

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, October 21, 2019, 4:00 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 September 16, 2019 meeting.
 - Receive the following Good News for October 2019:
1. **Trey Beyers** of **Ashbrook High School** and **Ray Rose** of **South Point High School** were selected for the 2019 Shrine Bowl of the Carolinas football game.
 2. **Matt Powers** of **Cherryville High School** was named the Southern Piedmont 1-A Girls Golf Coach of the Year.
 3. **Chuck Stowe** of **Stuart W. Cramer High School** was recognized as the 2019-2020 North Carolina Theatre Arts Educators Teacher of the Year.
 4. **Stuart W. Cramer High School** graduate **Emily Harris** was featured in SPARK magazine, which is published by Blumenthal Performing Arts. She received the Mary Doctor Performing Arts Scholarship during the Blumey Awards ceremony in May.
 5. The **Stuart W. Cramer High School** marching band competed at the Enka Land of the Sky Festival and received the following recognition: drum major, second place; color guard, second place; percussion, third place; and an overall superior rating.
 6. **Forestview High School** athletic director **Alan Stewart** received the Charlie Adams Distinguished Service Award for Region 6. The award is presented by the North Carolina High School Athletic Association.
 7. **Ashbrook High School, Bessemer City High School, and Highland School of Technology** were recognized by the North Carolina High School Athletic Association for being ejection-free during the 2018-2019 school year.
 8. **Dylan West** of **East Gaston High School** and **Robert Sanders** of **North Gaston High School** were selected to participate in the Hendrick Engine Builder Showdown. Their test scores on the Automotive Service II end-of-course exam qualified them to be two of 16 students chosen for the program. The event features teams of two students and one Hendrick Motorsports engine builder coach competing to assemble and run a NASCAR Monster Energy Cup Chevrolet engine.
 9. Teachers in **Gaston County Schools** received grants totaling \$45,000 through the Ron L. Ensley grant program sponsored by the Gaston County Education Foundation. This year, 41 grants were presented to teachers to support creative classroom activities at schools across the county.
 10. **Webb Street School** counselor **Jodie Smetak** was honored at the “Women Who Rock” luncheon, which was held at the Gastonia Conference Center. She is one of five women recognized for their role in helping and inspiring other working women in Gaston County.
 11. **Bessemer City High School** held a dedication ceremony to officially name the school’s new state-of-the-art video scoreboard for Linda “Lynn” Wilson.
 12. The September “Do the Right Thing” award winners were **Donavan Moonie** and **Jaheim Topping, Hunter Huss High School; Luke Elders, Bessemer City Middle School; and Hunter Early, W.A. Bess Elementary**. The program recognizes students for acts of kindness and “doing the right thing.”
 13. **W.B. Beam Intermediate School** received new United States and North Carolina flags from the Cherryville American Legion Post 100 and B&B Performance.
 14. **Bessemer City Central Elementary** received a donation of school supplies from Livent.
 15. **John Chavis Middle School** teacher **Troy Winder** received a \$250 grant to purchase books from author James Patterson and Scholastic Books.
 16. Students in the Public Service Academy at **John Chavis Middle School** participated in a program by the Cherryville Fire Department. The students learned what it is like to be a firefighter.
 17. The **Belmont Central Elementary** PTO Color Run event raised more than \$15,000. The funds will be used for teacher wish list items, music and reading programs, and playground and school improvements.
 18. **Belmont Central Elementary** conducted a walking activity for International Walk to School Day. Parents and students met on the ball field and walked around the track.
 19. Students at **W.A. Bess Elementary** enjoyed a program by Erin Hines from the Gaston County Natural Resources Department. She taught a group of fifth grade students about following a raindrop through the water cycle.
 20. Students at **W.A. Bess Elementary** enjoyed a visit from “Hugo the Hornet,” who brought the Charlotte Hornets’ book bus to the school and gave a presentation about the importance of reading.
 21. **Belmont Middle School** eighth grader **Maddon Rollins** was selected for the N.C. Middle School Honors Chorus. Of the 705 students who auditioned, he was the only student selected from Gaston County for the prestigious chorus. **Benjamin McKinnon** is his chorus teacher.
 22. Sixteen students from **Webb Street School** participated in the Carolina Catfish Festival. An anonymous donor sponsored the students’ involvement in the festival.
 23. Classroom Central brought its VROOM truck to **Carr Elementary School**, and more than 150 teachers from across the county had the opportunity to pick up classroom supplies.
 24. The following educators at **Chapel Grove Elementary** received a grant from Pisgah ARP Church: **Lauren Green**, exceptional children teacher; **Janice Kahn**, media specialist; and **Frankie Guempel**, third grade teacher.
 25. The **Ashbrook High School** marching band earned the following awards at the Mount Pleasant High School Showcase of Champions: first place, drum major; first place, percussion; first place, music; and second place overall.
 26. **East Gaston High School** students **Hannah Murrow** and **Rebecca Watts** were selected for the N.C. High School Honors Chorus.
 27. **Cherryville Elementary** hosted a visit from the Southland Dairy Farmers mobile classroom, and the students had the opportunity to learn about the importance of dairy farms.
 28. **Costner Elementary** received a donation of school supplies from First United Methodist Church in Dallas.
 29. Students in the Leadership Academy at **North Gaston High School** visited the Leadership Academy at **Costner Elementary** and greeted students as they arrived at school.
 30. **Gaston Early College High School** and **Carr Elementary** are involved in the Gaston Literacy Council’s reading soul mates program. Every Friday, a group of high school students spend time reading books with second grade students.

31. **Hawks Nest STEAM Academy** collected more than 1,000 items for Levine Children's Hospital as part of the school's "Make Your Mark" campaign.
32. **Highland School of Technology** student **Grace Smith** was named the Southern Piedmont 1-A Golf Player of the Year.
33. The **Hunter Huss High School** band program received a donation of more than 100 musical instruments and \$2,000 from National Pawn.
34. The Career Academy at **Hunter Huss High School** has started its second year of involvement in the Talent and Prosperity Program with the Gaston Regional Chamber. Health science students visited Holy Angels and CaroMont Health to gain a better understanding of the healthcare field. They also are learning how to apply for jobs, practice their interview skills, and prepare for a career after graduation.
35. The **Hunter Huss High School** football team visited the African American History Museum of Gaston County. The visit was sponsored by State Farm insurance agent Anthony Gallant.
36. **Hunter Huss High School** graduate **Matthew Williams** attended the National SkillsUSA competition over the summer in Louisville, Kentucky. He competed in the medical math category and finished 19th in the nation. Additionally, graduate **Aliya Wilson** received a gold medal at the National FCCLA (Family, Community, and Career Leaders of America) competition as an environmental ambassador.
37. Student-athletes from **Hunter Huss High School** joined staff members at **Robinson Elementary** to open car doors and greet students as they arrived at school.
38. As part of the "Day of Caring" program, business and community partner Vallen Corporation completed a landscaping project and planted a garden at **North Belmont Elementary**.
39. The **Page Primary** dance-a-thon raised more than \$17,000 to purchase new books for the school's media center. As part of Fire Prevention Week, firefighters from the Belmont Fire Department visited the school to talk about fire safety.
40. **Pinewood Elementary** purchased 79 Chromebook computers with funds raised through the school's PTO Color Fun Run.
41. **Robinson Elementary** held a Parent Academy Night, and parents had the opportunity to meet with their child's teacher and learn how they can help their child at home with their school work.
42. **Sadler Elementary** held a Reading Night celebration for students and parents to learn about the curriculum and spend time reading together. Additionally, Elevation Church provided treats for teachers and staff.
43. **Sadler Elementary** received boxes of crayons from the United Veterans of America, and the school received more than \$2,000 in grants from Pisgah ARP Church through the generosity of the Kenley Estate Committee.
44. **Sherwood Elementary** students learned about the history of rock and roll through art and music. They danced to their own rock music, created their own rock beats using rhythm sticks, and used their imaginations to design their own rock and roll pictures.
45. The **South Point High School** marching band competed in the **Forestview High School** Jaguar Classic and earned the following awards: best percussion, best color guard, first place in the 3-A band category, and grand champion.
46. The **South Point High School** cross country team won third place for community outreach at the United Way Cross Country Invitational in Newton. For their community outreach project, team members helped with a literacy campaign at **Page Primary** to get students interested in reading.

- Consider the National Principals Month Proclamation.
- Classroom Moment.
- Operations Committee Report.
- Curriculum and Instruction Committee Report.
- Receive information regarding the School Improvement Plans for Low-Performing Schools.
- 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.
 - School-Justice Partnership Agreement.
 - NCSBA Board of Directors.
 - Student Promotion and Accountability Policy 3420 Update.
 - Contracts:
 - Curriculum Associates Professional Development.
 - Community Residential Funds.
 - Chromebook Replacement.
 - Holbrook Middle School – Life Safety Replacement.
 - Pinewood Elementary School – Life Safety Replacement.
 - Tryon Elementary School – Filter Bed Replacement.
 - North Gaston High School – Tennis Court Renovation.
 - School Nutrition – Freezer/Dry Storage Addition.
 - School Business Systems Modernization Project Manager.
- Superintendent's Comments.
- Closed Session – Award, Personnel, and Consultation with Attorney.

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