

**Gaston County Schools  
Board of Education  
Monday, May 17, 2021  
Meeting 5:30 p.m.**

**MINUTES**

The Gaston County Board of Education met in a regular session on Monday, May 17, 2021 in the Board Room, 943 Osceola Street, Gastonia, NC. The Board of Education meeting was held virtually and conducted in accordance with social distancing requirements related to the coronavirus pandemic. The meeting was live on Spectrum Cable Channel 21 and the Gaston County Board of Education YouTube page. Those Board Members in attendance were: Chairman Jeff K. Ramsey, Vice Chairman Dot Cherry, Kevin Collier, Justin Davis, Lee Dedmon, Dot Guthrie, Robbie Lovelace, (Brent Moore arrived after meeting in progress and Steve Hall joined by zoom).

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

Chairman Ramsey called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. and welcomed everyone.

**Invocation**

Superintendent Booker led the invocation.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Superintendent Booker led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Agenda Adoption - Action**

The Board considered Agenda Adoption – Action

Motion to adopt the Agenda as presented was made by Ms. Dot Cherry; seconded by Mr. Lee Dedmon motion carried unanimously. (8-0)

**Good News – Information**

Typically, we open each Board Meeting with “good news” about our schools, students and employees. While due to circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, we are unable to have appearances of guests we still have individuals and events worthy of recognition this afternoon. Superintendent Booker shared the following items of good news:

Superintendent Booker congratulated Cherryville High School which received the Exemplary School Award from the North Carolina High School Athletic Association. This award is presented to a school for its overall outstanding athletics program.

Superintendent Booker congratulated North Belmont Elementary teacher Vanessa Hairston who was among 26 teachers from across the state who was chosen as Kenan Fellows for the 2021-2022 academic year. Ms. Hairston will receive a \$5,000 stipend and participate in 80 hours of professional development.

Superintendent Booker congratulated two of our instructional technology facilitators, Abby Kropf and Christy Turner. They have completed the International Society for Technology in Education certification process. The certification is an internationally-recognized credential for educators who have demonstrated mastery of the society's standards for technology in education.

Superintendent Booker congratulated the students on the moot court team at Highland School of Technology. Madelyn Van Meter and Ann Russell earned first place in the recent state moot court championship.

Superintendent Booker congratulated Rankin Elementary for winning the "Are You Smarter Than a Gaston County Fifth Grader?" virtual competition. The students at Rankin, partnered with Clariant. Second place went to New Hope Elementary, which was partnered with CaroMont Health, and Beam Intermediate, partnered with FleetNet America and took third place. Sponsored by the Gaston County Education Foundation, the event pairs businesses and organizations with elementary schools in a fun game show format. Proceeds benefit the Ron L. Ensley grant program for teachers to fund innovative classroom projects. A big "thank you" goes to Foundation director Amy Spencer for working out a way to make the competition happen this year in a virtual format so our students would not miss out on the fun and excitement of the competition.

Superintendent Booker thanked our schools for the wonderful job they did to celebrate Teacher Appreciation Week and bring attention to the outstanding work of our teachers and other school personnel.

Superintendent Booker announced that Piedmont Lithium is placing a billboard along Interstate 85 that salutes our teachers.

### **Public Expression – Information**

Butch Adams  
2070 Shannon Drive  
Gastonia, NC 28054  
RE: Keep the Red Raider Mascot

Leeanna London  
115 Dorie Drive  
Belmont, NC 28012  
RE: Keep the Red Raider Mascot

Sarah Gillespie  
2143 Southridge Drive  
Belmont, NC 28012  
RE: Grading

Rebecca LaClaire  
6478 Kemp Street  
Charlotte, NC 28213  
RE: Retire the Red Raider Mascot

Although Ms. LaClaire completed the Request to Speak Form, she did not appear at the meeting.

Clare Merlin-Knoblich  
9201 University City Blvd.  
Charlotte, NC 28205  
RE: Retire the Red Raider Mascot

Olivia Huffman  
213 Commodore Court  
Belmont, NC 28012  
RE: Retire the Red Raider Mascot  
Although Ms. Huffman completed the Request to Speak Form, she did not appear at the meeting.

Ryan Simms  
105 N. Woodcliff Lane  
Mt. Holly, NC 28120  
RE: Retire the Red Raider Mascot

Natalie O'Connor  
3248 Ashwood Park Drive  
Belmont, NC 28012  
RE: Retire the Red Raider Mascot

Vy Hoang  
228 River Loop Road  
Belmont, NC 28012  
RE: Retire the Red Raider Mascot

Torrance Jenkins  
1804 Kendrick Road  
Gastonia, NC 28056  
RE: Retire the Red Raider Mascot

Roshini Amarasinghe  
3037 High Ridge Court  
Gastonia, NC 28056  
RE: Retire the Red Raider Mascot  
Although Ms. Amarasinghe completed the Request to Speak Form, she did not appear at the meeting.

Ava Clarkson  
114 Leeper Avenue  
Belmont, NC 28012  
RE: Retire the Red Raider Mascot

Ava Valentin  
107 Fite Road  
Belmont, NC 28012  
RE: Retire the Red Raider Mascot  
Although Ms. Valentin completed the Request to Speak Form, she did not appear at the meeting.

### **Approval/Correction of Minutes**

The Board considered Approval/Correction of Minutes – Action

Motion to adopt minutes of April 19, 2021 as presented was made by Ms. Dot Cherry; seconded by Mr. Brent Moore; motion carried unanimously. (9-0)

### **COVID-19 Update – Information**

Chairman Ramsey recognized Superintendent Booker who presented a PowerPoint on COVID-19. Discussion followed.

(View PowerPoint)

### **Operations Committee Report – Information**

Chairman Ramsey recognized Ms. Dot Cherry of the Operations Committee who provided a summary of topics considered and discussed at the most recent meeting.

(View report)

### **Curriculum & Instruction Committee Report – Information**

Chairman Ramsey recognized Mrs. Robbie Lovelace of the Curriculum & Instruction Committee who provided a summary of topics considered and discussed at the most recent meeting.

(View report)

### **Gaston College Board of Trustees Appointment – Information**

Chairman Ramsey recognized Mr. Todd Hagans who explained the process of the Gaston College Board of Trustees Appointment. The term of this appointment will run from July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2025. Ms. Suzanne Riley is at the end of her current term. The application will be posted on our website and should be returned by 12:00 noon on Wednesday, June 16, 2021. Applicants will participate in an interview to be held immediately before the Board of Education's regular meeting on Monday, June 21.

### **Resolution – myFutureNC Attainment Goal – Action**

Chairman Ramsey recognized Mr. Todd Hagans who presented the myFutureNC Attainment Goal Resolution for consideration.

Mr. Hagans read the myFutureNC Attainment Goal Resolution.

### **Motion**

Motion was made by Mr. Kevin Collier; seconded by Ms. Dot Cherry that the Board  
**Approve myFutureNC Attainment Goal**

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

(View Resolution)



### **Career and Technical Education (CTE) Local Grant Application – Action**

Chairman Ramsey recognized Mr. Brett Buchanan who presented a PowerPoint on Career and Technical Education Grant. Discussion followed.

#### **Motion**

Motion was made by Ms. Dot Cherry; seconded by Mr. Kevin Collier that the Board

#### **Approve Career and Technical Education (CTE) Local Grant Application**

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

(View PowerPoint)

### **Exceptional Children's Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Grant - Action**

Chairman Ramsey recognized Mrs. Carrie Minnick who presented a PowerPoint on Exceptional Children's Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Grant. Discussion followed.

#### **Motion**

Motion was made by Ms. Dot Cherry; seconded by Mrs. Dot Guthrie that the Board

#### **Approve Exceptional Children's Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Grant**

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

(View PowerPoint)

### **Social Emotional Learning and School Mental Health SBOE Policy SHLT 003 – Action**

Chairman Ramsey recognized Dr. Melissa Balknight who presented a PowerPoint on Social Emotional Learning and School Mental Health SBOE Policy SHLT 003. Discussion followed.

#### **Motion**

Motion was made by Mrs. Dot Guthrie; seconded by Mr. Brent Moore that the Board

#### **Approve Local Improvement Plan to Support the SBOE Policy SHLT 003 — Student Health**

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

(View PowerPoint)

### **Alternative Assessment — Warlick Academy – Action**

### **Alternative Assessment — Webb Street School - Action**

Chairman Ramsey recognized Ms. Rebekka Powers who presented a PowerPoint on Alternative Assessment Model. Discussion followed.

#### **Motion**

Motion was made by Mr. Kevin Collier; seconded by Mrs. Dot Guthrie that the Board

#### **Approve Alternative Assessment Model for Warlick Academy and Webb Street School**

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

(View PowerPoint)

### **Consent Agenda – Action**

The Board considered the Consent Agenda:

- A. Recommended Personnel
- B. Budget Amendments & Budget Transfers
- C. Construction/Repair Change Orders
- D. Academically and Intellectually Gifted (AIG) Plan
- E. Contracts
  - Forestview High School Drainage Improvement
  - East Gaston High School Drainage Improvement
  - Bessemer City Middle School Pavement Improvement
  - Bessemer City High School Pavement Improvement
  - Landscaping Service — Bessemer City Schools
  - Junior Great Books – Sole Source
  - S.P.I.R.E. Reading Instruction – Contract Addendum
  - Invision Services - Contract

Motion to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented was made by Mr. Lee Dedmon; seconded by Mr. Brent Moore motion carried unanimously. (9-0)

### **Superintendent's Comments**

Superintendent Booker announced that our first graduation ceremony is the Gaston Early College High School on Thursday, May 20 and next week is a full week with 13 ceremonies taking place.

Superintendent Booker thanked The Gaston Gazette for its “Senior Spotlight” series that is highlighting students in the Class of 2021. He also thanked the Belmont Banner and Cherryville Eagle for their graduation coverage.

Superintendent Booker reported that we typically keep a two-week fuel supply on hand and last week we received a tanker truck load of diesel fuel. This will put us in good shape for bus transportation to conclude the school year and begin our summer school program.

Superintendent Booker reported this week we will be sharing our yearly survey with stakeholders to gain input about areas such as student engagement, school and district operations, communications and parent/student support. The data will be used in our planning for the 2021-2022 academic year.

Superintendent Booker encouraged parents to register for kindergarten and pre-kindergarten for next year. Parents can complete the registration process on the district website.

Superintendent Booker thanked students, employees, parents and community partners for their hard work, dedication, resilience and commitment during what has been a school year like none other. Next Wednesday, May 26 is the last day of school, and we will bring the 2020-2021 academic year to a close with our graduation ceremonies on Friday, May 28. Please mark your calendars for the first day of school on Monday, August 23, 2021.

### **Closed Session**

Chairman Ramsey asked the Board to consider going into Closed Session under, N.C.G.S. §143-318.11(a)(6) Personnel

Motion to go into Closed Session was made by Mr. Kevin Collier; seconded by Mr. Justin Davis; motion carried unanimously. (9-0)

The Board went into Closed Session at 7:15 p.m.

The Board returned to Open Session at 7:52 p.m.

### **Motion**

The Motion was made by Ms. Dot Cherry; seconded by Mr. Justin Davis that the Board  
**Award two-year Principal contracts through June 30, 2023 for the following:**

Beverley Bowman  
Jenny Cabe  
Laura Clark  
Dr. Adair McKay  
Page Willis

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

### **Motion**

The Motion was made by Mrs. Dot Guthrie; seconded by Ms. Dot Cherry that the Board  
**Award two-year contract through June 30, 2023 for the position of Executive Director of Student Support Services to the following:**

Dr. Jill Payne

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

### **Motion**

The Motion was made by Mr. Kevin Collier; seconded by Ms. Dot Cherry that the Board  
**Award two-year contract through June 30, 2023 for the position of Executive Director of Middle School Instruction to the following:**

Dr. Christopher Bennett

Superintendent Booker announced the following placements:  
Dr. Adair McKay will serve as principal of Gaston County Virtual Academy.  
Beverley Bowman will serve as principal of Gaston Early College of Medical Services.  
Laura Clark will serve as principal of W.A. Bess Elementary School.  
Page Willis will serve as principal of Lingerfeldt Elementary School.  
Jenny Cabe will serve as principal of York Chester Middle School.  
Dr. Amy Holbrook will serve as principal of Grier Middle School.  
Jessica Steiner will serve as principal of Stuart W. Cramer High School.  
Kevin Doran will serve as principal of Cramerton Middle School.

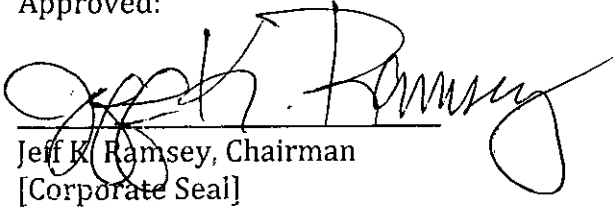
Shawn Hubers will serve as principal of Cherryville High School.  
Audrey Hovis will serve as principal of Cherryville Elementary School.  
Torben Ross will serve as principal of Holbrook Middle School.

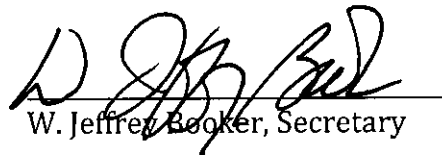
**Adjournment**

All business having been conducted, Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Lee Dedmon; seconded by Mrs. Dot Guthrie motion carried unanimously. (9-0)

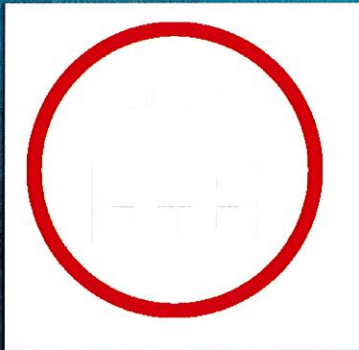
The Board Meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Approved:

  
Jeff K. Ramsey, Chairman  
[Corporate Seal]

  
W. Jeffrey Becker, Secretary

Date Approved: JUNE 21, 2021



*Gaston County Schools*

# COVID-19 UPDATE

Presentation to the Board of Education

May 17, 2021

## Overview

The N.C. Department of Public Instruction, the State Board of Education, the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services, and the Governor's Office have provided information and guidance for school districts as they plan to reopen our public schools.

- [Lighting Our Way Forward: North Carolina's Guidance in Reopening K-12 Public Schools](#)
- [Strong Schools NC Public Health Toolkit \(K-12\)](#)



**StrongSchoolsNC**  
**Public Health Toolkit (K-12)**  
INTERIM GUIDANCE  
Published June 30, 2020 • Updated May 14, 2021

Gaston County Schools



## Health and safety protocols

The following practices have been in place since August:

- **Daily temperature checks and health questionnaire**
- **Requiring masks by students and staff**
- **Social distancing**
- **“Deep cleaning” practices**
- **Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) – face coverings, gloves, etc.**
- **Raising awareness about COVID-19**

**Gaston County Schools**

## Health and safety protocols

The following guidance is outlined in the StrongSchoolsNC Public Health Toolkit (K-12):

**All schools in Plan A and Plan B are required to:**

- As stated in Executive Order 215 on May 14, 2021, ensure that face coverings are worn by all workers, teachers, guests, other adults and children age five (5) or older. In all public and nonpublic schools, all workers, teachers, guests, other adults and children five (5) years or older must wear face coverings when indoors, at all times, unless an exception applies.
  - Examples of where and when masks are required include: Students over age 5 and a teacher are together inside a classroom whether or not they are 6 feet apart; Students over age 5 are in PE class indoors whether or not they are 6 feet apart; A student is 5 years-old and enrolled in preschool; Students over age 5 are playing basketball in the gym as a part of an after-school program; These examples are not an exhaustive list.
  - Examples of where and when masks are not required include: Students are outside for recess; A teacher holds class outdoors; Students are participating in an outdoor PE class; A student is 4 years-old and enrolled in preschool; A teacher is alone in their classroom with the door closed. These examples are not an exhaustive list.

StrongSchoolsNC Public Health Toolkit (K-12) Interim Guidance • Published June 8, 2020, Updated May 14, 2021

**Gaston County Schools**

## Health and safety protocols

The following guidance is outlined in the StrongSchoolsNC Public Health Toolkit (K-12):

Exposure	Person has been in close contact with someone with a confirmed case of COVID-19.	<p>Person can return to school after completing up to 14 days of quarantine. The 14 days of quarantine begin after the last known close contact with the COVID-19 positive individual. Alternatively, the person may complete a 10-day quarantine if the person is not presenting symptoms of COVID-19 after daily at-home monitoring, or they may complete 7 days of quarantine if they report no symptoms during daily at-home monitoring, and the individual has received results of a negative antigen or PCR/molecular test on a test taken no earlier than day 8 of quarantine.</p> <p>Follow the recommendations of your local public health department if someone at your school must quarantine. Local public health authorities make the final decisions about how long quarantine should last in the communities they serve, based on local conditions and needs.</p> <p>If quarantine is discontinued before day 14, the individual must continue to monitor symptoms and strictly adhere to all non-pharmaceutical interventions (e.g. wear a mask, practice social distancing) through 14 days after the date of last exposure.</p> <p>Note: NCDHHS recommends that schools not require an individual who is fully vaccinated (at least 2 weeks after getting their second dose in a 2-dose series or one-dose of a single-dose series) to quarantine if they have had no symptoms after being a close contact to someone with COVID-19, and they do not live in a congregate setting (such as a shelter).</p>
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StrongSchoolsNC Public Health Toolkit (K-12) Interim Guidance • Published June 8, 2020, Updated May 14, 2021

Gaston County Schools

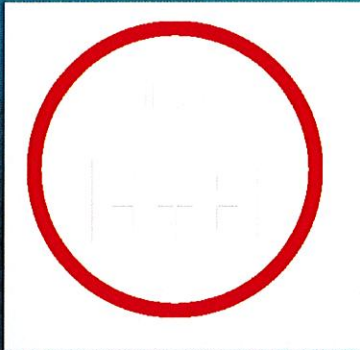
## Looking ahead

Health and safety protocols:

- Face coverings continue to be required indoors.
- Quarantine protocols remain unchanged.
- Athletic/outdoor facilities are open for use.

Gaston County Schools





*Gaston County Schools*

# **COVID-19 UPDATE**

**Presentation to the Board of Education**

**May 17, 2021**




May 17, 2021  
Board of Education Meeting  
Operations Committee Report

The Operations Committee met on Monday, May 3, 2021 at 4:00pm here in the Central Office Board Room. Our committee consists of Chairman – Lee Dedmon, Kevin Collier, Dot Cherry, and Brent Moore.

Our agenda and discussions included the following:

1. Dr. Amy Holbrook, Principal of York Chester Middle School, proposed to the Committee to name the gym after Coach Michele Radford. She has been employed by Gaston County Schools since 1993 holding various positions. Coach Radford has promoted the ideals of hard work, integrity leadership, sportsmanship, and dedication to the York Chester community. The Operations Committee is recommending that the York Chester Middle School Gymnasium be named after Coach Michele Radford. This item is on the Consent Agenda for approval.
2. Project Manager, Chris Hall, briefly updated us on the School Business Systems Modernization (SBSM) project. The SBSM project is state funded by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. Oracle will be replacing our district's primary Human Resources, Finance, and Payroll systems. Gaston County Schools is scheduled to go live with Phase 1 of this project on July 1, 2021 with Finance, and October 1, 2021 with Human Resources and Payroll.
3. Joey Clinton, our Executive Director of Human Resources, shared that the Human Resources department held a Virtual Job Fair on May 5, 2021. Educational Partners International (EPI) teachers have been given an additional year (from 5 to 6 years) of employment due to COVID-19. End of the years tasks have started for the HR staff. Approximately 119 employees signed up for transfers. The second round of interviews for Principals took place on May 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>.
4. Executive Director of Auxiliary Services, Morgen Houchard, updated us with the following information relating to the Auxiliary Services Department:
  - All 14 summer school sites will offer meals to all students on site whether they are attending the camp or not.
  - Ground breaking for Stinger Park took place on April 21<sup>st</sup>. Any work that could be disrupt to the flow of school will not start until after students leave for summer break.
  - Starting in August, Gaston County School's transportation will operate on a two-tier transportation model. Because elementary schools operate from 7:30am to 2:30pm, and middle and high schools from 8:30am to 3:30pm a two tier model will work. This two-tier model will allow single bus runs for all students and schools, students will have a less waiting time for the bus, as well, many drivers will be given more time and some will qualify benefits they have not received in the past.
  - About 96% of the new Belmont Middle School is complete. We have received the Certificate of Occupancy for the building. Furniture and the graphics are being installed at this time. Overall, the school looks great.

- 
5. Associate Superintendent and Chief Financial Officer, Gary Hoskins, presented information on ESSER II and ESSER III Funding. He also explained how the unused 2018 bond funds would be disbursed for renovation and repairs.
  6. Contracts for Forestview High drainage, East Gaston drainage, Bessemer City Middle and High paving, and Bessemer City landscaping were all recommended for approval from the Board and will appear on the Consent Agenda.

Our next committee meeting is scheduled for June 7, 2021 at 4:00pm in the Central Office Board Room.

**Gaston County Schools  
BOE Curriculum & Instruction Committee  
Report for Regular Meeting on May 3, 2021**

**Members Present:**

**Dot Guthrie, Robbie Lovelace, Steve Hall, Justin Davis, Dot Cherry, Jeff Ramsey**

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 PM.

Principal Glenn Cook shared highlights about his school, Pleasant Ridge Elementary. Pleasant Ridge Elementary has recently been honored as a National Beta Club School of Merit, a National Beta Club School of Distinction, and a National Paideia School.

Staff presented information in regards to utilizing an online registration platform for athletics to remove possible ineligibilities, consolidate all forms on one site, and provide a real-time checklist for the coaches and athletes.

The department for middle school instruction shared an overview of how staff will begin the review and selection process to adopt a core Math I curriculum resource.

Staff gave the committee a K-12 Social Studies update. To implement the new standards a K-12 curriculum team will construct units of study with benchmark dates.

The department for high school instruction shared an update on Career and College Ready Graduates (CCRG). The State requires all high schools to provide CCRG Enhanced English to any rising senior with an unweighted GPA of 2.2 - 2.799. CCRG Enhanced English 12 fulfills the graduation requirement.

Academic Services shared information about the 21st Century Grant and Junior Great Books. A.S.P.I.R.E. afterschool locations will be at H. H. Beam, Pleasant Ridge, and Lingerfeldt Elementary schools during the 2021-22 school year. An application has been submitted on behalf of Woodhill Elementary to become our fourth 21st Century program.

During the 2021-22 school year, the Academically & Intellectually Gifted (AIG) Department will utilize Junior Great Books resources in grades 6-8 AIG English Language Arts (ELA) classrooms. This is an opportunity to increase the rigor of our AIG ELA program. This item is on the consent agenda for approval.

The meeting adjourned at 1:37 PM.

The next committee meeting is scheduled for June 7, 2021 at the Central Office at 12 noon.

PRIDE



## Gaston County Board of Education

# RESOLUTION

### recognizing the importance of the myFutureNC attainment goal

**WHEREAS**, myFutureNC is a statewide non-profit organization focused on educational attainment, and it is the result of cross-sector collaboration between North Carolina leaders in education, business, and government; and

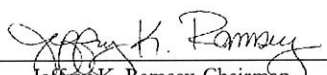
**WHEREAS**, the myFutureNC commission has concluded that North Carolina should have a goal that two million of its citizens will have a quality work-related credential or post-secondary degree by 2030; and


**WHEREAS**, Gaston County Schools is committed to providing opportunities through its Career and Technical Education (CTE) program that allow for students to obtain the knowledge, skills, and credentials necessary for success in college and the workforce – this commitment is evident as Gaston County Schools leads the state in the number of CTE credentials earned by students and the percentage of students earning more than one credential in a specific area; and

**WHEREAS**, our public schools, working in partnership with local business and community leaders, are committed to advancing the educational attainment of students in Gaston County, which helps to fulfill our vision of “inspiring success and a lifetime of learning.”

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Gaston County Board of Education is proud to support the attainment goal of myFutureNC, believes that every North Carolinian should have the opportunity to earn an industry- or workplace-recognized credential or post-secondary degree by 2030, and is committed to joining with leaders in business, education, government, and the community to foster meaningful partnerships that work toward achieving this important statewide goal.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this resolution be made a part of the minutes of the Board of Education, adopted this the seventeenth day of May, 2021.

  
Jeffrey K. Ramsey, Chairman  
Gaston County Board of Education

  
W. Jeffrey Booker, Superintendent  
Gaston County Schools

**Gaston**  
COUNTY SCHOOLS

*shaping our future*



# Career & Technical Education Grant

Board of Education  
May 17, 2021



**Celebrate!** Gaston County Schools



## CTE Local Application System Grant (LAS)

- The CTE LAS grant serves as a district's application to receive state and federal funds for the upcoming fiscal year.
- 21-22 Initial planning allotment - \$10,922,661.87
- Grant supports - CTE teacher and support staff salaries, classroom equipment, technology, professional development and student credentials

**Celebrate!** Gaston County Schools



## 2019-2020 CTE Accountability Results

- #1 in NC for student earned, industry recognized certifications (14,986)
- #1 in NC for percentage of student earned certifications (219%)
- Recognized by NC State Board of Education for being the only district to ever be #1 in both categories over a 10 year span

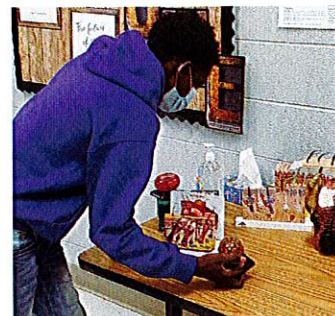
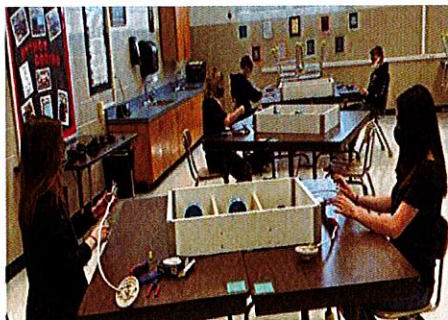


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## 2020-2021 New CTE Course Offerings

- New Middle School Courses - Carpentry, Electrical, Health Science
- CFNC accounts created for all 6th, 7th and 8th grade students

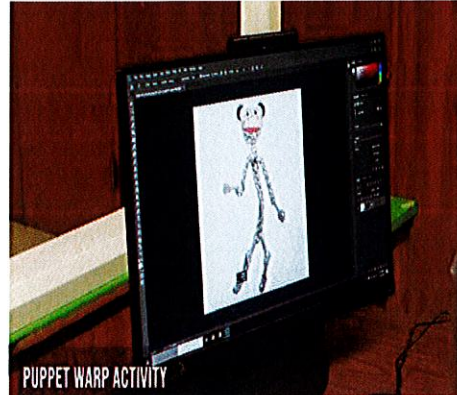


Celebrate! Gaston County Schools



## 2020-2021 New CTE Course Offerings

- New High School Courses - Adobe, Network Security, Project Management, PLTW Principles of Biomedical Sciences, Python Programming, Sales



Celebrate! Gaston County Schools



## CTE and Virtual Learning

Celebrate! Gaston County Schools





## 2021 Virtual High School CTE Tours



CTE TV

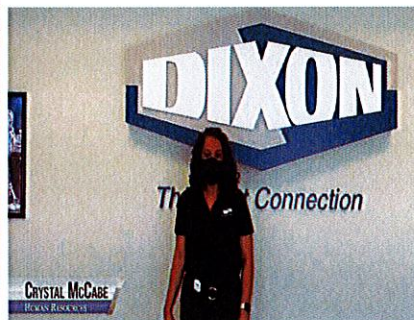
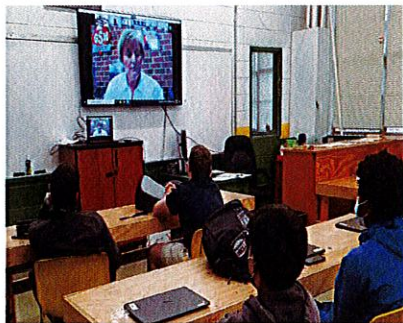


Celebrate! Gaston County Schools



## 2021 Virtual Manufacturing Career Expo

- Over 750 students participated
- 700+ completed a survey



Celebrate! Gaston County Schools

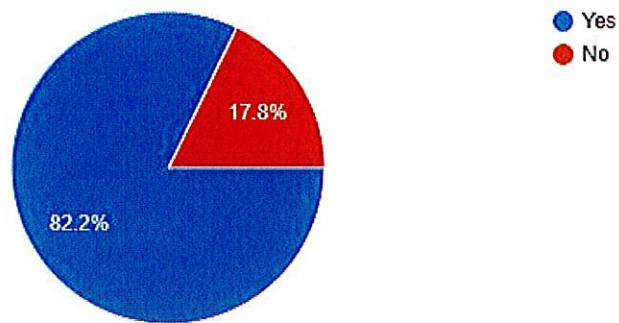




# 2021 Virtual Manufacturing Career Expo

Did you like the content presented at the Manufacturing Expo?

701 responses



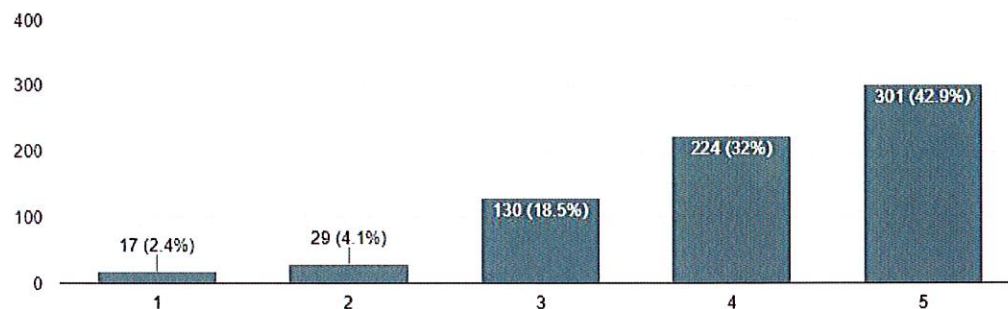
Celebrate! Gaston County Schools



# 2021 Virtual Manufacturing Career Expo

Please rate how well you understood the presenter's information.

701 responses

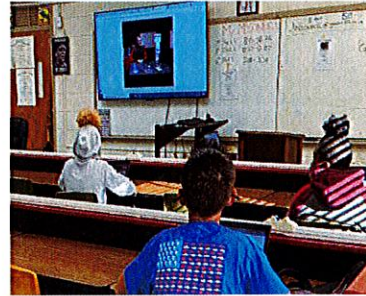


Celebrate! Gaston County Schools



## 2021 Virtual Students @ Work

- 17 businesses participated
- 21 videos for students to view
- 4,800 total views and counting
- 18 seniors introduced to businesses that are now hiring



Celebrate! Gaston County Schools



## 2021 Virtual Students @ Work

### Students @ Work Video Surveys (p.48)

1. **Atrium Health** - 15:00 <https://forms.gle/xw6iyJxaMG3bxwio6>
2. **Bosch** - 5:30 <https://forms.gle/fchAxCEv7Dq7DUqh6>
3. **Blum** - 18:00 <https://forms.gle/9yiaXpoooN8yM6nQ8>
4. **CaroMont** - 3:00 <https://forms.gle/m4F2bbkAWAAK1ECW7>
5. **City of Mt Holly City Manager, Planning, Finance** - 10:00 <https://forms.gle/5ZsryeigXG7LVET6>
6. **City of Mt Holly Fire & Police** - 17:00 <https://forms.gle/o4uWdXvSGosgu6U77>
7. **City of Mt Holly Public Works/Parks & Rec-** 9:30 <https://forms.gle/Sgh5h3oFSjQeAVcn9>
8. **Daimler** - 14:00 <https://forms.gle/Qyd9Hkc9JVRXc2m37>
9. **Dixon** - 7:30 <https://forms.gle/6V5xGXracGNKr2CW6> [Summer Work Flyer](#)
10. **Dominion Energy** - 13:50 <https://forms.gle/qHdF5gAxx9Edy5VNA>
11. **Farris Fab** - 10:30 <https://forms.gle/257qH74x3QoCqeWb6>

GSM



3. GSM offers what type of program? \*

- ☐ Apprenticeship
- ☐ Work Based Learning
- ☐ Teaching

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## 2021 Virtual Students @ Work

- Atrium - "I learned that they do their very best to keep the patients safe and that they really care for their patients." - Stanley 8th grader
  - Bosch - "That they also help kids know what they could expect after high school and be ready for college" - Holbrook 8th grader
- Blum - "That Blum offers jobs and internships that can help you develop skills that will help you later on in life." - Chavis 8th grader
  - CaroMont - "That there are many career paths that you can follow while working at CaroMont." - Belmont 8th grader

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## 2021 Virtual Students @ Work

- Daimler - "I really want to do this, it seems really cool and the things they do I want to do as well." - Belmont 8th grader
  - Gaston Sheriff's Office - "That they do not wanna hurt people they just wanna keep people safe from anything that can be dangerous but if you did something bad you have consequences for it and they love doing their job and helping people." -Southwest 8th grader
- Gastonia Plumbing & Heating - "They are very helpful with our community and give lots of good benefits."- Grier 8th grader
  - GSM - "They are dedicated to what they do and it is a great job opportunity for people who enjoy what the company does."- Cramerton 8th grader

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# 2021 Virtual Educators in the Workplace

## Gaston County Schools Teaching and Learning Conference

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## CTE Perkins V LAS Grant Focus for 2021-2022

- Teacher and support staff professional development
- New digital content and virtual activities for students
- CTE program equipment and technology upgrades
- Credential purchases
- Federal & State CTE Monitoring for Compliance Audit

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# Questions?

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# Department for Exceptional Children

May 17, 2021

**“Money is only a tool. It will take  
you wherever you wish, but it will  
not replace you as the driver.”**

**Ayn Rand**

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## Federal Funds

# \$7,592,782

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## 2021-2022 Federal Budget

Funding School Age Students	\$6,907,725
Carryover	\$500,000
Funding Pre-K Students	\$153,057
Carryover	\$32,000
<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>\$7,592,782</b>

**Gaston County Schools**



## Federal Funds-Handicapped

### Funds support these positions:

- EC Teachers
- EC Teacher Assistants
- Speech Language Pathologists
- Interpreters
- Support Staff

**Gaston County Schools**

## Federal Funds-EC Preschool

### Funds support these positions:

- EC Pre-K Teachers
- EC Pre-K Teacher Assistants

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# Invision Services

May 17, 2021

2021-22 School Year



**invision**  
Education & Rehabilitation Services

- Provide “orientation and mobility” services to visually impaired children including travel skills for safety and independence, how to use canes and how to use electronic travel aids
- Evaluate students for services
- Consult with school staff and parents

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2021-22 School Year



**invision**  
Education & Rehabilitation Services

**\$27,000**

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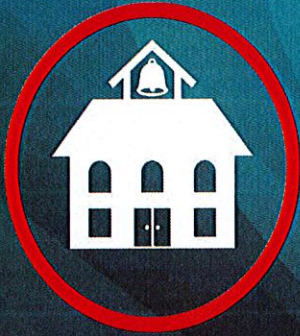
*Gaston County Schools*



**Department for  
Exceptional  
Children**

**May 17, 2021**





*Gaston County Schools*

## **Social Emotional Learning and School Mental Health SBOE Policy SHLT 003**

**Board of Education Meeting**

**May 17, 2021**

### **General Assembly of North Carolina Session Law 2020-7**

An act to require the State Board of Education to adopt a school-based mental health policy and to require K-12 school units to adopt and to implement a school-based mental health plan that includes a mental health training program and a suicide risk referral protocol.

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## State Board of Education Policy SHLT-003 School-Based Mental Health Initiative

### K-12 Public School Units (PSUs)

- Conduct needs assessment to inform plan development
- Promote student mental health and well-being
- Assess and improve the effectiveness of supports
- Provide coordinated system of supports in school and community

**Gaston County Schools**

## State Board of Education Policy SHLT-003 School-Based Mental Health Initiative

### K-12 Public School Units (PSUs)

- Adopt and implement plan by July 1, 2021
- Submit to DPI by September 15, 2021
- Review at least one time each year through August 1, 2025

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*Points of Pride*

Social Emotional Learning  
and  
School Mental Health

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Comprehensive School  
Counseling (Grades K-12)

Health Education  
Curriculum (Grades 6-9)

Employee Assistance Programs  
(EAP)

Suicide Risk  
Referral Protocol

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Alternatives to Suspension

Child and Family Team

Strong Partnerships with Local  
Health Providers

Agreement with Partners, Inc.  
Local Management Entity (LME)

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Former SAMHSA  
Grant Recipient  
(Substance Abuse and Mental Health  
Services Administration)

Youth and Mental Health  
First Aid

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## Areas For Improvement

- Social and Emotional Learning Screening tool for students and staff
- Core curriculum for social and emotional skill development (K-5)
- Increase Mental Health professionals

**Gaston County Schools**



*Gaston County Schools*

## **Social Emotional Learning and School Mental Health SBOE Policy SHLT 003**

**Board of Education Meeting**

**May 17, 2021**





*Gaston County Schools*

# Alternative Accountability Model

*May 17, 2021*



**Gaston County Schools**



