

Gaston County Schools  
BOE Curriculum & Instruction Committee  
Minutes for August 1, 2022

Members Present:

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

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

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as submitted for the meeting on June 6, 2022.

A motion was made and seconded to modify the agenda.

Shannon Hullett presented an update on the state-mandated LETRS (Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Science) training. Based on the science of reading research, the training is for teachers and administrators. LETRS training will impact students in grades K-5. Kickoff sessions began on July 18, 2022.

Jill Payne updated the committee on mental health services and school support for the 2022-2023 school year. Student Support Services is implementing new strategies to better meet the needs of students and staff. Community-based mental health agencies have agreed to work with all families regardless of insurance or ability to pay. The agencies will continue providing de-escalation strategies and professional development for staff and communication with families. Two of the district's mental health clinicians have been relocated to schools to support staff, students, and families.

Aaron Slutsky shared information about the Gaggle alerts pilot opportunity. Gaggle is a software program that manages student safety on school-provided technology. This item will be included on the Board of Education agenda.

Chris Bennett presented information on middle school math guidelines. Due to the multiple levels of middle school math, administrators are using End of Grade (EOG) math and iReady End of Year test data to place students. Administrators will continue to follow state legislation and the Gaston County Schools AIG (Academically and Intellectually Gifted) plan. Proper placement will set the foundation for future success with high-stakes assessments and fulfilling graduation requirements.

Cristi Bostic presented an exam exemption proposal to improve student attendance. The proposal states that a student **may** be exempt from a teacher-made exam if certain criteria are met. Dr. Bostic will gather more feedback from principals and make the suggested adjustments. The procedure guidelines will be an item for information on the Board of Education agenda on August 15, 2022.

The committee approved meeting dates for the 2022-2023 school year. The next meeting will be on September 12, 2022, at noon.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 1:25 pm.

Submitted by: Lolita Williams

