

Gaston County Schools
BOE Curriculum & Instruction Committee
Minutes from meeting
February 4, 2019

Members Present: Dot Guthrie, Terry Usery, Dot Cherry, Justin Davis, Melissa Balknight, Lolita Williams

Others Present: Brent Moore, Derrick Jackson, Marty Starnes, James Montgomery, Carrie Minnich, Cristi Bostic, Cynthia Reynolds, Katherine Plecnik, Diane Price, Shannon Hullett, Philip Ratchford

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM.

Staff shared information on House Bill 146, cursive writing and multiplication. The State requires annual submission of the Qualtrics Survey. The survey measures how each school system is teaching cursive writing and multiplication according to North Carolina Standards. Gaston County Schools is in compliance with House Bill 146.

Gaston County Schools is partnering with East Carolina University to provide professional development for 15 to 20 eligible teachers from Title I schools. The professional development will help these educators better serve students and families in poverty. The participants will begin this summer. Participants can earn twelve semester hours toward a masters degree and a ‘Teaching Children in Poverty’ certificate from East Carolina University.

The ASPIRE after school program now has sites at H. H. Beam Elementary (year 1) and Pleasant Ridge Elementary (year 2). Currently, combined student enrollment for ASPIRE is 250. Last year, 91% of the students at the Pleasant Ridge site showed growth in math and/or reading throughout the year.

Gaston County Schools offers five courses in middle school that count toward high school credits. The State requires twenty-two credits to earn a high school diploma.

Board Policy 3420 specifies promotion requirements and the promotion appeal process for students in grades 6-8.

The window for regular transfers and school choice transfers opened on January 28 and will close on February 28, 2019. There is a third School Choice Information Session on Monday, February 25th at Gaston College from 5:30-7:30 PM.

The Academic Services summer-2019 calendar for professional development has been shared with all principals. Professional development for teachers and other staff will occur from June through August.

A motion was made to adjourn and seconded by unanimous vote.

The meeting adjourned at 6:44 PM.
Submitted by: Lolita Williams

