

Gaston County Schools
Board of Education
Monday, August 20, 2018
Meeting 5:30 p.m.

Minutes

The Gaston County Board of Education met in a regular session on Monday, August 20, 2018 in the Board Room, 943 Osceola Street, Gastonia, NC. Those Board members in attendance were: Chairman Kevin Collier, Vice Chairman Jeff Ramsey, Dot Cherry, Justin Davis, Lee Dedmon, Dot Guthrie and Brent Moore, Catherine Roberts and Terry Usery.

Additional attendees include: Superintendent W. Jeffrey Booker, Attorney Sonya McGraw, Associate Superintendents Dr. Melissa Balknight, Gary Hoskins, Assistant Superintendent Cindee Matson, Chief Communications Officer Todd Hagans and Board Clerk Dana Luoto.

Chairman Collier called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m. and welcomed everyone.

Invocation

Superintendent Booker led everyone in a moment of silence for former Superintendent Dr. Edward D. Sadler, Jr. and the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance

Superintendent Booker led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda Adoption - Action

The Board considered Agenda Adoption – Action

Chairman Collier amended item F under Consent Agenda – Math Resource Renewals. This item will remain on the Consent Agenda and the new title is - Digital and Print Resources for Kindergarten through Eighth Grade.

Motion to adopt the Agenda as amended was made by Mr. Lee Dedmon seconded by Mr. Jeff Ramsey motion carried unanimously. (9-0)

Good News – Information

Superintendent Booker recognized Jason Mammano and Katherine Leatherman both from our Technology Department. Each year, the International Society for Technology in Education hosts a global conference for more than 18,000 attendees where they attend interactive technology presentations. There were 735 proposals submitted for presentations this year, and only 110 proposals were accepted.

For the first time in Gaston County Schools' history, two of our technology department employees were chosen to present at the international conference.

Jason and Katherine presented a session titled "The Copyless Classroom," which blends the use of digital tools and notetaking strategies in the classroom.

Mrs. Dot Guthrie presented a Certificate of Recognition to Jason and Katherine.

Superintendent Booker recognized 14 our schools for their involvement with the "Pennies for Patients" fundraising program for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

"Pennies for Patients encourages elementary and middle schools to raise money for Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

Tonight, we want to recognize schools that have raised more than \$10,000 for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society since the fundraising efforts began in Gaston County.

The following schools collected more than \$10,000:

Mount Holly Middle
Woodhill Elementary
Hawks Nest STEAM Academy
Sadler Elementary
Cramerton Middle
New Hope Elementary
W.C. Friday Middle
Bessemer City Central Elementary
W.B. Beam Intermediate

The following schools collected more than \$15,000

Robinson Elementary
Sherwood Elementary
Page Primary

We would also like to mention that Page Primary had the sixth highest fundraising school total in North Carolina last year.

Our top donors – Stanley Middle School and East Gaston High School -- have raised more than \$30,000 during their multi-year participation in the "Pennies for Patients" fundraising program.

Ms. Robin Shaw from the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society expressed her appreciation to the schools and the Board of Education and presented a Community Partnership Award to Gaston County Schools.

Mr. Justin Davis presented a Certificate of Recognition to each school representative.

Public Expression – Information

Rebby Kern
3800 Monroe Road
Charlotte, NC
RE: Supporting LGBTQ Students in Gaston County

Approval/Correction of Minutes – Action

The Board considered Approval of Minutes – Action

Motion to adopt minutes of June 18, 2018, July 9, 2018 and July 23, 2018 as presented was made by Ms. Dot Cherry; seconded by Mrs. Dot Guthrie motion carried unanimously. (9-0)

New Schools Construction Update- Information

Chairman Collier recognized Mr. Hoskins who presented a PowerPoint on New Schools Construction Update.

Mr. Hoskins introduced Mr. David Bellamy, architect with LS3P and LS3P staff members, Marques Moore and Glenn Suggs, who presented a PowerPoint on New Schools Construction Update for Belmont Middle School.

(View PowerPoint.)

Summer Projects Update – Information

Chairman Collier recognized Dr. Morgen Houchard who presented a PowerPoint on Summer Projects Update - 2018.

(View PowerPoint)

Insurance Update – Information

Chairman Collier recognized Mr. Gary Hoskins who gave an insurance update. Highlights included:

Every year we secure insurance coverage for a variety of claims and we bid out our insurance every three (3) years. This year we renewed with our existing carrier.

We have experienced a reduction in our worker's compensation due to the hiring of a safety officer several years ago and starting a safety program. We are starting to see our worker's compensation claims go down.

Out-of-County Tuition - Action

Chairman Collier recognized Mr. Gary Hoskins who gave an update on out-of-county tuition. Highlights included:

Every year we have students that attend Gaston County Schools that do not reside in Gaston County and some that do not live in North Carolina. The recommended tuition rate for 2018-2019 is \$1,574 per pupil. This amount represents the local per pupil allocation for the current school year. Out of state students would also be required to pay an additional \$5,640 to reimburse Gaston County Schools for the state per pupil appropriation.

Mr. Hoskins requested approval of the 2018-2019 tuition rate for GCS students domiciled outside of Gaston County and for GCS students domiciled outside of North Carolina.

Motion

The Motion was made by Mr. Lee Dedmon; seconded by Mr. Jeff Ramsey that the Board
Approve the 2018-2019 tuition rate of \$1,574 for GCS students domiciled outside of Gaston County and an additional \$5,640 for GCS students domiciled outside of North Carolina.

A vote was taken and motion to approve the item as presented carried unanimously. (9-0)

Awarded Grants - Information

Chairman Collier recognized Dr. Melissa Balknight who introduced Mr. Chad Duncan, Director of Athletics, and Mr. Philip Ratchford, Coordinator of Afterschool Programs, who presented a PowerPoint on Awarded Grants.

(View PowerPoint.)

Replacement of Network Equipment - Action

Chairman Collier recognized Mrs. Cindee Matson who gave an update on replacement of network equipment. Highlights included:

To protect the Gaston County Schools network and allow it to function at the latest updates and patches TSS must replace end-of-life and failing equipment at our sites. This includes switches and access points. TSS will use funds from their budget.

Motion

The Motion was made by Mr. Jeff Ramsey; seconded by Mr. Brent Moore that the Board
Give authority to purchase switches and access points as needed to maintain connectivity to our sites.

A vote was taken and motion to approve the item as presented carried unanimously. (9-0)

Back-to-School Update – Information

Chairman Collier recognized Mr. Todd Hagans who presented a PowerPoint on Back to School Update.

(View PowerPoint.)

Consent Agenda – Action

The Board considered the Consent Agenda; (1) Recommended Personnel; (2) Budget Amendments & Budget Transfers; (3) Construction/Repair Change Orders; (4) Sewer Easement; (5) Purchase/Replace Maintenance Truck; (6) Contracts – Specialized Student Transportation, Synovia Solutions Contract Update, Leveled Literacy Intervention Kits for New Title I Schools, Digital and Print Resources for Kindergarten through Eighth Grade, Student Assignment Management System, Community Residential Funding through the Department of Public Instruction and Blackboard Contract Renewal.

Motion to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented was made by Ms. Dot Cherry; seconded by Mr. Jeff Ramsey motion carried unanimously. (9-0)

Superintendent's Comments

Superintendent Booker gave a big “thank you” to the Board of Education for their support as we move forward into a new school year and to administrators, teachers, other school support staff and central level departments for working diligently to ensure we have a smooth opening on Monday.

Superintendent Booker reported that State Superintendent Mark Johnson will be in our district tomorrow. He will visit several of our schools in the morning and drop in on our professional development mini-conferences to greet teachers and see what we are doing to prepare for the new school year.

Superintendent Booker reported we are looking forward to our Convocation celebration on Wednesday. The sessions are at 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. at Stuart W. Cramer High School.

We are going to have an exciting new school year and many great opportunities in the year ahead, and many great reasons to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Gaston County Schools.

Chairman Collier read a letter from the North Carolina School Boards Association concerning two-year vacancies available in our districts. Board Members interested in submitting an application please see Chairman Collier. Applications must be submitted before October 5, 2018.

Closed Session

Chairman Collier asked the Board to consider going into Closed Session under, N.C.G.S. §143-318.11(a)(3) Consultation with Attorney and N.C.G.S. §143-318.11(a)(6) Personnel.

Motion to go into Closed Session was made by Mr. Terry Usery; seconded by Mrs. Dot Guthrie motion carried unanimously. (9-0)

The Board went into Closed Session at 7:09 p.m.

The Board returned to Open Session at 8:13 p.m.

Motion

The Motion was made by Ms. Dot Cherry; seconded by Mr. Terry Usery that the Board
Approve Assistant Principal New Hire Contract for two (2) years beginning August 2018 – June 30, 2020

•Kimberly Reese

A vote was taken and motion to approve the item as presented carried unanimously. (8-0)
(Ms. Roberts left after Regular Meeting.)

Chairman Collier reported during Closed Session we had an evaluation of the Superintendent and he received high marks from all of our Board Members.

Board Comments:

- Leadership style continues to move our system in a positive direction
- Doing a great job and is visible
- Doing an extraordinary job
- Has developed partnerships and relationships with all groups in the county
- The school system is going in the right direction under his leadership

Motion

The Motion was made by Mr. Jeff Ramsey; seconded by Mrs. Dot Guthrie that the Board
**Give Superintendent Booker a 5% raise for his 2017-2018 salary beginning
July 1, 2018.**

A vote was taken and motion to approve the item as presented carried unanimously. (8-0)

Adjournment

All business having been conducted, Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Lee Dedmon;
seconded by Mr. Justin Davis motion carried unanimously. (8-0)

The Board Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Approved:



Kevin L. Collier, Chairman
[Corporate Seal]


W. Jeffrey Booker, Secretary

Date Approved:

9/17/2018

Board of Education Meeting



August 20, 2018
New Schools Construction Update

Pleasant Ridge Elementary



Celebrate! Gaston County Schools



Pleasant Ridge Elementary



Celebrate! Gaston County Schools



Pleasant Ridge Elementary



Celebrate! Gaston County Schools



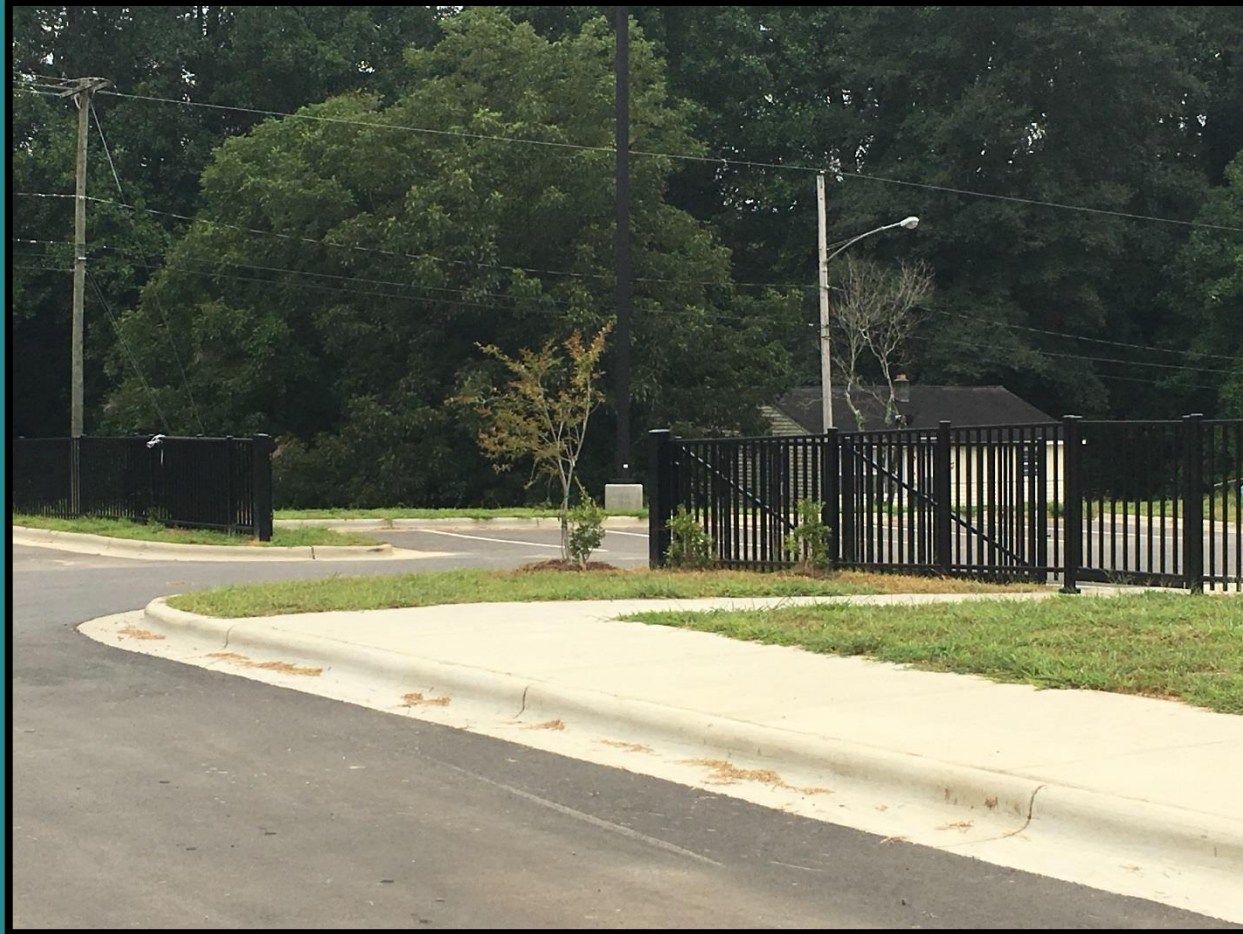
Pleasant Ridge Elementary



Celebrate! Gaston County Schools



Pleasant Ridge Elementary



Celebrate! Gaston County Schools



Stanley Middle



Celebrate! Gaston County Schools



Stanley Middle



Celebrate! Gaston County Schools



Stanley Middle



Celebrate! Gaston County Schools



Stanley Middle



Celebrate! Gaston County Schools



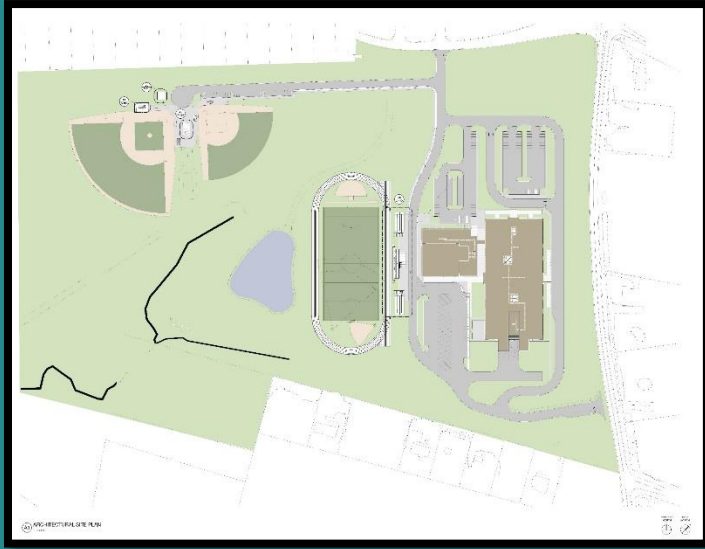
Stanley Middle



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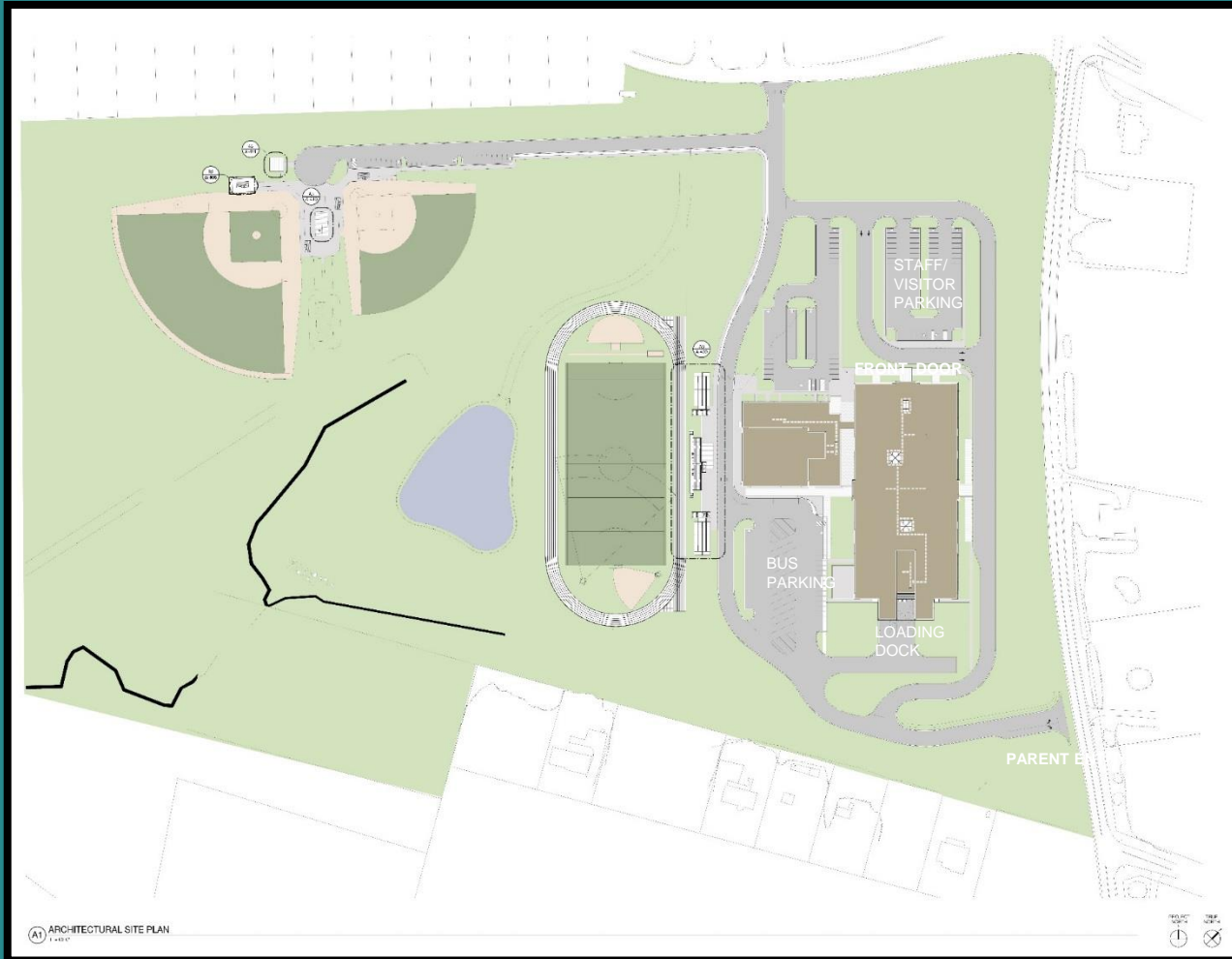
Belmont Middle



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Belmont Middle Site Plan



- Separate Bus / Parent Entrance
- 14 Bus Spaces
- 200 Parking Spaces
- Stacking for 100 Cars
- 500 Seat Bleachers
- 300' Baseball Field
- 6 Lane Track
- Restroom / Fieldhouse
- Field Equipment Storage

Belmont Middle Floor Plan



- 1,000 Students
- 1,200 Core
- Compact Plan
- Controlled Access
- Middle School Concept
- Separate Grade Levels
- 43 Core Classrooms
- 10 CTE / Arts
- Media Center
- 1,275 Seat Gymnasium
- 422 Seat Dining
- 905 Seat Cafetorium

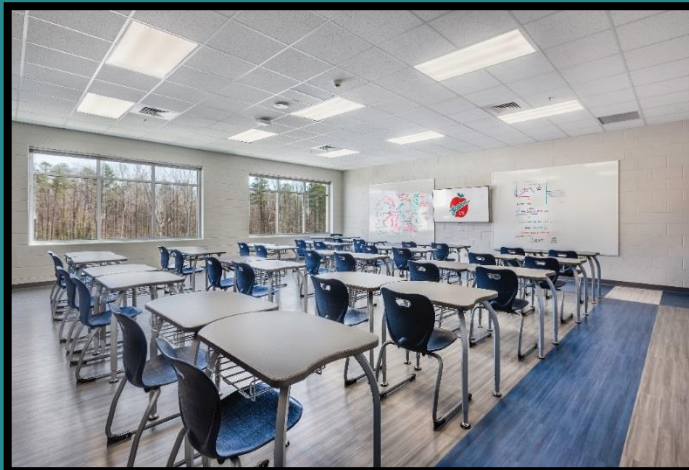
Belmont Middle Exterior Rendering



Celebrate! Gaston County Schools



Belmont Middle Classrooms



- Comparable to Stanley MS
- 30 Student Classrooms
- Colors will be Navy and Green for Belmont MS



Celebrate! Gaston County Schools



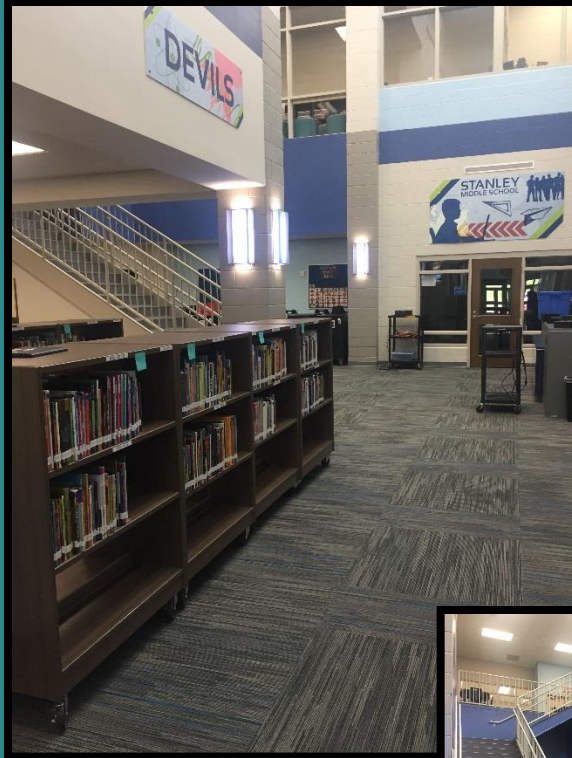
Belmont Middle Main Entry



- Secured Vestibule
- Relocated Main Entry Stairs
- Colors will be Navy and Green for Belmont MS

Belmont Middle Media Center

- One Story
- Natural Light
- Floating Ceiling Clouds



Belmont Middle Timeline

- May 25, 2018 – Design Development Package
- June 28, 2018 – 50% Construction Documents Package
- August 24, 2018 – 100% Construction Documents Package
- September 02, 2018 – Drawings Issued for Bid
- October 02, 2018 – Bid Opening

- October 30, 2018 – County Bond Sale Date

- December 2018 – Site Work Begins
- Spring 2021 – Construction Complete
- Spring 2021 – Begin Move In Process
- Summer 2021 – Open for the 2021-2022 School Year

- 24 Month Construction Schedule

Discussion



Stanley Middle



Belmont Middle



Pleasant Ridge Elementary

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Gaston County Board of Education

Auxiliary Services Summer Projects Update - 2018

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Media Center Upgrades

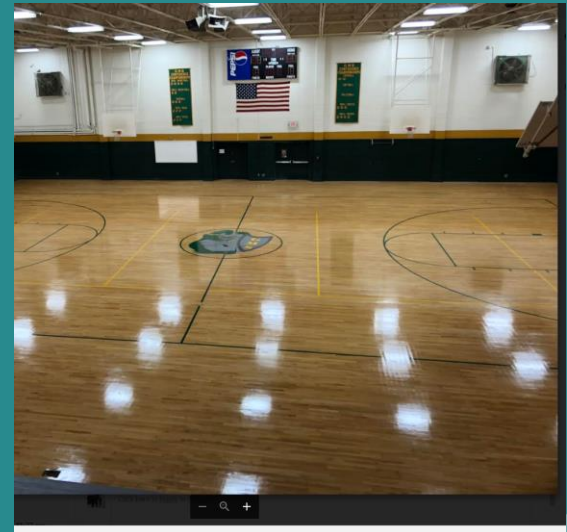
- Sherwood Elementary
- Bessemer City Central
- Southwest Middle
- H.H. Beam Elementary
- York Chester Middle
- N. Belmont Elementary
- Tryon Elementary
- W. A. Bess Elementary
- W. C. Friday Middle
- Pinewood Elementary

Plumbing County Wide

- Grease Traps and Lift Stations
- Sewer Line Replacements
- Kitchen Drain Systems
- Well House at Tryon Elementary
- Water Heaters
- Various Maintenance Issues

Gymnasium Flooring

- Restore Gym Flooring
 - Hunter Huss High
 - East Gaston High
 - North Gaston High
 - Grier Middle
- Floors Screened and Coated
 - Middle Schools
 - High Schools



Lighting

- Canopy Lighting - LED
 - 8 Schools
- LED Wall Packs
 - 2 Schools
- Parking Lot Lighting
 - 2 Schools
- Lighting Maintenance
 - All Schools



County Wide Projects

- Repurposed Computer Labs
- Security Fencing
- Walls to Improve Classroom Instruction
- Office Improvements
- Flooring Improvements
- Relocation of Modular Units
- Asphalt Repairs
- Concrete Repairs and Replacement



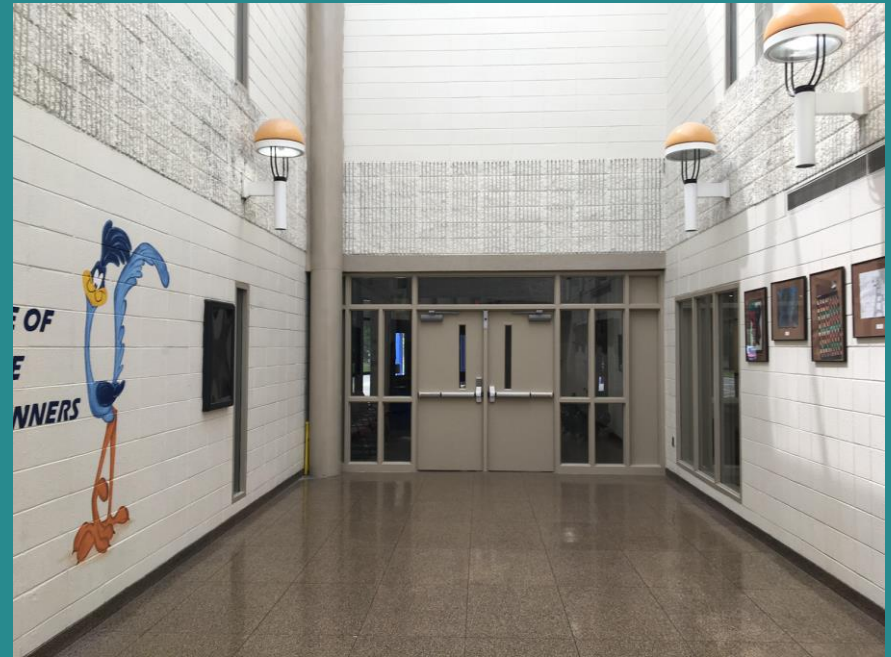
Access Entry

Mount Holly Middle School



Access Entry

Southwest Middle School



Access Entry

Ashbrook High School



Thank You!



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Awarded Grants

Board of Education Meeting
August 20, 2018



Promoting Adolescent Health Grant

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Promoting Adolescent Health Grant

Overview

- Promoting Adolescent Health through School-Based HIV Prevention Grant
 - Partners
 - NC DPI, Healthy Schools Section
 - Gaston County DHHS
 - NC School Health Training Center
 - Grant funded by Centers of Disease Control (CDC)
 - 5 year project
 - \$1.6 million

Promoting Adolescent Health Grant

Purpose

- Continue to provide the most current, data driven Health Education to our Middle School and High School students
- Support Health Education teachers day-to-day
- Provide additional Health Education trainings
- Further develop Health Education practices
- Collect and analyze trend data to inform practices
 - Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance (YRBS) Survey
 - School Health Profile Survey

Promoting Adolescent Health Grant

New Positions

- Health Curriculum Facilitator
 - Support health teachers day-to-day
 - Ensure consistency in every health classroom
 - Develop resource materials for health teachers

- Data and Evaluation Specialist
 - Conduct Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance (YRBS) Survey
 - Conduct School Health Profile Survey
 - Analyze data to inform practice

Promoting Adolescent Health Grant

Summary

- Strengthen our required health education
- Increase support for Health teachers
- Create and fund additional positions
- Generate data to better understand our students' needs



21st Century - Afterschool Program Grant

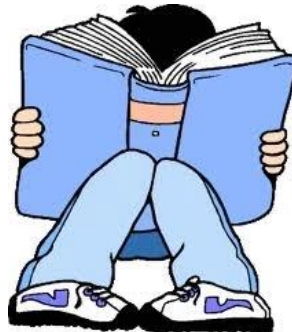
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21st Century - Afterschool Program Grant

Grant Overview

- 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21CCLC) Grant
 - H.H. Beam Elementary
 - Second location for Gaston County Schools
 - 150 students, grades K-5
 - Federal Grant through NC Department of Public Instruction
 - 3 year project
 - \$1.2 million



21st Century - Afterschool Program Grant

Program Overview

- Afterschool Program
- Monday - Friday
- 2:30pm - 6:00pm
- Academic Support
- Enrichment Activities
- Dinner Provided Daily
- Family Programming



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21st Century - Afterschool Program Grant

Purpose

- Provide high quality academic support
- Offer an array of enrichment activities
- Offer family programming



Questions?



Gaston County Schools

Back-To-School UPDATE

**Gaston County Board of Education
August 20, 2018**

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This Week ...

Orientation/Open House

Registration

Professional Development

Preparing Classrooms

Last-Minute Details

First Day of School

Monday,

August 27

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32,000 Students

Pre-Kindergarten through High School

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1,900 Teachers

approximately 150 are first-year teachers

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Teacher Vacancies

47

38

14

Principals and Human Resources
staff are working diligently

Back-To-School Update

Schools with New Principals

H.H. Beam Elementary

Darice Irby

W.B. Beam Intermediate

Todd Dellinger

Bessemer City High

Sheila Wyont

Bessemer City Middle

Jessica Mellon

Bessemer City Primary

April Conley

Back-To-School Update

Schools with New Principals

Brookside Elementary

Chad Hovis

Cramerton Middle

Jessica Steiner

Gaston Early College

Josh Allen

Grier Middle

Mitchell Allen

Holbrook Middle

Audrey Hovis

Back-To-School Update

Schools with New Principals

Hunter Huss High

Bryan Denton

Pinewood Elementary

Kristie Gornto

Sherwood Elementary

Tyler West

Tryon Elementary

Meghan LeFevers

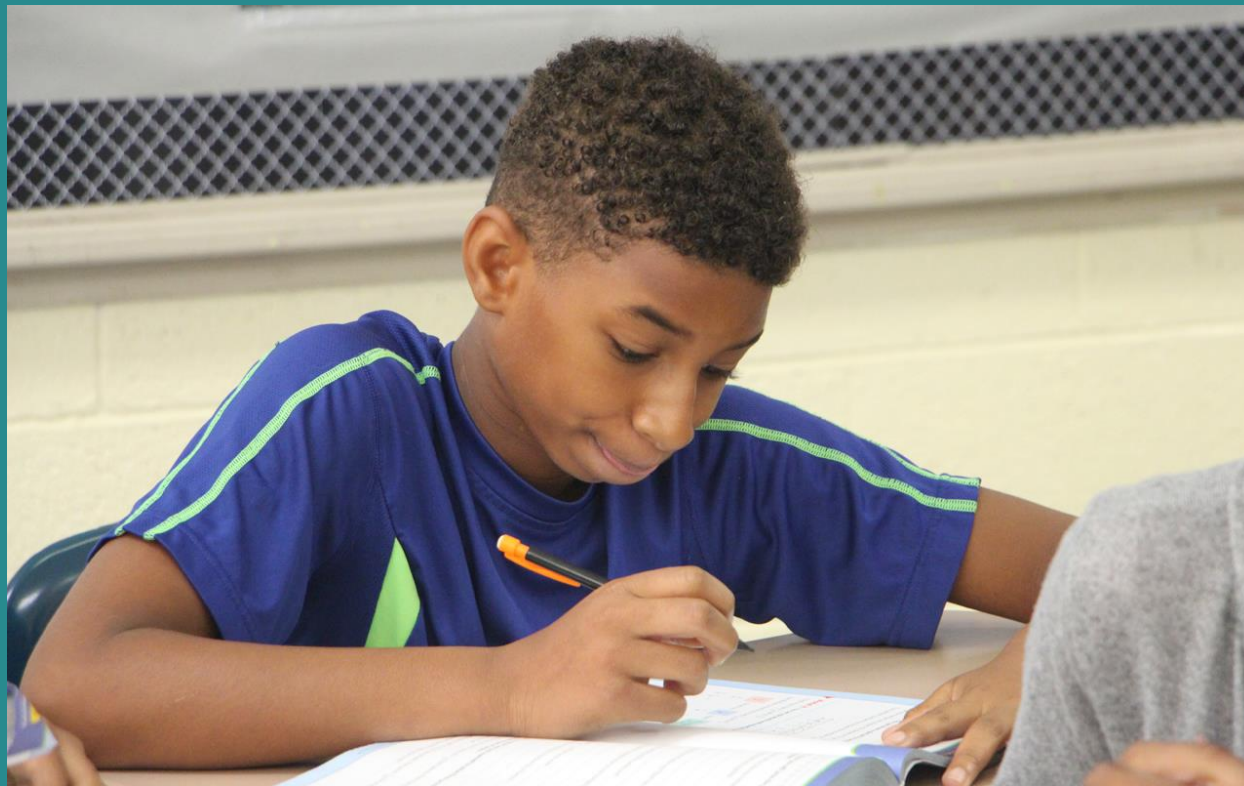
Warlick Academy

Judy Moore

Woodhill Elementary

Loretta Reed

Back-To-School Update



Academics

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Back-To-School Update

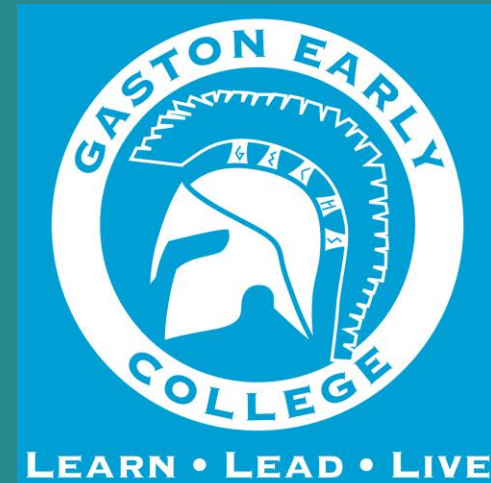


Stanley Middle School

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School Choice Programs



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School Choice Programs



**Gifted and Talented Academy
Pleasant Ridge Elementary**



**STEAM Academy
Stanley Middle School**



**Gaston County
Virtual Academy**

School Choice Academy Programs

- Gifted and Talented
- Career
- Leadership
- Trade and Industrial Engineering
- Health Sciences
- Collegiate Preparatory
- Education/Public Works

Back-To-School Update



School Nutrition

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Back-To-School Update



School Safety

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Back-To-School Update



Bus Transportation

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Back-To-School Update

Technology

School Mentors

Business and

Community Partners

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Back-To-School Update



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Gaston County Schools

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Convocation 2018



Wednesday, August 22
Stuart W. Cramer High School

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BIG 50
PARADE

Saturday, September 22
2:30 p.m. Downtown Gastonia

Rain date is Sunday, September 23

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Big 50 Anniversary

Highlight history on web/social media

Special programming on Channel 21

Display at the Gaston County Public Library

Exhibit at the Gaston County Museum

School-based celebrations/reunions

Community partners birthday party

Employee talent show

Other surprises

Planning Committee

Todd Hagans

Bryan Denton

Allison Rhyne

Julian Wilson

Chad Duncan

Philip Ratchford

Valerie Yatko

Audrey Devine

Jacqueline Robinson

Cindy Owens

Thressia Greer

Chris Hall

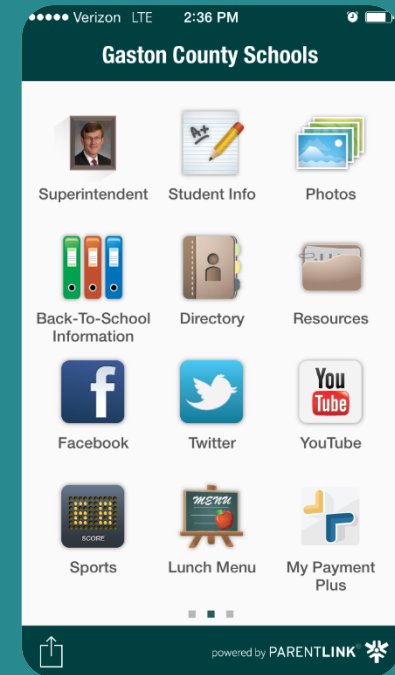


www.gaston.k12.nc.us/Big50
#GCSBig50

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Back-To-School Update



www.gaston.k12.nc.us

Stay Connected

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Gaston County Schools

Have a great school year!

Back-To-School Update
Gaston County Board of Education

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