



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, September 21, 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 August 17, 2015 meeting.
- Receive the following Good News:

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Belmont Middle and Belmont Central Elementary received a donation of school supplies valued at \$1,000 from the employees of Duke Energy’s Allen Plant. Many of the employees also volunteered their time over two days at Belmont Middle working on landscaping and campus beautification projects. 2. Warlick Academy partnered with Bimbo Bakeries in Ranlo to establish a nine-hole disc golf course on the school campus for student and community use. A ribbon cutting ceremony was held to celebrate the official opening of the course. Contributing community partners include Crisp Printers, A.J. Lawn and Landscaping, and Sunbelt Rentals. 3. Gaston County Board of Education vice chairman Jeff Ramsey was featured in an article about Cramerton in “The Guide to Belmont & Mount Holly” magazine published by the Montcross Area Chamber of Commerce. 4. More than 8,500 school supplies were donated to Gaston County Schools through the annual “School Tools” drive. The U.S. Post Office collected donations from mailboxes on Saturday, August 8, and volunteers from the United Way of Gaston County and Greater Gaston Baptist Association helped with the collection. McKenney Chevrolet, Ashley Furniture, <i>The Gaston Gazette</i>, and Showmars also collected donations for Gaston County Schools through the “School Tools” campaign. 5. For the third year in a row, the Highland School of Technology FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America) earned national recognition. The school received the FBLA’s Hollis and Kitty Guy Gold Seal Chapter Award of Merit for its excellence in student involvement, community service and achievement at competitions. Highland had 12 students compete at the national conference after earning first, second or third place awards in the state competition. 6. Highland media specialist Laura Long invited WBTV news anchor John Carter to visit with her students. He spent the morning discussing television broadcasting with the class. 7. Highland student Alex Bradley served as a page in the North Carolina Senate. He was sponsored by Senator Kathy Harrington. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. The following Highland students received merit scholarships: Jenna Payne, Wingate University and Campbell University; and Savannah Lawing, Wingate University. 9. South Point High School student Grace Russell was selected as a semi-finalist in the National Merit Scholarship Program. She is one of approximately 16,000 students across the country chosen for this honor and will continue in the competition for the National Merit Scholarship. 10. Cherryville High School received a donation of 51 flat-screen computer monitors from CaroMont Health. The equipment replaced older box monitors in one computer lab and in some classrooms. 11. East Gaston High School conducted a “Pasta for Pennies” fundraiser and collected \$2,220.27 for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Sharon Dillard, Career and Technical Education teacher, served as the school’s campaign coordinator. East Gaston was part of a team effort of more than 500 schools that raised a total of \$730,000 across North Carolina. 12. For the second consecutive year, Robinson Elementary hosted a back-to-school event for families and students in the Hoffman Homes community. Teachers boarded a bus and brought back-to-school packets to children who were unable to attend orientation. The PTO provided a pizza lunch and school supplies and teachers played games with the students. 13. Costner Elementary received a donation of 600 bookbags filled with school supplies from Owens Corning in partnership with the United Way of Gaston County. 14. Students from Gardner Park Elementary, Lingerfeldt Elementary and Forest Heights Elementary enjoyed a visit from “Hugo the Hornet” and his “Book Bus.” The Charlotte Hornets mascot gave a presentation about the importance of reading. Thirty students from each school were able to board the “Book Bus” and select a book to take home. 15. Books-A-Million in Gastonia hosted a month-long book donation drive for Brookside Elementary, Belmont Middle and East Gaston High School. The store collected 932 books valued at \$8,325.16 that were donated to the schools. |
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16. **W.C. Friday Middle School** hosted a September 11th Remembrance Ceremony around the school's flag pole. Band and music teacher **Cindy Owens** coordinated the program, which was attended by approximately 150 students, faculty and staff.
17. **Lingerfeldt Elementary** received 500 school supply kits for students as part of Classroom Central's *Backpack and Basics* program. The supplies valued at \$15,740 were the result of funds donated by the Carolina Panthers Children's Charities and Classroom Central.
18. The staff of **Gaston Early College High School** volunteered their time to work on a school beautification project at **Carr Elementary**. They planted flowers, spread mulch and also helped clean and organize inside the school. The **Carr Elementary** PTO provided funds for the project.
19. **Carr Elementary** music teacher **Stacie Bell** received \$300 from DonorsChoose.org to buy five ukulele starter packs for her classes.
20. **Patti Updike**, media coordinator at **Carr Elementary**, won a \$2,000 grant for the school library from the Scholastic Reading Club and James Patterson's \$1.5 Million Pledge to School Libraries. The funds will be used to support the school's classroom reading clubs
21. During the second week of school, **Ashbrook High School** athletes joined **Sherwood Elementary** staff members to open car doors and greet students as they arrived at school. Ashbrook also offered free admission to Sherwood students at the Friday night football game.
22. **Sherwood Elementary** second grade teacher **Tonya Dye** was named a Discovery Education Network STAR Teacher. She is now part of a global community of education professionals who are passionate about transforming students' learning experiences with digital media.
23. The **Southwest Middle School** football team spent a Saturday morning volunteering their time to complete a school beautification project. Parents also volunteered and provided drinks, pizza and snacks.
24. Students and teachers from **Woodhill Elementary** and **Highland School of Technology** collaborated to observe International Dot Day, a celebration of creativity and courage based on the children's book, "The Dot." Highland students in **Laura Long's** and **Marty Hutchins'** classes read "The Dot" over Skype to **Sherri Poole's** and **Tonya Stone's** classes, and Woodhill art teacher **Lacey Dellinger** had her classes make abstract "dot" artwork. The events were organized by **Edie Crook**, the media specialist at **Woodhill**.
25. **Woodhill Elementary** received a donation of more than \$3,500 in school supplies from the Daimler Gastonia Plant. This is the fourth consecutive year the company has partnered with the school. The Daimler UAW also donated \$250 to the school.

- Elementary Classroom Moment.
- Secondary Classroom Moment.
- Receive information regarding the Curriculum and Instruction Newsletter.
- Receive information regarding the 2015-2016 Budget Update.
- Curriculum and Instruction Committee Report.
- Operations Committee Report.
- 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.
- Superintendent's Comments.
- Closed Session - Personnel.

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