



**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, September 19, 2016, 5:30 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 regular monthly meeting, the public has an opportunity to address the Board.
  - Receive the following Good News for September 2016:
1. **Gaston County Schools** received a pickup truck load of school supplies from Gastonia Nissan’s third annual “Fill the Frontier” collection drive. Social workers from seven schools visited the dealership recently to receive the supplies, which were distributed to their students.
  2. The graduation rate for **Gaston County Schools** increased to 88 percent, which is the highest rate ever for the school district. Since the state first calculated the graduation rate in 2006, Gaston County has increased 19.9 points from 68.1 percent in 2006 to 88 percent in 2016.
  3. The overall student proficiency rate on the state end-of-grade and end-of-course tests has increased for **Gaston County Schools**. The proficiency rate for the 2015-2016 academic year is 52.9 percent compared to 50.4 percent the previous year. Additionally, the district had more schools to meet or exceed academic growth expectations. This year, 84 percent of schools met or exceeded academic growth compared to 75 percent in 2014-2015.
  4. Students at **W.A. Bess Elementary, Gardner Park Elementary** and **Kiser Elementary** enjoyed a visit from “Hugo the Hornet,” who brought the Charlotte Hornets’ book bus to the schools and gave a fun presentation about the importance of reading.
  5. **Cherryville High School** volleyball coach **Leigh Kiser** earned her 100th career coaching victory.
  6. **Cherryville High School** senior **Bayleigh Henley** received the N.C. High School Athletic Association’s Performance of the Week Award, which is sponsored by the Time Warner Cable Sports Channel. She is a member of the school’s volleyball team.
  7. **Stanley Middle School** teacher **Jill Hendrix** spent six weeks in Panama over the summer training teachers to teach English. She was one of 20 educators chosen from more than 160 applicants nationwide to participate in the Panama Teacher Match, a program funded by the U.S. Embassy of Panama.
  8. **Stuart W. Cramer High School** teacher **Jo Margolis** was selected as a Claes Nobel Educator of Distinction by the student members of the National Society of High School Scholars. Students nominate the teacher who has made the most significant contribution to their academic career for the award.
  9. **Gaston Early College High School** was recognized in the Jostens National Yearbook of Excellence program for its 2016 publication. The Early College was one of only 27 schools in the state to receive the award. **Russ Paul** is the yearbook adviser.
  10. **Robinson Elementary** teachers **Amber Litfin** and **Tammy Holland** received a \$4,999 grant from Times Oil Company for the “makerspace” room they created at the school, which allows students to design projects using a variety of materials. This is the second grant the teachers have received for the project.
  11. **Robinson Elementary** received a donation of school supplies from Gaston Christian Church in Belmont. Youth minister Ken Osterbrook presented teacher tote bags full of supplies to the school.
  12. Four high school English teachers **Caitlin Floyd (Stuart W. Cramer)**, **Melanie Hawkins (Cherryville)**, **Holly Scoggins (North Gaston)** and **Melanie Weaver (Highland)** along with curriculum facilitator **Celeste Sadler** participated in the “Teaching English II: Enrich the Mind and Scores Will Follow” seminar at the N.C. Center for the Advancement of Teaching in Cullowhee.
- Classroom Moment.
  - Receive information regarding the READY results.
  - Receive information regarding the Update on Human Resources.
  - Receive information regarding the Board of Education Committee Report.
    - Operations Committee
  - Consider the Resolution to Request Allocation of 2007 Bond Funds.
  - 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
    - Policy Updates
  - Superintendent’s Comments.
  - Closed Session – Personnel.

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