

**Gaston County Schools
Board of Education
Monday, October 18, 2021
Meeting 5:30 p.m.**

MINUTES

The Gaston County Board of Education met in a regular session on Monday, October 18, 2021 in the Board Room, 943 Osceola Street, Gastonia, NC. Additionally, 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 (via zoom), Justin Davis (arrived after meeting in progress), Steve Hall, Lee Dedmon, Dot Guthrie, Robbie Lovelace and Brent Moore.

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 5:30 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 Mr. Brent Moore; seconded by Ms. Dot Cherry motion carried unanimously. (8-0)

Good News - Information

Superintendent Booker congratulated Nathan Vasquez, Gaston Early College High School, who was selected to serve as the president of the North Carolina Comprehensive Community College Student Government Association. As the state-level SGA president, Nathan will serve as a student representative on the North Carolina Board of Community Colleges.

Superintendent Booker wished a “Happy 50th Birthday” to W.C. Friday Middle School. A few weeks ago, W.C. Friday Middle School had a big birthday celebration in observance of the school’s 50th anniversary. Students and staff enjoyed birthday cake and there were a variety of fun activities during spirit week to bring attention to the 50th anniversary.

Superintendent Booker reported we are partnering with The Gaston Gazette to sponsor the “Do the Right Thing” student recognition program. The program recognizes students for “doing the right thing” and exhibiting character education traits such as responsibility, generosity, caring, respect and cooperation. Superintendent Booker congratulated the award winners for October.

Bill Glover — Tryon Elementary School
Savana Royston — Robinson Elementary School
Samantha Munoz-Hernandez — Cramerton Middle School
Kalib Smith — South Point High School

Superintendent Booker congratulated Keana Abrams, Forestview High School, who was selected to serve as an athletic training student aide for the Shrine Bowl of the Carolinas football game. Although there will not be a Shrine Bowl game this year because of the pandemic, Keana will still be recognized on the Shrine Bowl website and social media channels.

Superintendent Booker congratulated North Gaston High School teacher Milton Villarroel, who was selected to be a presenter for the NASA Science “International Observe the Moon Night” program.

Superintendent Booker recognized Eli Poulsen, Ashbrook High School, for completing the installation of a food pantry at Webb Street School as part of his Eagle Scout project. With the pantry in place, students in Susie Rutherford’s class at Webb Street are in charge of operating and running the “One Can Make a Difference” food pantry.

Public Expression – Information

Chairman Ramsey entertained the motion to extend the time period of public expression, for tonight’s meeting, from 30 minutes to 60 minutes.

Motion

The Motion was made by Mrs. Dot Guthrie; seconded by Mr. Lee Dedmon that the Board

Extend the time of public expression from 30 minutes to 60 minutes for tonight’s meeting

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

Joshua Taylor
403 Delview Road
Cherryville, NC 28021
RE: Contact Tracing

Although Joshua Taylor completed the Request to Speak Form, Joshua Taylor did not appear at the meeting.

Pam Miller
2001 D Cramerton Village Drive
Cramerton, NC 28032
RE: State Budget

Kerri Hester
519 Dillard Road
Belmont, NC 28012
RE: Remove Mask Mandate

Jennifer Brunner
2509 Hickory Grove Road
Gastonia, NC 28056
RE: Remove Mask Mandate

Stephanie Franks
1437 Georgetowne Drive
Gastonia, NC 28054
RE: Remove Mask Mandate

Michael Crisp
3105 John Calvin Court
Stanley, NC 28164
RE: Remove Mask Mandate
Although Michael Crisp completed the Request to Speak Form, Michael Crisp did not appear at the meeting.

Sally Drennan
1801 Kingston Drive
Gastonia, NC 28052
RE: Keep Mask Mandate
Although Sally Drennan completed the Request to Speak Form, Sally Drennan did not appear at the meeting.

Tyler Lee
P.O. Box 11242
Charlotte, NC 287220
RE: Remove Mask Mandate
Although Tyler Lee completed the Request to Speak Form, Tyler Lee did not appear at the meeting.

Laith Snead
4353 Hickory Hollow Road
Gastonia, NC 28056
RE: Keep Mask Mandate

Jennifer Morales
101 Creekside Drive
Mt. Holly, NC 28120
RE: Remove Mask Mandate

Cameron Abercrombie
3343 Ratchford Drive
Gastonia, NC 28056
RE: COVID Protocol
Although Cameron Abercrombie completed the Request to Speak Form, Cameron Abercrombie did not appear at the meeting.

Kelly Shelton
149 Main Street
McAdenville, NC 28101
RE: Keep Mask Mandate

Although Kelly Shelton completed the Request to Speak Form, Kelly Shelton did not appear at the meeting.

Candace Robertson
416 Dale Avenue
Gastonia, NC 28052
RE: Mask Mandate

Although Candace Robertson completed the Request to Speak Form, Candace Robertson did not appear at the meeting.

Alisha Summey
1933 Dallas Stanley Hwy.
Stanley, NC 28164
RE: Masks

Although Alisha Summey completed the Request to Speak Form, Alisha Summey did not appear at the meeting.

Amy H.
430 Old NC 277 Loop Road
Dallas, NC 28034
RE: Remove Mask Mandate

Jessica Higgins
1700 Old Spencer Mtn. Road
Dallas, NC 28034
RE: Remove Mask Mandate

Cathy Gibbs
406 Belwood Drive
Belmont, NC 28012
RE: Remove Mask Mandate

Jordan James
2849 Wimbledon Drive
Gastonia, NC 28056
RE: Masks

Although Jordan James completed the Request to Speak Form, Jordan James did not appear at the meeting.

Cory Brown
56 Burton Street
Belmont, NC 28012
RE: Mask Mandate

Although Cory Brown completed the Request to Speak Form, Cory Brown did not appear at the meeting.

Fae Pagon
212 W. Maine Avenue
Bessemer City, NC 28016
RE: Remove Mask Mandate

Although Fae Pagon completed the Request to Speak Form, Fae Pagon did not appear at the meeting.

Kenny Phillips
1708 Fairfield Drive
Gastonia, NC 28054
RE: Remove Mask Mandate

Although Kenny Phillips completed the Request to Speak Form, Kenny Phillips did not appear at the meeting.

Crystal Hall
1811 Mountainbrook Drive
Gastonia, NC 28052
RE: Mask Mandate

Although Crystal Hall completed the Request to Speak Form, Crystal Hall did not appear at the meeting.

Sierra Hall
1304 S. York Road
Gastonia, NC 28052
RE: Mask Mandate

Although Sierra Hall completed the Request to Speak Form, Sierra Hall did not appear at the meeting.

Shawna Czerwinsky
109 James Drive
Belmont, NC 28012
RE: Remove Mask Mandate

Although Shawna Czerwinsky completed the Request to Speak Form, Shawna Czerwinsky did not appear at the meeting.

Rick Gass
124 Briarwood Lane
Mt. Holly, NC 28120
RE: Remove Mask Mandate

Dr. Crystal Bowe
225 Cramerton Mills Parkway
Cramerton, NC 28032

RE: Keep Mask Mandate

Although Dr. Bowe completed the Request to Speak Form, Dr. Crystal Bowe did not appear at the meeting.

Monica Powell-Cupid
3515 Canyon Live Oak Court
Gastonia, NC 28056

RE: Keep Mask Mandate

Chase Fuller
732 Climbing Rose Court
Gastonia, NC 28056

RE: Keep Mask Mandate

Ryan Simms
105 N. Woodcliff Lane
Mt. Holly, NC 28120

RE: Retire the Red Raider Mascot

Although Ryan Simms completed the Request to Speak Form, Ryan Simms did not appear at the meeting.

Lena Ware
2161 Southridge Drive
Belmont, NC 28012

RE: Keep Mask Mandate/Retire the Red Raider Mascot

Ava Clarkson
114 Leeper Avenue
Belmont, NC 28012

RE: Retire the Red Raider Mascot

Richard Boyce
12 Dorie Drive
Belmont, NC 28012

RE: Keep Mask Mandate/Retire the Red Raider Mascot

Hayley Brezeale
417 Bushmill Drive
Rock Hill, SC 29730

RE: Retire the Red Raider Mascot

Although Hayley Brezeale completed the Request to Speak Form, Hayley Brezeale did not appear at the meeting.

Emily Rollins
117 Arbridge Court
Mount Holly, NC 28120
RE: Retire the Red Raider Mascot

Dr. Brian Buzzeeo
3424 Araglin Drive
Gastonia, NC 28056
RE: Keep Mask Mandate

Amanda Placie-West
2925 Dry Creek Court
Gastonia, NC 28054
RE: Keep Mask Mandate

Jim Gallagher
1340 Bucknell Avenue
Gastonia, NC 28054
RE: Steel tip shoes, perfect attendance gifts for students and battle of the bands

Ann Jordan
160 Palomino Trail
Gastonia, NC 28054
RE: Remove Mask Mandate

The time limit of one hour for public expression was reached.

Approval/Correction of Minutes

The Board considered Approval/Correction of Minutes – Action

Motion to adopt minutes of September 20, 2021 as presented was made by Mr. Brent Moore; seconded by Mr. Steve Hall; motion carried unanimously. (9-0)

COVID-19 Update – Information

Chairman Ramsey recognized Superintendent Booker who introduced Mr. Steve Eaton, Public Health Director Gaston County Department of Health & Human Services. Mr. Eaton presented a PowerPoint on COVID-19 Update.

Action on Whether to Maintain or Amend the Board's Current Face Covering Policy as Required by S.L. 2021-130 – Action

Motion

The Motion was made by Mr. Lee Dedmon; seconded by Mrs. Dot Guthrie that the Board
Approve that masks will be required for everyone entering all buildings and including buses. Masks will be optional on athletic fields and outside areas.

Discussion occurred.

A vote was taken and motion to approve the item as presented carried. (6-3)
(Mr. Justin Davis, Mr. Steve Hall and Mr. Brent Moore opposed)

(View PowerPoint)

Gaston County Schools Testing Center – Action

Chairman Ramsey recognized Dr. Jill Payne, Executive Director for Student Support Services, who presented a PowerPoint on the Testing Center.

Discussion occurred.

Motion

The Motion was made by Ms. Dot Cherry; seconded by Mrs. Dot Guthrie that the Board
Approve to participate in a Test to Stay study with ABC Collaborative. Expand the voluntary COVID-19 Testing Center to include feeder testing sites for Gaston County Schools employees and students.

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

(View PowerPoint)

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)

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)

Chairman Ramsey requested a brief break at 7:39 p.m.

Meeting resumed at 7:47 p.m.

National Principals Month Proclamation - Action

Chairman Ramsey recognized Mr. Todd Hagans who reported October is National Principals Month. Mr. Hagans read the National Principals Month Proclamation.

(View Proclamation)

Beginning Teacher Support Program (BTSP) Plan - Action

Chairman Ramsey recognized Mr. Joey Clinton who introduced Ms. Caroline Black who presented a PowerPoint on Beginning Teacher Support Program (BTSP) Plan.

Motion

The Motion was made by Mr. Brent Moore; seconded by Ms. Dot Cherry that the Board
Approve Beginning Teacher Support Program (BTSP) Plan 2021-2022

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

(View PowerPoint)

School Improvement Plans (SIP) for Low Performing Schools (LPS) - Information

Chairman Ramsey recognized Mr. Michael Foust, LEA Testing Specialist, who presented a PowerPoint on Low Performing Schools Improvement Plans.

(View PowerPoint)

High School Exam Schedules - Fall 2021-2022 Traditional High Schools and Gaston Early Colleges - Action

Chairman Ramsey recognized Dr. Cristi Bostic who presented a PowerPoint on Fall 2021 Exam Schedule.

Motion

The Motion was made by Mr. Justin Davis; seconded by Ms. Dot Cherry that the Board
Approve High School Exam Schedules - Fall 2021-2022 Traditional High Schools and Gaston Early Colleges

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

(View PowerPoint)

Gaston County Schools Business Advisory Council Update - Information

Chairman Ramsey recognized Mr. Brett Buchanan who presented a PowerPoint on Gaston County Schools Business Advisory Council.

(View PowerPoint)

Budget Update 2021-2022 - Information

Chairman Ramsey recognized Mr. Gary Hoskins who gave a budget update for 2021-2022. FY 2020-2021 ended on June 30, 2021, without the approval of a comprehensive State budget for the new fiscal year. As a result, the State is using recurring funding from the 2018-2019 State budget along with a series of "mini" budgets that were passed as funding for the year. The absence of a State budget for 2021-2022 will continue to provide financial uncertainty for our District and the State. The General Assembly is currently working through various committees to develop a comprehensive State budget for 2021-2022.

Acceptance of the June 30, 2020 Compliance Report - Action

Chairman Ramsey recognized Mr. Gary Hoskins who reported that Anderson Smith and Wike PLLC, Certified Public Accountants, have completed their compliance report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020. Mr. Hoskins briefly reviewed the report.

Motion

Motion was made by Mr. Steve Hall; seconded by Mr. Lee Dedmon that the Board
Approve the Acceptance of the June 30, 2020 Compliance Report

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

(View Compliance Report)

Consent Agenda – Action

The Board considered the Consent Agenda:

- A. Recommended Personnel
- B. Budget Amendments & Budget Transfers
- C. Construction/Repair Change Orders
- D. Contracts
 - High School Stadium Network Connectivity
 - Lawn Care and Landscaping – Five Locations
 - Lawn Care and Landscaping – Four Schools
 - Cisco SMARTnet Renewal
 - Superintendent’s Leadership Academy: Gardner –Webb University Amendment

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 reported that State Superintendent Catherine Truitt visited Gaston County Schools last Tuesday along with Freebird McKinney and Julie Pittman from the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. Their visit began with a meeting at Central Office to give an overview of our district and share information about our school choice programs, Career and Technical Education, English as a Second Language program, summer enrichment offerings and other topics. We visited Pleasant Ridge Elementary and Cramerton Middle School to give them an opportunity to learn about our Gifted and Talented Academy.

Superintendent Booker reported that the Duke Energy Foundation is awarding \$20,000 to Gaston County Schools to support our STEM education efforts.

Superintendent Booker reported several weeks ago our calendar committee met to begin formulating the 2022-2023 calendar. The committee wants to get the draft ready so it can be shared for public input and presented to the Board in January.

Superintendent Booker reminded parents that report cards will be distributed on Thursday, October 28.

Superintendent Booker reminded everyone that Thursday, November 11 is the Veterans Day holiday, which means no school for students and employees. We thanked Mr. Steve Hall for his service to our country.

Closed Session

Chairman Ramsey 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 Ms. Dot Cherry; seconded by Mr. Justin Davis; motion carried unanimously. (9-0)

The Board went into Closed Session at 8:25 p.m.

The Board returned to Open Session at 8:55 p.m.

Motion

The Motion was made by Mr. Lee Dedmon; seconded by Mr. Brent Moore that the Board

Award a two-year Assistant Principal contract to the following:

- Julie Sparrow

A vote was taken and motion to approve the item as presented carried. (8-1)


(Mrs. Dot Guthrie opposed)

Adjournment

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

The Board Meeting adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

Approved:



Jeff K. Ramsey, Chairman
[Corporate Seal]



W. Jeffrey Booker, Secretary

Date Approved: 11/15/2021

GASTON COUNTY COVID-19 DATA & TRENDS

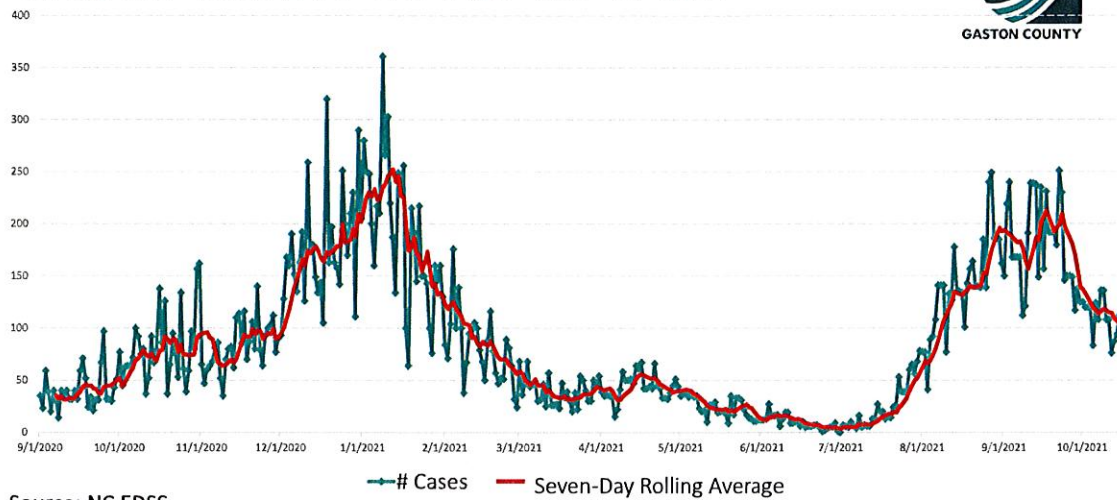
OCTOBER 18, 2021



SUMMARY OF KEY METRICS

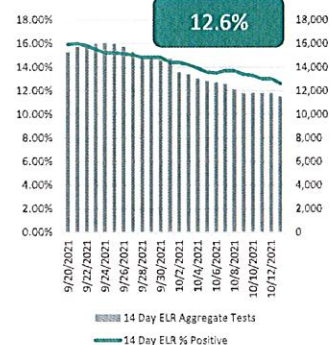
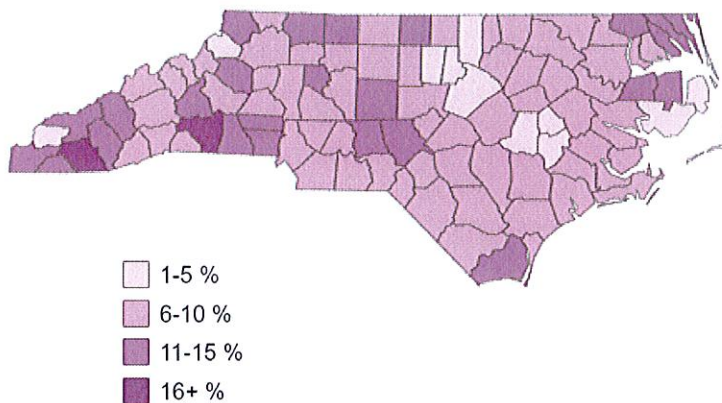
Goal	Note	10/11/21	10/18/21
○ Decline or steady sustained level of influenza like illnesses	<i>This indicator is obtained from NC DETECT, and has had a slight decrease in the most recent week.</i>	✗	—
○ Downward trajectory or sustained leveling of COVID-like Syndromic cases over 14 days	<i>The indicator for this measure is the percentage of ED visits resulting in a COVID-19 test. This has remained level.</i>	✓	✓
○ Downward trajectory or sustained leveling of cases over 14 days	<i>The number of cases has had a slight decrease in the most recent week.</i>	✓	✓
○ Downward trajectory of positive tests as a percentage of total tests over 14 days	<i>Gaston County Percent of Positive cases has continued to decrease in the most recent two weeks.</i>	✓	✓
○ Downward trajectory of hospitalizations over 14 days	<i>Hospitalization levels has continued to decrease in the most recent weeks.</i>	✓	✓
<div> ✓ Goal Achieved — Trending Towards Goal ✗ Trending Away from Goal </div>			

GASTON COUNTY COVID-19 CASES



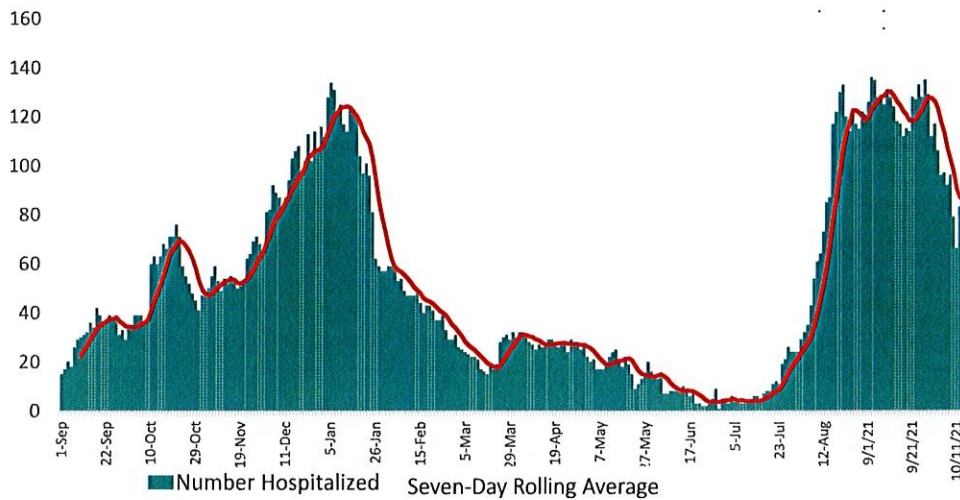
3

PERCENT OF POSITIVE TESTS



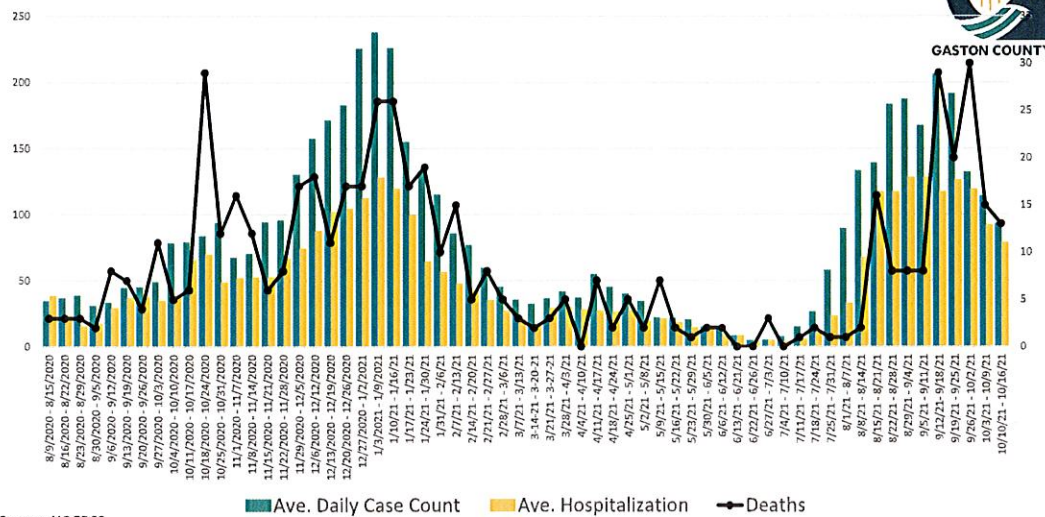
Source: NC EDSS; Updated each Monday. Some tests from the most recent week may be missing, previous weeks will be updated as information is received.

GASTON COUNTY HOSPITALIZATIONS



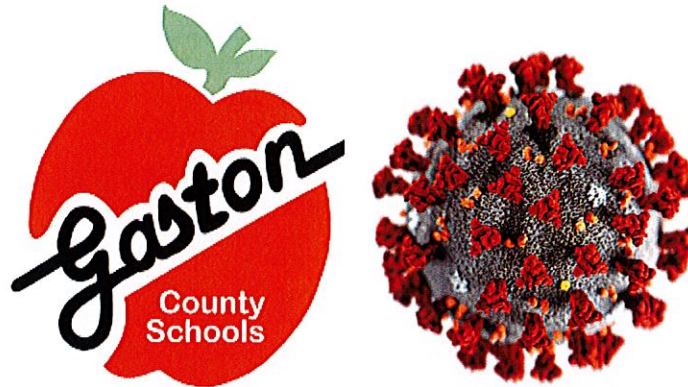
Source: Gaston County DHHS; Includes full Caromont count, and Gaston residents of Atrium Health

CASES, HOSPITALIZATIONS AND DEATHS

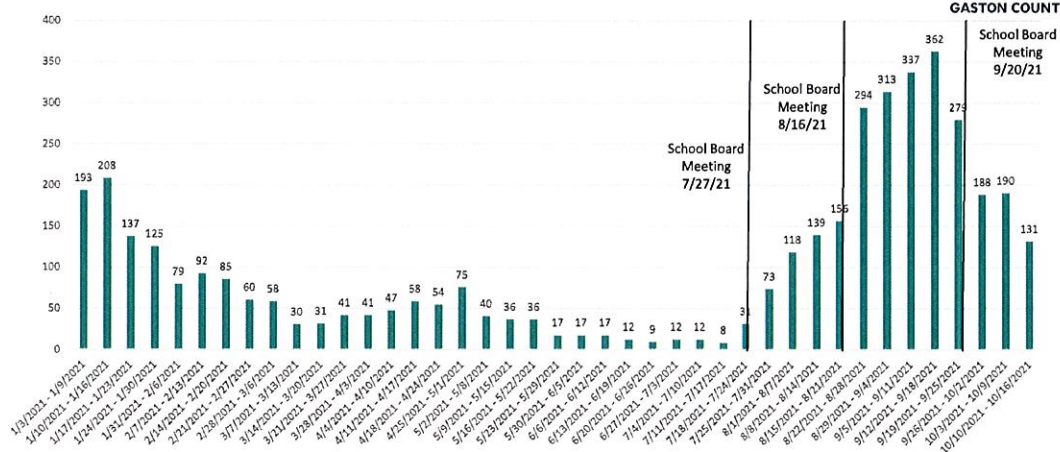


Source: NC EDSS

COVID-19 GASTON COUNTY SCHOOL CASES AND CONTACTS

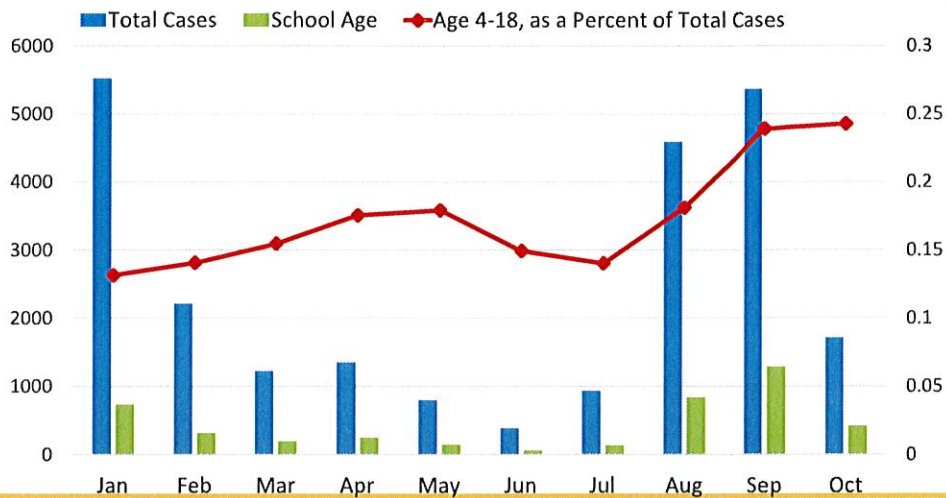


WEEKLY CASES, AGES 4 - 18



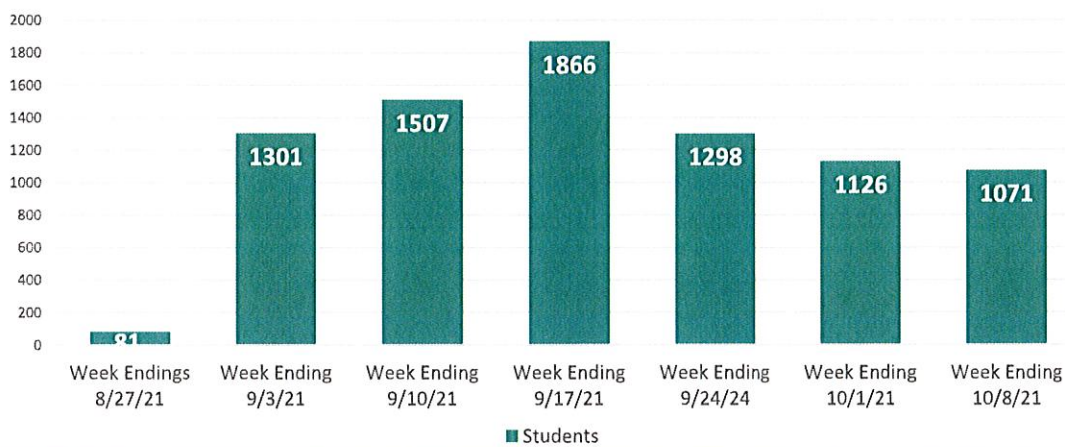
Source: NC EDSS; October 18, 2021

AGES 4 – 18; PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL CASES



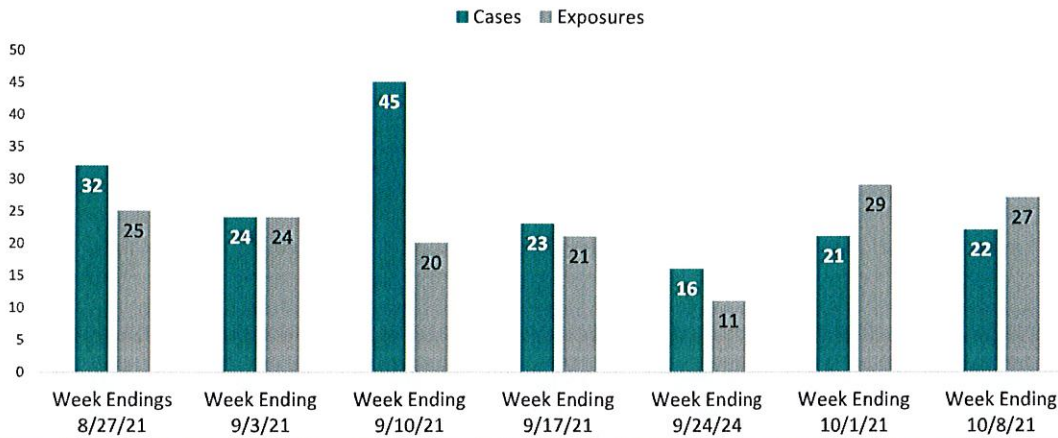
Source: NC EDSS; October 18, 2021

STUDENT EXPOSURES AND QUARANTINES



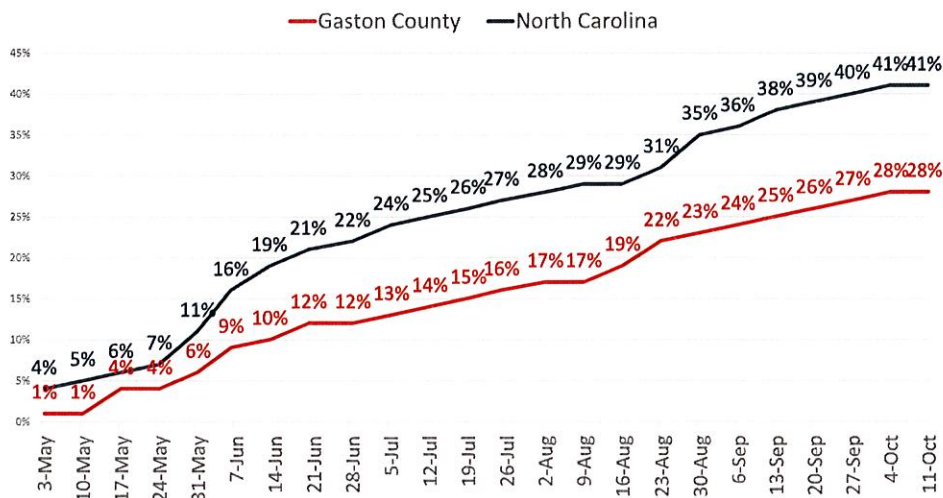
Source: Gaston County, Public, Private and Charter Schools

FACULTY AND STAFF, CASES AND EXPOSURES



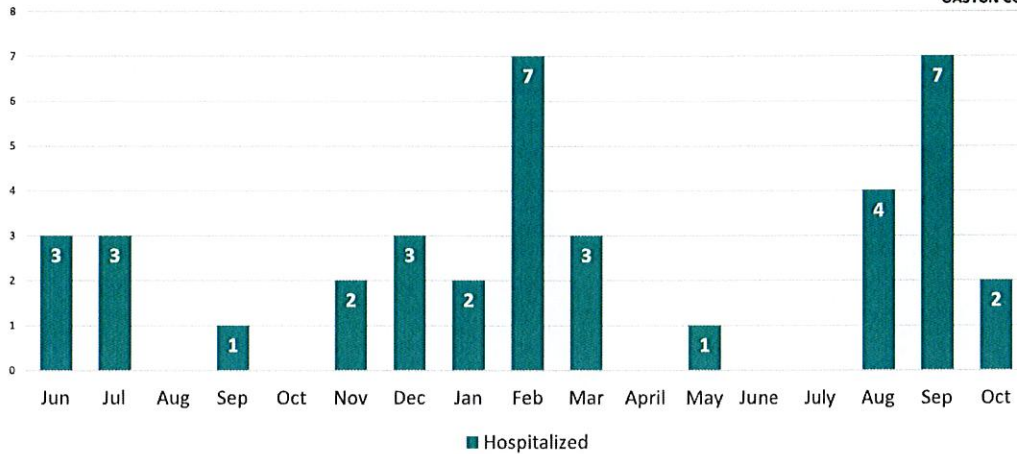
Source: Gaston County, Public, Private and Charter Schools; Some weeks may include partial counts.

VACCINATION RATES, AGES 12 - 17



Source: NC DHHS October 18, 2021

PEDIATRIC HOSPITALIZATIONS



Source: NC EDSS; 10-18-21; Ages 0-18

COMPARISON, 2020 - 2021



	2020	2021
Average Daily Case Count	99	82
Ages 4-18, Average Daily Case Count	7.4	18.7
Percent of Positive Cases	11.9	12.3
Average Daily Hospital Count	65	78

Source: NC EDSS; October 18, 2021, Based upon the second full week of October each year.


PUBLIC HEALTH RECOMMENDATION



Adhere to the Strong Schools NC Toolkit and Guidance (Updated 10.5.21)

- Require all children and staff (K-12) to wear face coverings when indoors
- Require all passengers and staff to wear face coverings on buses, vans, and other group school transportation (Per CDC Order)
- Follow physical distancing protocols outlined in the Strong Schools NC Toolkit

Basis for Public Health Recommendation

- Gaston County's low vaccination rate (**52%** fully vaccinated)
 - Vaccine not yet available for the **5 – 11 year old** population
 - Gaston County's high positivity rate of **12.6%**
 - High number of daily new cases **100**
- 



Gaston County Schools

Testing Center

10/18/2021

The goal of all COVID-19 response in school settings is to keep students and staff healthy and in the classroom. Testing should not be used alone, but in combination with other prevention strategies to reduce risk of transmission in schools.

StrongSchoolsNC Toolkit

Gaston County Schools



NCDHHS K12 COVID Testing Center

- Funding available to Public Schools participating
- Facilities, Staff, Publications, and Materials / Test

Gaston County Schools



Agency Certified Nurse Assistants (CNA)

- Obtain consent form from staff or parents/ guardians of students
- Perform test
- Obtain, record and report results
- Communicate results and provide staff and families with isolation / quarantine guidance

Gaston County Schools

Gaston County Schools Testing Center

Opened today, 10/18/2021



Records Room (Clay Street / Garrison Blvd.)

- Drive Up Format by appointment
- Monday –Friday, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm
- Optional testing for exposed / asymptomatic staff and students with parent consent
- Test are free

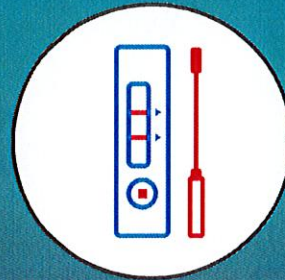
Gaston County Schools

Test to Stay Opportunity

Gaston County Schools

What is Test to Stay?

Opportunity for exposed students and employees to participate in an voluntary antigen study on a schedule for the first seven days after exposure.



Gaston County Schools

Impact for Gaston County Schools

Unvaccinated Students and Employees that have been exposed to COVID-19 may return to school for the instructional day if they:

- Participate in Test to Stay
- AND
- Continue to wear masks
- Continue to physical distance 3 feet or more
- Continue to test negative



Eligibility Requirements

- GCS students or employees
- Asymptomatic of COVID-19
- Indoor mask compliant through program entirety

Test to Stay in Gaston County Schools

Site in Every Feeder with
extended testing hours

Optional Testing for
Exposed Students
or Employees
without symptoms

Results and
Reporting

Site in Every Feeder with
extended testing hours

- Testing Center
 - West Garrison Blvd
 - 7:00 am - 6:00 pm
- Testing site in each feeder
- No appointment required
- Testing is free

Gaston County Schools

Optional Testing for
Exposed Students or
Employees without
symptoms

- Optional Testing on days 1, 3, 5, and 7 after exposure
- **Negative Test:**
 - Remain at school or work
- **Positive Test:**
Isolate for 10 days or schedule a PCR test

Gaston County Schools

Results and Reporting

- State reporting will follow current local protocol
- Weekly reporting
 - sent to ABC Collaborative by totals
 - no individual names

Gaston County Schools

Scenarios

Scenario 1

Molly was having lunch with her class. She was unmasked for more than 15 minutes and was within 6 feet of the student who tested positive.



Scenario 1

Step 1: Contact Tracing occurs

Scenario 1

Step 1: Contact Tracing occurs

Step 2: School Nurse contacts parent/guardian to
notify of exposure

Scenario 1

Step 1: Contact Tracing occurs

Step 2: School Nurse contacts parent/guardian to
notify of exposure

Step 3: School Nurse provides quarantine options

Scenario 1

Step 4: Parent choose to participate in optional
Test to Stay

Scenario 1

Step 4: Parent chooses to participate in optional
Test to Stay

Step 5: Parent takes student to testing site and
signs consent form

Scenario 1

Step 6: Certified Nurse Assistant conducts symptom screener and if no symptoms, provide student directions about self-swab and observes test.



Gaston County Schools Home Screening Form

1. Have you been exposed to Covid 19 in the past 14 days?
2. Have you tested positive for Covid 19 in the past 14 days?
3. Do you have any of the following symptoms:
 - Fever (temperature of 100.4 or higher)
 - Sore Throat
 - Cough that is different than normal
 - Difficulty Breathing - different from normal
 - New loss of taste or smell
 - Diarrhea or vomiting
 - New onset of severe headache, especially with a fever

If you answer yes to any of these questions,
stay home and contact your child's school.

If you answered no to the above questions, please get ready
to load the bus or come to school and have a great day.

Scenario 1

Step 6: Certified Nurse Assistant conducts symptom screener and then provides student directions about self-swab and observes test.

Step 7: Certified Nurse Assistant performs test protocol (10-15 min)

Scenario 1

Step 8: Results are communicated with
parents and school

Negative Test:

- Return to school - Instructional Day only

Day 2: remain in school - instructional day only

Day 3: **Retest**, if negative - return to school - instructional day only

Day 4: remain in school - instructional day only

Day 5: **Retest**, if negative - return to school - instructional day only

Day 6: remain in school - instructional day only

Day 7: **Retest**, if negative - return to school - instructional day only

Beginning of day 8 - Return to school - instructional day only following
current protocol

Scenario 2

Jordan was unmasked in the locker room for more than 15 minutes and a team member tested positive for Covid-19.



Scenario 2

Step 1: Contact Tracing occurs

Scenario 2

Step 1: Contact Tracing occurs

Step 2: School Nurse contacts parents / guardian to
notify of exposure

Scenario 2

Step 1: Contact Tracing occurs

Step 2: School Nurse contacts parents/guardian to
notify of exposure

Step 3: School Nurse provides quarantine options

Scenario 2

Step 4: Parent has a choice about participating in optional Test to Stay

Scenario 2

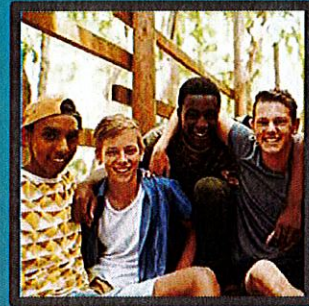
Step 4: Parent has a choice about participating in optional Test to Stay

Step 5: Jordan's parent does not want to participate so Jordan begins normal quarantine per StrongSchoolsNC Toolkit:

- Test on day 5,6, or 7 and if negative test - Return to school - instructional day only on day 8 wearing mask and physical distancing
- No test, no symptoms for 10 days of quarantine - return to school - instructional day only on day 11 wearing mask and physical distancing
- Quarantine for 14 days and return on day 15 - no restrictions

Scenario 3

Carter tested positive for Covid-19. He was around other students at lunch and during mask break. Joe, Isaiah, Parker and Matthew were found to be exposed due to being unmasked for more than 15 cumulative minutes.



Scenario 3

Step 1: Contact Tracing occurs

Scenario 3

Step 1: Contact Tracing occurs

Step 2: School Nurse contacts parents/guardians to notify of exposure

Scenario 3

Step 1: Contact Tracing occurs

Step 2: School Nurse contacts parents to notify of exposure

Step 3: School Nurse provides quarantine options

Scenario 3

Step 4: Parent /Employee given the choice to participate in optional
Test to Stay

Scenario 3

Step 4: Parent /Employee given the choice to participate in optional
Test to Stay

Step 5: Parent takes student to testing site and
signs consent form

Scenario 3

Step 6: Certified Nurse Assistant screens for symptoms then provides student directions about self-swab and observes test.

- Joe has started showing symptoms therefore is not eligible for Test to Stay and must begin quarantining



Gaston County Schools Home Screening Form

1. Have you been exposed to Covid 19 in the past 14 days?
2. Have you tested positive for Covid 19 in the past 14 days?
3. Do you have any of the following symptoms:
 - Fever (temperature of 100.4 or higher)
 - Sore Throat
 - Cough that is different than normal
 - Difficulty Breathing - different from normal
 - New loss of taste or smell
 - Diarrhea or vomiting
 - New onset of severe headache, especially with a fever

If you answer yes to any of these questions,
stay home and contact your child's school.

If you answered no to the above questions, please get ready
to load the bus or come to school and have a great day.

Scenario 3

Step 6: Certified Nurse Assistant provides other student directions about self-swab and observes test.

Step 7: Certified Nurse Assistant performs test protocol (10-15 min)

Scenario

Step 8: Results are communicated with parents and school

Matthew received a Positive Test result:

- Isolate or schedule a PCR test within 48 hours

Scenario

Step 8: Results are communicated with parents and school

Matthew received a positive test result:

- Isolate or schedule a PCR test 48 hours

Isaiah and Parker received a negative test result:



- Return to school - instructional day only, masked, physical distance and retest on days 3,5, and 7.

Summary

Test to Stay

ENROLLMENT AND DATA COLLECTION PROCEDURES



ENROLLMENT AND CONSENT

1. Identify exposures from close contact
2. School Nurse calls parent or employee and notifies of quarantine options
3. Student or Employee given option to participate in Test to Stay or quarantine at home →  IF NO, quarantine following public health guidelines
4. Everyone must sign consent giving permission to test. →  IF DOES NOT CONSENT, quarantine following public health guidelines
5. Student or Employee goes to a testing site - either in their feeder area or to the testing center

Test to Stay

ENROLLMENT AND DATA COLLECTION PROCEDURES

ENROLLMENT AND CONSENT



1. Identify exposures from close contact
2. School Nurse calls parent or employee and notifies of quarantine options
3. Student or Employee given option to participate in Test to Stay or quarantine at home →  IF NO, quarantine following public health guidelines
4. Everyone must sign consent giving permission to test. →  IF DOES NOT CONSENT, quarantine following public health guidelines
5. Student or Employee goes to a testing site - either in their feeder area or to the testing center

Gaston County Schools

Test to Stay

ENROLLMENT AND DATA COLLECTION PROCEDURES

ENROLLMENT AND CONSENT



1. Identify exposures from close contact
2. School Nurse calls parent or employee and notifies of quarantine options
3. Student or Employee given option to participate in Test to Stay or quarantine at home →  IF NO, quarantine following public health guidelines
4. Everyone must sign consent giving permission to test. →  IF DOES NOT CONSENT, quarantine following public health guidelines
5. Student or Employee goes to a testing site - either in their feeder area or to the testing center

Gaston County Schools

Test to Stay

ENROLLMENT AND DATA COLLECTION PROCEDURES

ENROLLMENT AND CONSENT



1. Identify exposures from close contact
2. School Nurse calls parent or employee and notifies of quarantine options
3. Student or Employee given option to participate in Test to Stay or quarantine at home →  IF NO, quarantine following public health guidelines
4. Everyone must sign consent giving permission to test. →  IF DOES NOT CONSENT, quarantine following public health guidelines
5. Student or Employee goes to a testing site - either in their feeder area or to the testing center

Gaston County Schools

Test to Stay

ENROLLMENT AND DATA COLLECTION PROCEDURES

ENROLLMENT AND CONSENT



1. Identify exposures from close contact
2. School Nurse calls parent or employee and notifies of quarantine options
3. Student or Employee given option to participate in Test to Stay or quarantine at home →  IF NO, quarantine following public health guidelines
4. Everyone must sign consent giving permission to test. →  IF DOES NOT CONSENT, quarantine following public health guidelines
5. Student or Employee goes to a testing site - either in their feeder area or to the testing center

Gaston County Schools

Test to Stay

ENROLLMENT AND DATA COLLECTION PROCEDURES

ENROLLMENT AND CONSENT



1. Identify exposures from close contact
2. School Nurse calls parent or employee and notifies of quarantine options
3. Student or Employee given option to participate in Test to Stay or quarantine at home →  IF NO, quarantine following public health guidelines
4. Everyone must sign consent giving permission to test. →  IF DOES NOT CONSENT, quarantine following public health guidelines
5. Student or Employee goes to a testing site - either in their feeder area or to the testing center

Gaston County Schools

Test to Stay


ENROLLMENT AND DATA COLLECTION PROCEDURES

ENROLLMENT AND CONSENT

1. Identify exposures from close contact
2. School Nurse calls parent or employee and notifies of quarantine options
3. Student or Employee given option to participate in Test to Stay or quarantine at home →  IF NO, quarantine following public health guidelines
4. Everyone must sign consent giving permission to test. →  IF DOES NOT CONSENT, quarantine following public health guidelines
5. Student or Employee goes to a testing site - either in their feeder area or to the testing center

Gaston County Schools


TESTING



6.
DAILY - Screened for symptoms
(must remain asymptomatic), for
up to 14 days

7.
IF NO SYMPTOMS, participant
tested for COVID on +1, +3, +5 and
+7 days post-exposure

8.
IF NEGATIVE AND ASYMPTOMATIC,
remain in study



Gaston County Schools
Home Screening Form


1. Have you been exposed to Covid 19 in the past 14 days?
2. Have you tested positive for Covid 19 in the past 14 days?
3. Do you have any of the following symptoms:
 - Fever (temperature of 100.4 or higher)
 - Sore Throat
 - Cough that is different than normal
 - Difficulty Breathing - different from normal
 - New loss of taste or smell
 - Diarrhea or vomiting
 - New onset of severe headache, especially with a fever

If you answer yes to any of these questions,
stay home and contact your child's school.

If you answered no to the above questions, please get ready
to load the bus or come to school and have a great day.

Gaston County Schools


TESTING



6.
DAILY - Screened for symptoms
(must remain asymptomatic), for
up to 14 days

7.
IF NO SYMPTOMS, participant
tested for COVID on +1, +3, +5 and
+7 days post-exposure

8.
IF NEGATIVE AND ASYMPTOMATIC,
remain in study



Gaston County Schools
Home Screening Form

1. Have you been exposed to Covid 19 in the past 14 days?
2. Have you tested positive for Covid 19 in the past 14 days?
3. Do you have any of the following symptoms:
 - Fever (temperature of 100.4 or higher)
 - Sore Throat
 - Cough that is different than normal
 - Difficulty Breathing - different from normal
 - New loss of taste or smell
 - Diarrhea or vomiting
 - New onset of severe headache, especially with a fever

If you answer yes to any of these questions,
stay home and contact your child's school.

If you answered no to the above questions, please get ready
to load the bus or come to school and have a great day.


Gaston County Schools

TESTING

6.
DAILY - Screened for symptoms (must remain asymptomatic), for up to 14 days

7.
IF NO SYMPTOMS, participant tested for COVID on +1, +3, +5 and +7 days post-exposure

8.
IF NEGATIVE AND ASYMPTOMATIC, remain in study



Gaston County Schools
Home Screening Form

1. Have you been exposed to Covid 19 in the past 14 days?
2. Have you tested positive for Covid 19 in the past 14 days?
3. Do you have any of the following symptoms:
 - Fever (temperature of 100.4 or higher)
 - Sore Throat
 - Cough that is different than normal
 - Difficulty Breathing - different from normal
 - New loss of taste or smell
 - Diarrhea or vomiting
 - New onset of severe headache, especially with a fever

If you answer yes to any of these questions, stay home and contact your child's school.

If you answered no to the above questions, please get ready to load the bus or come to school and have a great day.


Gaston County Schools

TESTING

6.
DAILY - Screened for symptoms (must remain asymptomatic), for up to 14 days

7.
IF NO SYMPTOMS, participant tested for COVID on +1, +3, +5 and +7 days post-exposure

8.
IF NEGATIVE AND ASYMPTOMATIC, remain in study



Gaston County Schools
Home Screening Form

1. Have you been exposed to Covid 19 in the past 14 days?
2. Have you tested positive for Covid 19 in the past 14 days?
3. Do you have any of the following symptoms:
 - Fever (temperature of 100.4 or higher)
 - Sore Throat
 - Cough that is different than normal
 - Difficulty Breathing - different from normal
 - New loss of taste or smell
 - Diarrhea or vomiting
 - New onset of severe headache, especially with a fever

If you answer yes to any of these questions, stay home and contact your child's school.

If you answered no to the above questions, please get ready to load the bus or come to school and have a great day.

Gaston County Schools

Current Quarantine vs. Test to Stay

	Current	Test to Stay
Days 1-2	Notification of Exposure Student Is quarantined unless vaccinated or positive Covid-19 test within past 90 days	Notification of Exposure Student Is quarantined Student has option to be tested and return to school for the instructional day only
Days 3-4	Quarantine	Asymptomatic student or employee has option to be tested and return to school for the instructional day only
Days 5-6	Quarantine	Asymptomatic student or employee has option to be tested and return to school for the instructional day only
Day 7	Quarantine	Asymptomatic student or employee has option to be tested and return to school for the instructional day only

10/18/2021

Current

Test to Stay

Days 8-10	Student remains in quarantine OR Student has negative test result and no symptoms - Student can return to school for instructional day only on day 8 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mask • Physical Distance 	Student follows current guidelines for returning to school for the instructional day only: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No symptoms • Mask • Physical Distance
Days 11-14	Student remains in quarantine OR Student quarantines for 10 days and has no symptoms - Student can return to school for instructional day only beginning day 11 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mask • Physical Distance 	Student follows current guidelines for returning to school for the instructional day only: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No symptoms • Mask • Physical Distance
Day 15	Student clear of restrictions - mask only	Student clear of restrictions - mask only

10/18/2021



Gaston County Schools

Testing Center

10/18/2021

**Gaston County Schools
BOE Curriculum & Instruction Committee
Report for Regular Meeting on October 4, 2021**

Members Present:

Dot Guthrie, Robbie Lovelace, Justin Davis, Dot Cherry, Jeff Ramsey

The meeting was called to order at 12:03 PM.

Staff provided updates on the district's online enrollment platform and digital records.

Scribbles is the online platform implemented by the Office of Student Assignment to assist families in several areas, including online enrollment and student transfer requests. Online enrollment with the Scribbles platform expedites time, provides ongoing communication between the Office of Student Assignment and families, and the online application is available in multiple languages.

Digital transcripts and records are generated securely from online requests. An order number is provided with each request to track the request as needed. Digitizing records provides additional security of student information to prevent loss and damage.

The meeting adjourned at 1:13 PM.

October 18, 2021
Operations Committee Report

The Operations Committee met on Monday, October 4, 2021, at 4:00pm 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. Associate Superintendent and Chief Financial Officer, Gary Hoskins, informed us that there has been no formal offer made by Gaston Aquatic Center to purchase the property at the corner of Lakewood Drive and Stadium Drive near Stuart Cramer High School. If the Aquatic Center does make an offer, it will be reviewed and evaluated by the Operations Committee.
2. Joey Clinton, our Executive Director of Human Resources, reported that the open enrollment period for the State Health Plan runs from October 11 – October 29. There are no increases to the premiums this year. He also reported that there were 189 employees quarantined, 71 positive cases, and 25 waiting for test results. Mr. Clinton gave details on the Beginning Teacher Support plan which will be reviewed during the Board meeting. Finally, Mr. Clinton announced that Sydney Hillman, a 4th grade teacher at Lowell Elementary, is our NCCAT New Teacher of the Year.
3. Dr. Morgen Houchard, our Executive Director of Auxiliary Services, informed us that we continue to work to fill employee vacancies located throughout Auxiliary Services. School safety audits are being conducted by the Safety/Security department. Also, work orders are continuing to be completed by Facilities and School Nutrition continues to prepare meals even though there are still shortages, delays, and price increases on meats, canned foods, and paper products.
4. Dr. Houchard provided an update on the Dallas residence that the school system owns. The property has been declared surplus by the Board and staff is working on disposing of the property as soon as possible.
5. Dr. Houchard also informed us that the Grier Architecture Selection Committee met to review the firms that made it through the pre-qualification process. The Selection Committee plans to interview five firms on October 27, 2021. The intent is to recommend an architect firm for the Grier Replacement School to the Board on November 15, 2021.
6. Mr. Hoskins reviewed the 2020 Compliance Report which stated that we were in compliance for the Major Federal Programs and the Major State Programs. This report will be presented to the Board at the next Board meeting.
7. The Committee reviewed and recommends approval of the following contracts: the High School Stadium Network Connectivity installation, the Cisco SMARTnet renewal, and various Lawn Care and Landscaping contracts that is a district-wide initiative for all schools. These contracts appear on the Consent Agenda.

Our next committee meeting is scheduled for November 1, 2021 at 4:00pm. The location of the meeting will be announced later this month (Board Room will be used by the Election Commission on that date).

PRIDE



PROCLAMATION

National Principals Month

WHEREAS, October is designated “National Principals Month” in recognition of principals, assistant principals, and all school administrators for their outstanding leadership and significant influence on the success of every student; and

WHEREAS, in addition to establishing high academic expectations and managing day-to-day operations, school administrators are responsible for collaborating with students, teachers, parents, and community leaders to provide a safe, inclusive, and caring school environment where the shared belief that public education is the cornerstone of our democracy is paramount; and

WHEREAS, while faced with unprecedented challenges as a result of COVID-19, school administrators have shown great tenacity and resilience to support teachers, students, parents, and others while ensuring that quality teaching and learning continues even during an ongoing pandemic; and

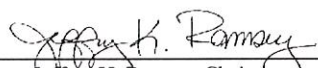
WHEREAS, we are proud of our administrators in Gaston County Schools, and we appreciate their dedication and willingness “to inspire success and a lifetime of learning” every day.

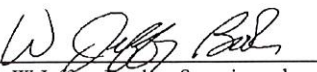
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gaston County Board of Education is pleased to join other Boards of Education across the United States in proclaiming October 2021 as

National Principals Month

and encourages the citizens of Gaston County to recognize and thank all school administrators for their many efforts to guarantee excellence in education in our community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this proclamation be made a part of the minutes of the Board of Education, adopted this the eighteenth day of October, 2021.


Jeffrey K. Ramsey, Chairman
Gaston County Board of Education


W. Jeffrey Booker, Superintendent
Gaston County Schools

Gaston
COUNTY SCHOOLS

shaping our future



Gaston County Schools

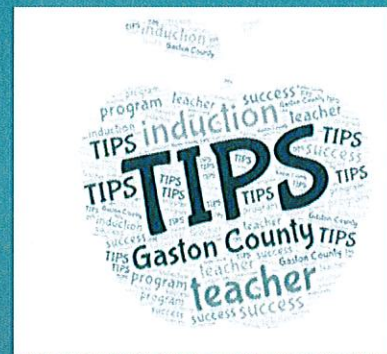
Beginning Teacher Support Program

BTSP
2021-2022

October 18, 2021

Beginning Teacher Support Program Overview

- Three Year Induction Program
- Build Successful Educators
- Meet Professional Teaching Standards
- Impact Student Learning
- Help BTs Remain in the Teaching Profession



Gaston County Schools

Beginning Teacher Support Plan

- State Board Policy: TCED-016
- HR Department and Academic Services Provide Support
- Teacher Induction Support: TIPS

Gaston County Schools Beginning Teacher Support Program Plan

Overview of Gaston County Schools Beginning Teacher Support Program

The Beginning Teacher Support Program (BTSP) is designed to offer direction, support and feedback to the beginning teacher's classroom experiences and growth during the first three years of employment. Support is focused on increasing new teachers' knowledge, skills, and dispositions associated with effective teaching as outlined in the NC Professional Teaching Standards. The framework for support is provided through formal orientations, mentor support, monitoring of working conditions, periodic assessment of skills, annual evaluation of performance, annual development of professional development plans, and on-going professional learning. Each of these items provides documented evidence for successful completion of the three year program and is the basis for recommendation of a Continuing License.

For the purposes of this program, a Beginning Teacher (BT) is defined as a licensed individual who receives salaries on a daily basis. This does not include support personnel such as Media Coordinators, School Counselors, School Social Workers, Speech Language Pathologists, or School Psychologists.

The Beginning Teacher (BT)/Mentor Specialist is charged with developing and supervising the program under the direction of the Executive Director of Human Resources and Superintendent for Gaston County Schools. The BT/Mentor Specialist works closely with the department of Academic Services to develop a comprehensive first year induction program and with the Learning Specialist to verify eligibility of beginning teachers for a continuing license. In addition, the BT/Mentor Specialist and Mentor Support Coordinator facilitate school-level mentor support. Principals or their designees are directly responsible for the program's operation in individual schools.

1. A documented process for identifying and verifying all beginning teachers (BTs)

The process must include beginning teachers who meet requirements for NCERT's assignment of initial licensure. Identifying which teachers will not be included in the program (based on appropriate experience and position held), assignment to the area of licensure, plan for documentation of required licensure both requirement and the process for licensure conversion (coursework, written exam, three years of teaching), and the process for collecting BT data for the State of the Teaching Profession in NC Report.

In the initial steps of the hiring process, Human Resources staff evaluate the applicant's teaching credentials and determine if an initial license is held. The licensure Specialist verifies licensure area, and reviews beginning teacher status. This information is entered into our Human Resources Management System (HRMS) by HR Specialists.

The BT/Mentor Specialist verifies BT status through a licensure check (in HRMS) and enters the information into the appropriate Beginning Teacher documentation files. The BT/Mentor Specialist then shares the status of beginning teachers with each school's principal and begins communication documentation with the BT.

1

Gaston County Schools

BTSP Plan Changes

- State Required Revisions from 2020-2021

At the end of their first year of teaching, Beginning Teachers (BTs) who completed an educator preparation program must complete the recent graduate survey and the Principal of the BT's school must complete the employer survey as part of the requirements to measure the performance of Educator Preparation Programs (EPPs) as stated in GS 115C-269.35. The surveys must be completed at the end of the first year of teaching.

- Local Revisions from 2020-2021
Minor Terminology Changes

- No Changes for 2021-2022



Gaston County Schools

Beginning Teacher Support Plan Components

- Process for Identifying BTs
- Sound Induction Process
- Process for Conducting Observations and Evaluations
- Participation in BTSP Monitoring and Peer Review
- Storing and Transferring Files

Gaston County Schools

Beginning Teacher Support Plan

Our current plan
currently meets all
state requirements.

Gaston County Schools Beginning Teacher Support Program Plan

Overview of Gaston County Schools Beginning Teacher Support Program

The Beginning Teacher Support Program (BTSP) is designed to offer direction, support and feedback to new beginning teachers' classroom experiences are positive during the first three years of employment. Support is focused on increasing new teachers' knowledge, skills, and dispositions associated with effective teaching as outlined in the NC Professional Teaching Standards. The framework for support is provided through formal orientations, mentor support, monitoring of working conditions, periodic assessment of skills, annual evaluations of performance, annual development of professional development plans, and on-going professional learning. Each of these items provides documentation in which for successful completion of the three year program and is the basis for recommendation of a Continuing license.

For the purposes of this program, a Beginning Teacher (BT) is defined as a licensed individual who instructs students on a daily basis. This does not include support personnel such as Media Coordinators, Subject Coordinators, School Social Workers, Speech Language Pathologists, or School Psychologists.

The Beginning Teacher (BT)/Mentor Specialist is charged with developing and supervising the program under the direction of the Executive Director of Human Resources, and Superintendent for Gaston County Schools. The BT/Mentor Specialist works closely with the department of Academic Services to develop a comprehensive first year induction program and with the License Specialist to verify eligibility of beginning teachers for a continuing license. In addition, the BT/Mentor Specialist and Mentor Support Coordinator facilitate school-level mentor support. Principals or their designees are directly responsible for the program's operation in individual schools.

I. A documented process for identifying and verifying all beginning teachers (BTs)

The process must include beginning teachers who meet requirements for NCERT's assignment of initial licensure, identifying which teachers will not be included in the program (based on appropriate experience and position held), assignment in the area of licensure, plan for documentation of required licensure tests requirement and the process for license conversion (coursework, exams passed, three years of teaching), and the process for entering BT data for the State of the Teaching Profession in NC Report.

In the first steps of the hiring process, Human Resources staff evaluate the applicant's teaching credentials and determine if an initial license is held. The License Specialist verifies licensure status and receives beginning teacher status. This information is entered into our Human Resources Management System (HRMS) by HR Specialists.

The BT/Mentor Specialist verifies BT status through a licensure checklist and HRMS and enters the information into the appropriate Beginning Teacher documentation files. The BT/Mentor Specialist then shares the status of beginning teachers with each school's principal and begins communication documentation with the BT.

Gaston County Schools

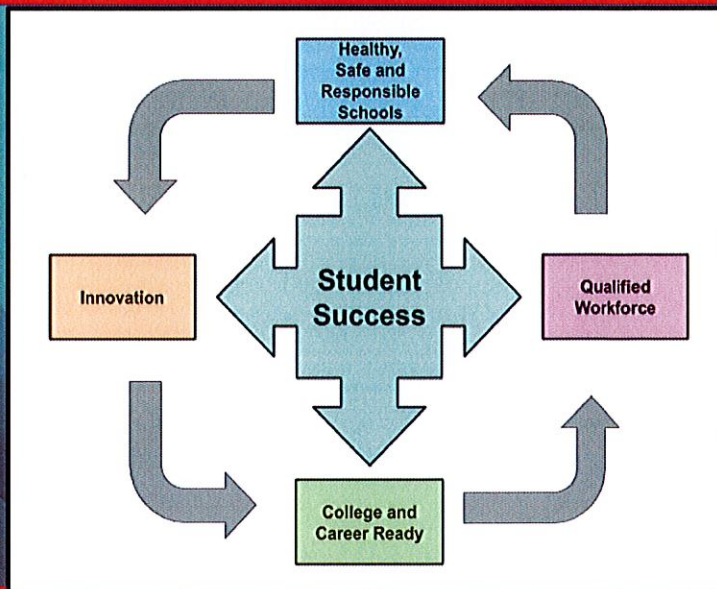


Gaston County Schools

Low Performing Schools Improvement Plans

Board of Education

10/18/2021



Gaston County Schools

Definition

G.S. 115C-105.37

(a) Identification of Low-Performing Schools. The State Board of Education shall identify low-performing schools on an annual basis. Low-performing schools are those that receive a school performance grade of D or F and a school growth score of "met expected growth" or "not met expected growth" as defined by G.S. 115C-83.15

Gaston County Schools

Improvement Plan

G.S. 115C-105.37

(a1) Plan for Improvement of Low-Performing Schools. If a school has been identified as low-performing as provided in this section and the school is not located in a local school administrative unit identified as low-performing under G.S. 115C-105.39A

Gaston County Schools

Low Performing Schools 2021-2022

Bessemer City Central Elementary	Sherwood Elementary
Brookside Elementary	Woodhill Elementary
HH Beam Elementary	Grier Middle
Lingerfeldt Elementary	York Chester Middle
Pleasant Ridge Elementary	Bessemer City High
Ed Sadler Elementary	<i>*SPG of D or F and Met or Not Met Growth</i>

Gaston County Schools

Low Performing School Improvement Plan Timeline 2021-2022 School Year

Process	Completed
Met with Principals of Low Performing Schools	September 3rd
Schools created School Improvement Plan in NCStar	September 3 rd - October 15th
Review of School Improvement Plans	Ongoing
Present plans to Board of Education	October 18th
Gather Parent and Community Feedback	October 18 th - November 15th
Board of Education Votes on School Improvement Plans	November 15th
School Improvement Plans are submitted to the State Board of Education	November 16th

Gaston County Schools



Gaston County Schools

Low Performing Schools Improvement Plans

Board of Education

10/18/2021



Gaston County Schools

Fall 2021 Exam Schedule

Monday, October 18, 2021

Gaston County Schools - Fall Semester – 2021-2022 Final Exam Schedule (Traditional High Schools)

Time	Wednesday December 15, 2021	Thursday December 16, 2021	Friday December 17, 2021	Monday December 20, 2021	Tuesday December 21, 2021
8:30 – 12:00	1 st period EOC, CTE and teacher made exams	2 nd period EOC, CTE and teacher made exams	3 rd period EOC, CTE and teacher made exams	4 th period EOC, CTE and teacher made exams	Make-up EOC, CTE and teacher made exams
12:00 – 1:00	Continuation of <i>Ample time EOC sessions</i> Bag Lunch & Dismiss	Continuation of <i>Ample time EOC sessions</i> Bag Lunch & Dismiss	Continuation of <i>Ample time EOC sessions</i> Bag Lunch & Dismiss	Continuation of <i>Ample time EOC sessions</i> Bag Lunch & Dismiss	Bag Lunch & Dismiss Make-up EOC, CTE and teacher made exams
1:00 – Regular Dismissal Time *All times are approximations	Make-up EOC, CTE and teacher made exams	Make-up EOC, CTE and teacher made exams	Make-up EOC, CTE and teacher made exams	Make-up EOC, CTE and teacher made exams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make-up EOC, CTE and teacher made exams • Teachers finalize grades, close out semester

Gaston County Schools

Gaston County Schools - Fall Semester – 2021-2022
Final Exam Schedule
 (Early College High Schools)

Time	Tuesday December 14, 2021	Wednesday December 15, 2021	Thursday December 16, 2021	Friday December 17, 2021
9:00 – 12:00	1 st period* EOC and teacher made exams	2 nd period* EOC and teacher made exams	3 rd period* EOC and teacher made exams	4 th period* EOC and teacher made exams
12:00 – 1:00	Continuation of <i>Ample time</i> EOC sessions Bag Lunch & Dismiss	Continuation of <i>Ample time</i> EOC sessions Bag Lunch & Dismiss	Continuation of <i>Ample time</i> EOC sessions Bag Lunch & Dismiss	Continuation of <i>Ample time</i> EOC sessions Bag Lunch & Dismiss
1:00 – Regular Dismissal Time *All times are approximations	Make-up EOC and teacher made exams	Make-up EOC and teacher made exams	Make-up EOC and teacher made exams	Make-up EOC and teacher made exams

*Period subject to change based on Early College schedule

Gaston County Schools



Gaston County Schools

Fall 2021 Exam Schedule

Monday, October 18, 2021

Gaston County Schools Business Advisory Council

September 22, 2021



Celebrate! Gaston County Schools



Agenda

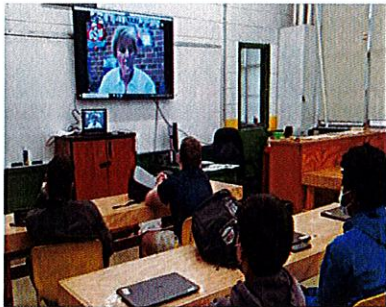
1. Agenda adoption
2. [Approval of minutes](#)
3. [Good news](#) and updates - schools & workforce challenges
4. Manufacturing Expo, Students @ Work, Educators in the Workplace
5. New business - CLNA 5th Grade Career Awareness
6. Next Meeting time and location
7. Adjournment

Celebrate! Gaston County Schools



2021 Virtual Manufacturing Career Expo

- Over 750 students participated
- 700+ completed a survey
- 10 Gaston College scholarships awarded to participants



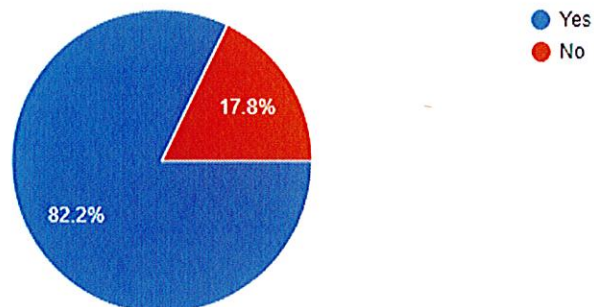
Celebrate! Gaston County Schools



2021 Virtual Manufacturing Career Expo

Did you like the content presented at the Manufacturing Expo?

701 responses



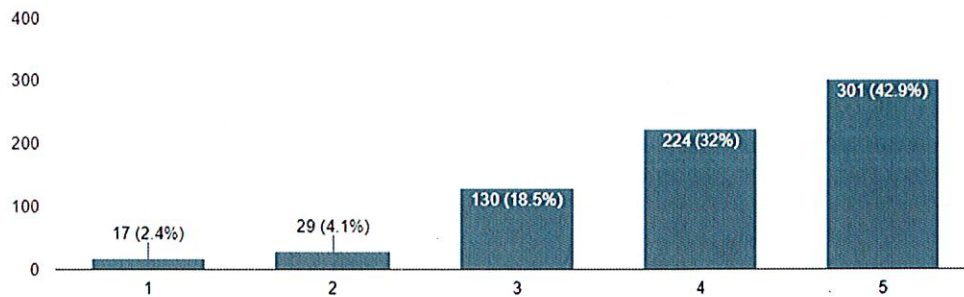
Celebrate! Gaston County Schools



2021 Virtual Manufacturing Career Expo

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

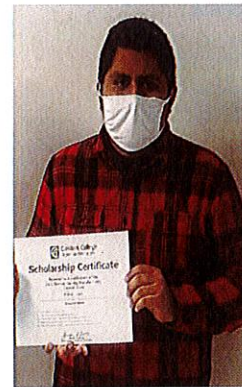
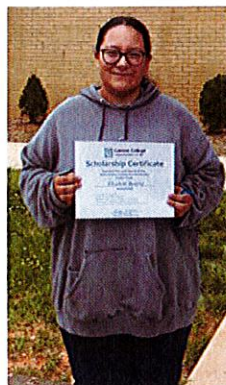
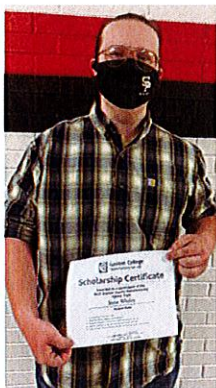
701 responses



Celebrate! Gaston County Schools



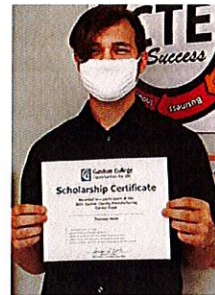
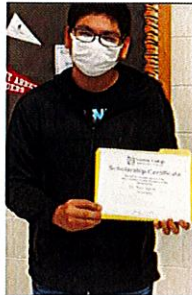
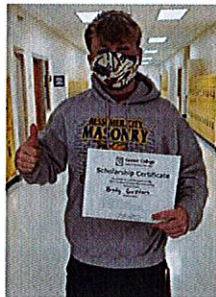
Manufacturing Expo Scholarship Winners



Celebrate! Gaston County Schools



Manufacturing Expo Scholarship Winners



Celebrate! Gaston County Schools



2021 Virtual Students@Work

- 19 businesses participated
- 23 videos for students to view
- ~5,000 total views and counting
- 18 seniors introduced to businesses (2 hired)



Celebrate! Gaston County Schools



2021 Virtual Students@Work

Students @ Work Video Surveys (0.49)

1. Atrium Health - 15:00 <https://forms.gle/xw6iyJxaMG3bxwio6>
2. Bosch - 5:30 <https://forms.gle/jchAxCEv7Dq7DUgh6>
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/5Zsrye-gXGi7LVET6>
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/Sqh6h3oFSyQeAVcq9>
8. Daimler - 14:00 <https://forms.gle/Qyd9Hkc9JVRxc2m37>
9. Dixon - 7:30 <https://forms.gle/6V5xGXRRacGNKr2CW6> Summer Work Flyer
10. Dominion Energy - 13:50 <https://forms.gle/qHdF5gAxg9Edy5VNA>
11. Farris Fab - 10:30 <https://forms.gle/257qH74x3QoCgeWb6>



6. The GEMS ambulance has a bench seat area in the back where family members can ride with the patient. *

- ☐ True
☐ False

Celebrate! Gaston County Schools



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

Celebrate! Gaston County Schools



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

Celebrate! Gaston County Schools



2021 Virtual Educators in the Workplace

- Bosch - "I learned that the pay is a lot more than I had anticipated and there are a lot of job opportunities for students that do not wish to pursue a 4 year degree."
- CaroMont - "I learned CaroMont has a wide variety of career areas. They employ more than 4300 people and will likely continue to grow because of the Belmont facility."
- Dominion - "I did not know that the NC headquarters was in Gastonia. Also didn't know they were making renewable natural gas from animal waste products. That is pretty cool."
- Gaston College - "I did not know about the Apprenticeship 321 program. I like this program especially for students who struggle to afford school and need to work."
- Gastonia Plumbing & Heating - "Hard work helps you get promoted with Gastonia Plumbing & Heating and I didn't know they offer a profit sharing plan."

Celebrate! Gaston County Schools



CLNA 5th Grade Career Awareness

1st



5 - 10 min instructional video (from business rep. or teacher) about careers with an explanation of the upcoming activity that exemplifies something done in that career path

2nd

Students participate in a hands on activity displayed to them during the instructional video



Celebrate! Gaston County Schools



2021-2022 5th Grade Career Awareness

**Record at least one task/activity
students could do that is
representative of a career in your
place of business?**

Celebrate! Gaston County Schools



5th Grade Career Awareness Business Suggestions

“Lean Manufacturing awareness - Factory simulation using legos. We built airplanes.”

“Review a (simple) case study and make a diagnosis and treatment recommendations”

“They could glue some small diameter pipe and fittings together to match a pattern given to them on paper. This would give them some ideas about piping and flow. The PPE for construction is also a great idea.”

“CPR on a manikin, patient moving (stretcher, stair chair), stop the bleed techniques, advanced life support skills, etc.”

“Use our premade digital content that shows students how to make smores using solar energy”

Celebrate! Gaston County Schools



Gaston County Schools Business Advisory Council

September 22, 2021



Celebrate! Gaston County Schools



GASTON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

GASTONIA, NORTH CAROLINA

Compliance Report

Year Ended June 30, 2020

GASTON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page No.</u>
Report On Internal Control Over Financial Reporting And On Compliance And Other Matters Based On An Audit Of Financial Statements Performed In Accordance With <i>Government Auditing Standards</i>	1-2
Report On Compliance With Requirements Applicable To Each Major Federal Program And Internal Control Over Compliance In Accordance With OMB Circular A-133 and the State Single Audit Implementation Act	3-5
Report On Compliance With Requirements Applicable To Each Major State Program And Internal Control Over Compliance In Accordance With Applicable Sections Of OMB Circular A-133 and the State Single Audit Implementation Act	6-8
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs	9-12
Corrective Action Plan	13
Summary Schedule of Prior Audit Findings	14
Schedule of Expenditures of Federal and State Awards	15-17

**Report On Internal Control Over Financial Reporting And On
Compliance and Other Matters Based On An Audit Of
Financial Statements Performed in Accordance With
Government Auditing Standards**

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Chairman and
Members of the Gaston County Board of Education
Gastonia, North Carolina

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to the financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Gaston County Board of Education, North Carolina, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2020, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated October 26, 2020.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Gaston County Board of Education's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Gaston County Board of Education's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Board's internal control.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of the internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

Compliance and Other Matters

As a part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Gaston County Board of Education's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Anderson Smith & Wike PLLC

Gastonia, North Carolina
October 26, 2020

Report on Compliance With Requirements Applicable to Each Major Federal Program and Internal Control Over Compliance in Accordance with OMB Circular A-133 and the State Single Audit Implementation Act

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Chairman and
Members of the Gaston County Board of Education
Gastonia, North Carolina

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

We have audited the Gaston County Board of Education, North Carolina, compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in the OMB *Compliance Supplement* and the *Audit Manual for Governmental Auditors in North Carolina*, issued by the Local Government Commission, that could have a direct and material effect on each of Gaston County Board of Education's major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2020. The Gaston County Board of Education's major federal programs are identified in the summary of auditors' results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs.

Management's Responsibility

Management is responsible for compliance with Federal and State statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of its federal awards applicable to its federal programs.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on compliance for each of the Gaston County Board of Education's major federal programs based on our audit of the types of compliance requirements referred to above. We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Governmental Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and the audit requirements of Title 2 US Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance) and the State Single Audit Implementation Act. Those standards, Uniform Guidance, and the State Single Audit Implementation Act require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether noncompliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program occurred. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence about the Gaston County Board of Education's compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures, as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion on compliance for each major federal program. However, our audit does not provide a legal determination on the Gaston County Board of Education's compliance.

Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

In our opinion, the Gaston County Board of Education complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2020.

Report on Internal Control Over Compliance

Management of the Gaston County Board of Education is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above. In planning and performing our audit of compliance, we considered the Gaston County Board of Education's internal control over compliance with the types of requirements that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program to determine the auditing procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on compliance for each major federal program and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the internal control over compliance. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Gaston County Board of Education's internal control over compliance.

A deficiency in internal control over compliance exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect and correct, noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program on a timely basis. A material weakness in internal control over compliance is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program will not be prevented, detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A significant deficiency in internal control over compliance is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of Uniform Guidance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

Report on Schedule of Expenditures of Federal and State Awards Required by Uniform Guidance

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Gaston County Board of Education as of and for the year ended June 30, 2020, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Gaston County Board of Education's basic financial statements. We issued our report thereon dated October 26, 2020, which contained an unmodified opinion on those financial statements. Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Gaston County Board of Education's basic financial statements. The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal and State awards is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by Uniform Guidance and the State Single Audit Implementation Act and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the schedule of expenditures of federal and State awards is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

Anderson Smith & Wike PLLC

Gastonia, North Carolina
October 26, 2020

**Report on Compliance With Requirements Applicable To Each Major State
Program and Internal Control Over Compliance in Accordance with the OMB Circular Uniform
Guidance and the State Single Audit Implementation Act**

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Chairman and
Members of the Gaston County Board of Education
Gastonia, North Carolina

Report on Compliance for Each Major State Program

We have audited the Gaston County Board of Education, North Carolina, compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in the *Audit Manual for Governmental Auditors in North Carolina*, issued by the Local Government Commission, that could have a direct and material effect on each of the Gaston County Board of Education's major State programs for the year ended June 30, 2020. The Gaston County Board of Education's major State programs are identified in the summary of auditors' results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs.

Management's Responsibility

Management is responsible for compliance with state statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of its state awards applicable to its state programs.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on compliance for each of the Gaston County Board of education's major state programs based on our audit of the types of compliance requirements referred to above. We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Governmental Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and applicable sections of Title 2 US Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance), as described in the *Audit Manual for Governmental Auditors in North Carolina* and the State Single Audit Implementation Act. Those standards, Uniform Guidance, *Audits of States, Local Governments and Non-Profit Organizations* and the State Single Audit Implementation Act require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether noncompliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on a major State program occurred. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence about Gaston County Board of Education's compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion on compliance for each major state program. However, our audit does not provide a legal determination on the Gaston County Board of Education's compliance.

Page 6

Opinion on Each Major State Program

In our opinion, the Gaston County Board of Education complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major State programs for the year ended June 30, 2020.

Other Matters

The results of our auditing procedures disclosed an instance of noncompliance, which is required to be reported in accordance with the applicable sections of section the Uniform Guidance as described in the *Audit Manual for Governmental Auditors in North Carolina* and which are described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs as item 20-1. Our opinion on each major state program is not modified with respect to this matter.

The Gaston County Board of Education's response to the noncompliance finding identified in our audit is described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs and the corrective action plan. The Gaston County Board of Education's response was not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of compliance and, accordingly we express no opinion on the response.

Report on Internal Control Over Compliance

Management of the Gaston County Board of Education is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above. In planning and performing our audit of compliance, we considered the Gaston County Board of Education's internal control over compliance with the types of requirements that could have a direct and material effect on a major State program to determine the auditing procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on compliance for each major state program and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Gaston County Board of Education's internal control over compliance.

A deficiency in internal control over compliance exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a State program on a timely basis. A material weakness in internal control over compliance is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a State program will not be prevented, detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A significant deficiency in internal control over compliance is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a state program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of the internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, we identified certain deficiencies in internal control over compliance, as described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs as item 20-1 that we consider to be significant deficiencies.

The Gaston County Board of Education's response to the internal control over compliance findings identified in our audit are described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs and the corrective action plan. The Gaston County Board of Education's response was not subject to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of compliance and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

Report on Schedule of Expenditures of Federal and State Awards Required by the Uniform Guidance and the State Single Audit Implementation Act

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Gaston County Board of Education as of and for the year ended June 30, 2020, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Gaston County Board of Education's basic financial statements. We issued our report thereon dated October 26, 2020, which contained an unmodified opinion on those financial statements. Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Gaston County Board of Education's basic financial statements. The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal and State awards is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by the Uniform Guidance and the State Single Audit Implementation Act and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the schedule of expenditures of federal and State awards is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

Anderson Smith & Wike PLLC

Gastonia, North Carolina
October 26, 2020

**Gaston County Board of Education
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020**

Section I. Summary of Auditor's Results

Financial Statements

Type of auditor's report issued: Unmodified

Internal control over financial reporting:

- Material weakness(es) identified? ___yes Xno
- Significant Deficiency(s) identified that are not considered to be material weaknesses: ___yes Xnone reported

Noncompliance material to financial statements noted ___yes Xno

Federal Awards

Internal control over major federal programs:

- Material weakness(es) identified? ___yes Xno
- Significant Deficiency(s) identified that are not considered to be material weaknesses: ___yes Xnone reported

Type of auditor's report issued on compliance for major federal programs: Unmodified

Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with 2 CFR 200.516(a) ___yes Xno

Identification of major federal programs:

CFDA Numbers

Name of Federal Program or Cluster

84.027, 84.173
84.367

Title VIB Cluster
Supporting Effective Instruction

**Gaston County Board of Education
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020**

Dollar threshold used to distinguish between
Type A and Type B Programs

\$ 969,548

Auditee qualified as low-risk auditee?

X yes ___no

State Awards

Internal control over major State programs:

- Material weakness(es) identified?

___yes Xno

- Significant Deficiency(s) identified
that are not considered to be
material weakness

Xyes ___none reported

Type of auditor's report issued on compliance for major State programs: Unmodified

Any audit findings disclosed that are required
to be reported in accordance with the State
Single Audit Implementation Act

Xyes ___no

Identification of major State programs:

Program Name

State Public School Fund

State COVID-19 Supplemental Funds

**Gaston County Board of Education
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020**

Section II. Financial Statement Findings

None

**Gaston County Board of Education
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020**

Section III. Federal Award Findings and Questioned Costs

None

Section IV. State Award Findings and Questioned Costs

N.C. Department of Public Instruction
Program Name: State Public School Fund

20-1 Criteria: The school system cannot exceed the number of positions or months of employment allotted by the Department of Public Instruction.

Condition: The school system did exceed the number of months allotted by the Department of Public Instruction.

Effect: The school system exceeded the months allotted by 3.05 months out of 11,929 allotted for classroom teachers, 2.14 out of 773 for school administration, and 2.47 out of 1209 for instructional support.

Cause: Oversight on the part of the Board personnel.

Questioned costs: The Board has accrued a liability as of June 30, 2020, payable to the State of North Carolina, for the excess months of employment used. The amount of costs was \$42,451.

Recommendation: We recommend that the Board implement procedures to eliminate excess months used over months allotted.

Management Response: The Board of Education agrees with this finding.



Gaston County Schools
shaping our future

**Gaston County Board of Education
Corrective Action Plan
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020**

W. Jeffrey Booker
Superintendent

Section II. Financial Statement Findings

None reported

Central Administrative Office

943 Osceola Street
P. O. Box 1397
Gastonia, NC 28053
704-866-6100
FAX 704-866-6175

Section III. Federal Award Findings and Questioned Costs

None reported

**Department of
Exceptional Children**

215 West Third Avenue
Gastonia, NC 28052
704-866-6160
FAX 704-866-6191

Section IV. State Award Findings and Questioned Costs

Finding: 20-1

**Division of
Resource Management**

1351 Bradford Heights Road
Gastonia, NC 28054
704-866-6129
FAX 704-866-6193

Name of contact person:

Gary Hoskins, Chief Financial Officer

Corrective Action:

The Board will review reports monthly as has been the policy in the past.

Proposed Completion Date:

Immediately

School Nutrition Programs

500 Reid Street
Lowell, NC 28098
704-836-9110
FAX 704-824-8442

Staff Development Center

240 Eighth Avenue
Cramerton, NC 28032
704-824-2828
FAX 704-824-4918

Teacher Resource Center

366 W. Garrison Boulevard
Gastonia, NC 28052
704-866-6174
FAX 704-866-6194

**Gaston County Board of Education
Summary Schedule of Prior Audit Findings
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020**

Findings: 2017
17-1, 17-2, & 17-3 Corrected

Findings: 2018
18-1 Corrected

Findings: 2019
19-1: Corrected

GASTON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AND STATE AWARDS
For the Year Ended June 30, 2020

Grantor/Pass-through Grantor/Program Title	Federal CFDA Number	State/ Pass-through Grantor's Number	Expenditures
Federal Grants:			
Cash Programs:			
<u>U. S. Department of Agriculture</u>			
School Nutrition Program (Note 3)			
<u>Child Nutrition Cluster:</u>			
Non-cash Assistance (Commodities)			
Passed-through the N.C. Department of Public Instruction:			
National School Lunch Program			
Non-cash Assistance	10.555		\$ 1,264,573
Cash Assistance			
Passed-through the N.C. Department of Public Instruction:			
School Breakfast Program	10.553		2,029,922
National School Lunch Program	10.555		6,485,877
Summer Food Service Program for Children	10.559		2,540,145
Total Cash Assistance			<u>11,055,944</u>
Total Child Nutrition Cluster:			<u>12,320,517</u>
Passed-through the NC Department of Health and Human Services			
Child and Adult Food Care Program	10.558		48,800
Total School Nutrition Program (Note 3)			<u>12,369,317</u>
Total U. S. Department of Agriculture			<u>12,369,317</u>
<u>U.S. Department of Education</u>			
<u>Office of Elementary and Secondary Education</u>			
Passed-through the N.C. Department of Public Instruction:			
Grants to Local Education - Basic and Concentration			
Title I Cluster:			
Educationally Deprived Children	84.010	PRC 050	8,850,649
<u>School Improvement Cluster</u>			
School Improvement - Title I	84.010	PRC 105 & 115	504,665
School Improvement Grant	84.377	PRC 117	453,191
English Language Acquisition Grants	84.365	PRC 104, 111	175,699
Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants	84.367	PRC 103	1,106,108
Student Support and Academic Enrichment	84.424	PRC 108	644,936
<u>Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services</u>			
Passed-through the N.C. Department of Public Instruction:			
<u>Special Education Cluster:</u>			
Individuals with Disabilities Education Act			
Education of the Handicapped	84.027	PRC 060	6,593,724
Preschool Handicapped	84.173	PRC 049	155,809
Children with Special Needs	84.027	PRC 114	461,815
Targeted Assistance	84.027	PRC 118	6,223
Targeted Assistance	84.027	PRC 119	918
State Improvement	84.027	PRC 082	<u>23,577</u>
Total Special Education Cluster:			<u>7,242,066</u>

GASTON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AND STATE AWARDS
(Continued)
For the Year Ended June 30, 2020

<u>Grantor/Pass-through Grantor/Program Title</u>	<u>Federal CFDA Number</u>	<u>State/ Pass-through Grantor's Number</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>
<u>Education for Homeless Children and Youth Cluster</u>			
Education of Homeless Children and Yotuh	84.196	PRC 026	67,273
Passed-through the N.C. Department of Public Instruction: Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Applied Technology Education Act Amendments of 1990 Basic Grants to States - Program Development	84.048	PRC 017	534,425
Total U. S. Department of Education			19,579,012
<u>U.S. Department of Defense</u>			
Direct Program: ROTC	12.000		369,948
Total federal assistance			32,318,277
State Grants:			
<u>N.C. Department of Public Instruction:</u>			
State COVID-19 Supplemental Funds		PRC 154	1,152,623
<u>N.C. Department of Public Instruction:</u>			
State Public School Fund			178,959,041
Driver Training - SPSF		PRC 012	571,438
School Technology Fund - SPSF		PRC 015	928,794
Vocational Education			
- State Months of Employment		PRC 013	9,524,959
- Program Support Funds		PRC 014	416,730
State Appropriations- School Buses- Noncash			1,348,792
Total N.C. Department of Public Instruction			192,902,377

GASTON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AND STATE AWARDS
(Continued)
For the Year Ended June 30, 2020

Grantor/Pass-through Grantor/Program Title	Federal CFDA Number	State/ Pass-through Grantor's Number	Expenditures
N.C. Department of Health and Human Services:			
Division of Child Development:			
NC Pre-Kindergarten Program			5,202,558
Division of Public Health			
School Nurse Funding Initiative			100,000
Total N.C. Department of Health and Human Services			5,302,558
Total State assistance			198,204,935
Total federal and State assistance			\$ 230,523,212

Note 1: Basis of Presentation

The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal and State awards (SEFSA) includes the federal and State grant activity of the Gaston County Schools under programs of the federal government and the State of North Carolina for the year end June 30, 2019. The information in this SEFSA is presented in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 US Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards and the State Single Audit Implementation Act. Because the Schedule presents only a selected portion of the operations of Gaston County Schools, it is not intended Federal Awards (Uniform Compliance) and the State Single Audit to and does not present the financial position, changes in net assets or cash flows of Gaston County Schools.

Note 2: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Expenditures reported in the SEFSA are reported on the modified accrual basis of accounting. Such expenditures are recognized following the cost principles contained in Uniform Guidance, wherein certain types of expenditures are not allowed or are limited. Gaston County Schools has elected not to use the 10-percent de minimis indirect cost rate under the Uniform Guidance.

Note 3: Cluster of Programs

The following are clustered by the NC Department of Public Instruction and are treated separately for state audit requirement purposes: School Nutrition Program