarte** (second place) and **Rachel McFarland** (honorable mention) were winners in the Keep Gastonia Beautiful art contest.
19. **Gardner Park Elementary** observed Red Ribbon Week to encourage students to be drug-free. Students enjoyed many events during the week including a storybook character parade and a door decorating contest.
20. **W.A. Bess Elementary** hosted a storytelling festival for students and teachers in the school's library. Media specialist **Julie Shatterly** coordinated the program that featured Robin Berkman, vice president of the Storytellers Guild of Charlotte, Sara Miller, children's coordinator for the Gaston County Public Library, and storyteller Mel Burton sharing books and stories with the students. The teachers had an opportunity to participate in a writing workshop with educational consultant Rebecca Shoniker.
21. The **Highland School of Technology** girls golf team won their third consecutive conference championship and finished in sixth place at the 1A/2A state championship. Senior **Caroline Cole** placed third in the individual state championship and was named the Conference Player of the Year. Cole and four other teammates received all-conference honors: **Kimberly Shellman, Ashley Lowery, Emily Spargo** and **Rebecca Hester**. The team also includes **Abigail Hester** and **Shelby Miller**.
22. **Highland** student **Jenna Payne** received a merit scholarship from Methodist University.
23. **Lingerfeldt Elementary** sponsored a Parent Involvement Reading Night celebration for students and parents to learn about the curriculum and spend time reading together.
24. **Costner Elementary's** second grade classes received a visit from "Twiggy Tree," the mascot of Keep Gastonia Beautiful and Gaston County Solid Waste and Recycling. "Twiggy" presented a program about materials made from trees and donated to the school library a book titled "We Planted a Tree."
25. **Mount Holly Middle** students collected 470 books, which will be given to children at several elementary schools.
26. **Robinson Elementary** third grade teacher **Amber Litfin** was named the school's Teacher of the Year for 2015-2016.
27. **Stanley Middle School** eighth grader **Jaylin Truesdale** set a Gaston County junior high/middle school football scoring record with 44 points in a single game. The previous record of 38 points was set in 1976.
28. **Stanley Middle** students **Holly Mullen** and **Angel Ruiz** were selected for the North Carolina Honors Chorus. **Jane Bumgarner** is their chorus teacher.
29. The **Stanley Middle** golf team won the Gaston County middle school championship. Team members include **Andrew Gall, Ayden Ledford, Daniel Zeigler, Davon Canipe, Chase Hart, Jay Huffstickler, Logan Kegley, Maddie Miller** and **Anna Trobaugh**. **James Ruppe** is the coach.
30. The **Sherwood Elementary** October Citizens of the Month were **Lydia Spencer, Kalli Stuart, Natalia Garcia, Lucas Baucom, Gabi Maxon, Paloma Quiterio Arcila, Eli Glandon, Azaria Baldwin, Tatiyana Washington, Kendall Howe, Amari Mathieu, Lily Edwards, Vernice Flores, Lee White, Briana Nguyen, Nora Langschwager, Landon Phoummalayvane, Jersie Thomas, Ashley Naranjo Orellana, Alyssa Hanif, Delayna Edwards, Chase Points, Brooke Hayes, Brinda Savalia, Emma Langschwager, Lillie O'Neill, Isabella Shultz, Brittany Calzada, Owen Lovell, Jessica Jeffries, Chamara Hoyle, Siya Patel** and **Christopher Davis**.
31. The **Springfield Elementary** October Students of the Month were **Maria Hurst, Ana Palmer, Carson Hawkins, Bella Chacon, Hannah Colvard, Ava Skibo, Baylen Hulon, Ray Klouse, Dalton Mullis, Connor Chance, Mackenzye Pierre, Cadman Costner, Kayden Rhyne, Cheyene Andronis, Makaylee Gantt, Omar Reyes, Rosalyn Skidmore, Kendra Anderson, Aleah Hartsell, Ryan Clemmer, Ryleigh Martin, Chasity Conrad, Payton Lenox, Kody Kirkland, Bella Somoskey, Hannah Massey, Abigail Price, Blake Cook, Bella Thomas, Blake Wilkinson, Karlee Reid, Rylee Cates, Nyla Johnson, Dakota Bridges, Chris Newell, Emma Doss, Ashlee Huss, Ashleigh Fox, Allison Martinez, Matilda McDaniel, Ashlyn Price, Morgan Waugh, Emma Bumgarner, Madeline Walters, Hannah Somers, Daniella Chacon, Raelyn Hilton, Jy'Kim Hall, Lucy Christenbury, Audrey Anthony, Ryan Kuppel** and **Luke Bryant**.

- Classroom Moment.
- Consider the American Education Week Proclamation.
- Consider the School Improvement Measures.
- Consider the Personalized Education Plans and Transition Plans.
- Curriculum and Instruction Committee Report.
- Operations Committee Report.
- Receive information regarding the CTE (Career and Technical Education) Oversight Committee Update.
- 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 Attorney; Personnel; School Safety Plans.

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