GASTON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR SESSION



Shaping Our Future

943 Osceola Street, Gastonia, NC 28054 April 17, 2023 5:30 p.m.

Meeting Date: 4/17/2023
Agenda Item Title/Topic: Agenda Adoption
Type of Item: □ Consent ⊠ Action □ Information
Main Points: Consideration of Formal Agenda for Monday, April 17, 2023.
Roberts Rules of Order (Revised) adoption of Agenda for meeting sequence and structure.
Fiscal Implications: None
Recommendation: Adoption of Agenda
Policy Implications: None
Strategic Goal Alignment: Goal 1. Every student will graduate prepared for post-secondary opportunities.
Submitted by: Dr. W. Jeffrey Booker Department: Superintendent/Public Information

GASTON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION Jeff K. Ramsey – Chairman Dot Cherry – Vice Chairman

Josh Crisp, Dallas Township Lee Dedmon, Gastonia Township Dot Guthrie, Gastonia Township Tod Kinlaw, South Point Township



Robbie Lovelace, Cherryville Township Brent Moore, Crowders Mountain Township A.M. Stephens, III, Riverbend Township

943 Osceola Street, Gastonia, NC 28054 Monday, April 17, 2023 5:30 p.m. Agenda Regular Meeting

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Meeting Date:	4/17/2023		
Agenda Item T	Fitle/Topic: Goo	d News	
Type of Item:	□ Consent	☐ Action	⊠ Information
			mation Department compiles "Good News community partners. See attachment.
Fiscal Implicat None	tions:		
Recommendat None	tion:		
Policy Implicati None	tions:		
Strategic Goal Goal 1. Every s	_	ate prepared f	for post-secondary opportunities.
Submitted by:	Todd Hagans, C	chief Commun	nications Officer
Department: C	Communications/F	Public Informa	tion (Superintendent's Office)

BOARD AGENDA INFORMATIONAL ITEM

DEPARTMENT:

Communications/Public

Information Department

TOPIC: GOOD NEWS

FOR THE MONTH OF: April 2023

1. The following students were chosen as the "Do the Right Thing" award winners for April: Hayden Martin, Chapel Grove Elementary; Jaxon Rhinehart, Springfield Elementary; Sanaa'ya Ratchford, Bessemer City Middle; and Andrew Ferrell, Forestview High School.

- 2. Approximately 200 outstanding middle school musicians participated in the all-county band concert on April 1 at **Holbrook Middle School**. The event featured performances by two middle school groups. Students were chosen for the all-county band clinic through an audition process. **Cramerton Middle School** band teacher **Lisa Ratchford** and Stephanie Tomberlin of Union County Public Schools were the guest conductors for the band clinic.
- 3. Forestview High School teacher Jerry Smalls and W.C. Friday Middle School teacher Cindy Owens were named the Gaston County Schools Band Directors of the Year.
- 4. The following high schools received a superior rating at the North Carolina Music Performance Adjudication (MPA) Festival at Mooresville High School: Bessemer City High School wind ensemble; Stuart W. Cramer High School wind ensemble; Stuart W. Cramer High School freshman band; East Gaston High School symphonic band; Forestview High School symphonic band; North Gaston High School symphonic band; and South Point High School symphonic band.
- 5. Hannah Lineberger of Belmont Middle School and Cooper Queen of W.C. Friday Middle School received the Kelly Robb Music Scholarship to attend summer music camp. Kelly Robb was a beloved music educator at Stanley Middle School. The scholarship honors her love and dedication to music and her students.
- 6. The five finalists for Gaston County Schools Assistant Principal of the Year 2023-2024 are Josh Bromley, Forestview High School; Michael Dermott, Mount Holly Middle; Douglas Doorley, Lowell Elementary; NaKishia Glenn, North Gaston High School; and Janet Ramsey, Robinson Elementary. The winner will be announced in May during the Evening of Excellence ceremony.
- 7. The five finalists for Gaston County Schools Central Office Administrator of the Year 2023-2024 are Shannon Hullett, Academic Services; Curtis Poplin, Technology; Celeste Sadler, Academic Services; Robin Setzer, Academic Services; and Alan Sprout, Technology. The winner will be announced in May during the Evening of Excellence ceremony.

- 8. Sixteen students from Gaston County Schools were selected to attend the 2023 session of the prestigious North Carolina Governor's School. Students attending Governor's School East at Meredith College are John Gouch III, South Point High School; Ella Hamilton, East Gaston High School; Logan Watkins, Stuart W. Cramer High School; and Bowie Werran, Stuart W. Cramer High School. Students attending Governor's School West at Winston-Salem State University are Lauren Arthurs, South Point High School; Aissatou Diouf, Ashbrook High School; Skyler Hernandez, Hunter Huss High School; Benjamin Kimmel, Hunter Huss High School; Ian McGinnis, South Point High School; Samantha Narciso, South Point High School; Pressley Rankin, East Gaston High School; Emma Thweatt, Forestview High School; Ainsley VanderMeer, Stuart W. Cramer High School; Alexander Villarreal, South Point High School; and Jacey Williams, Forestview High School.
- 9. **Gaston County Schools** held a ceremony on March 29 to celebrate **Cramerton Middle School** being one of six North Carolina schools to earn the Paideia Seminar Nationally Certified School recognition.
- 10. Cramerton Middle School captured first place in the Math Elite competition. Belmont Middle placed second and Southwest Middle took third place.
- 11. The East Division winners in the Math Masters competition were Hawks Nest STEAM Academy, first place; Rankin Elementary, second place; Pleasant Ridge Elementary, third place; and New Hope Elementary, fourth place. The West Division winners were Gardner Park Elementary, first place; W.B. Beam Intermediate, second place; Catawba Heights Elementary, third place; and Woodhill Elementary, fourth place.
- 12. **McAdenville Elementary** was named the grand champion of the Elementary Battle of the Books competition and will represent **Gaston County Schools** in the regional competition.
- 13. The East Division winners in the Battle of the Books competition were Belmont Central Elementary, first place; Hawks Nest STEAM Academy, second place; Rankin Elementary, third place; and New Hope Elementary, fourth place. The West Division winners were McAdenville Elementary, first place; Bessemer City Central Elementary, second place; Chapel Grove Elementary, third place; and Catawba Heights Elementary, fourth place.
- 14. **Gaston County Schools** had several school groups and PTO organizations to participate in the annual Community Foundation Run in downtown Gastonia. Sponsored by the Community Foundation of Gaston County, the event featured a 5K run, 2K fun walk, and other activities to help non-profit organizations raise money. **Lisa Nussbaumer**, an instructional technology facilitator for **Gaston County Schools**, was the first-place female winner with a time of 18:26 and received a \$1,000 prize for the Gaston County Education Foundation.
- 15. The **Bessemer City High School** Impact Club provided Easter buckets filled with candy and toys for all kindergarten students at **Bessemer City Primary**.

- 16. The North Carolina Farm Bureau donated 32 copies of "I Love Strawberries" by Shannon Anderson to **Gaston County Schools**. **Lowell Elementary** principal **Kristin Kiser**, the current Gaston County Principal of the Year, accepted the book donation on behalf of the school system.
- 17. **Ashbrook High School** held its All-Star Pageant on March 18. **Zo'Rion Tate** was crowned Mr. Ashbrook and **Zemariah Webb** was crowned Miss Ashbrook. In addition, the pageant raised \$6,292.25 for Cancer Services of Gaston County and \$361.16 for Special Olympics of Gaston County.
- 18. The W.B. Beam Intermediate Falcon Radio Club (N2FRC) placed first nationwide at the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) School Club Roundup. During the contest, the school scored 41,307 points with 281 contacts from all over the world. There were a total of 33 states, seven countries, and three Canadian provinces represented in the competition. School counselor Mark Reep is the Falcon Radio Club adviser.
- 19. **Belmont Middle School** teacher **Tamara Houchard** won the Center for Safer Schools' 10th anniversary local contest. Participants were asked to create a video, flyer, poster, or any other creative representation to describe their interpretation of school safety.
- 20. **Bessemer City Primary** hosted First Responder Day on March 31. Gaston County Communications, Gaston County Police, K-9 Officers, Bessemer City Police, Bessemer City Fire, GEMS, and Animal Control all joined in for demonstrations and stations with each class.
- 21. **Bessemer City High School** seniors **Ian Alexander** and **Josiah Coleman** were recognized by the National Wrestling Coaches Association as honorees of its High School All-American Awards program, which is sponsored by the United States Marine Corps.
- 22. Cherryville High School senior Rileigh Kiser presented a check for \$1,000 to June Laubinger of the Atrium Health Foundation. The donation is from the boys volleyball tournament that she organized in November to benefit Levine Children's Hospital.
- 23. Cherryville High School senior Jackson Tedder signed a letter of intent to play golf at Montreat College.
- 24. Stuart W. Cramer High School sophomore Aiden Vargosko shot a nine-hole N.C. High School Athletic Association record by scoring a 27 and an 18-hole NCHSAA record by shooting a 61 in a Big South Conference match-up on April 4 at Cramer Mountain Country Club. In addition, he had a hole-in-one on hole number 12. The team of Aiden Vargosko, Rich Wills, Harrison Rowland, and Luke Mingus broke an NCHSAA team record by shooting 268, which broke the record previously set by Forestview High School in 2013.

- 25. Stuart W. Cramer High School senior Alexis Willis and Ashbrook High School junior Camryn Massey were named to the HighSchoolOT.com indoor track and field all-state team.
- 26. The **Forestview High School** prom closet provided new prom attire for more than 100 students.
- 27. The **Forestview High School** choir received superior ratings at the music performance adjudication festival. In addition, the concert choir received a silver rating at the Worldstrides Heritage National Choral Festival.
- 28. W.C. Friday Middle School teacher Jennifer Bumgarner has been selected as one of only 28 teachers in the United States, Canada, and the Bahamas to receive a full scholarship to attend the Bimini Shark Lab's Educator Course in South Bimini, Bahamas, this summer.
- 29. Gaston Early College High School students Emma Thrower, Riley Rhyne, and Helanea Killian presented the idea to the Gaston County Schools nurses of supplying feminine hygiene products in student restrooms.
- 30. Isaiah Williams of Gaston Early College of Medical Sciences was selected for the 2023 Boys' State program based on a speech presentation on the topic "What Freedom Means to Me" and a personal interview.
- 31. The **Highland School of Technology** TSA club attended the 44th state technology conference in Greensboro on March 26-28. Students **Josie Houchard**, **Kent Kido**, and **Ian Latham** placed first in animatronics, and **Gordon Dubisky** placed first in flight endurance. In addition, the team of **Ben Clements**, **Luke Falls**, **Lawson Houser**, **Mike Jones**, and **Addy McCraw** placed second in animatronics. Students who placed first have qualified to compete at the national technology conference in Louisville this summer. Teacher **Darryl Thompson** is the club adviser.
- 32. **Highland School of Technology** students involved in the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) earned 27 medals at the state conference with 35 students qualifying to compete at the national level. The school also was awarded the FBLA Gold Seal Chapter of Merit for the 11th year. Students who placed in the top tier have qualified to compete at the national conference in Atlanta this summer. Teacher **Rachel Martin** is the club adviser.
- 33. Seventy-two **Highland School of Technology** students have their artwork on display at Daniel Stowe Botanical Garden's "Opening Doors to Spring" exhibit. Students created artwork inspired by spring on wooden doors that greet members and guests as they stroll through the garden. Additional doors that reflect Historic Belmont are on display at Stowe Park through a partnership with the Downtown Belmont Development Association.
- 34. Lingerfeldt Elementary teacher Taylon Singleton was nominated for First Tee National Teacher of the Year by the First Tee of Greater Charlotte chapter.

- 35. The **Pleasant Ridge Elementary** "Roaring Panthers" band had the opportunity to perform at a Charlotte Checkers game.
- 36. Four South Point High School students were selected for the American Legion Boys' State summer program: Dhruv A. Patel, Lennon Miller, Ethan Dellinger, and Jacob Echevarria.
- 37. The **South Point High School** Battle of the Books team finished second at the Region 6 Battle of the Books competition in Statesville.
- 38. Samantha Franke of Stanley Middle School placed third in the engineering category at the North Carolina Student Academy of Science state competition. She was one of eight students to compete in the competition, which was held at the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics.
- 39. **Stanley Middle School** eighth grader **Samantha Franke** placed second with her project "Rain, Rain, Come Our Way" in the engineering category at the North Carolina State Science and Engineering Fair. In addition, she was nominated for the Thermos Fisher Scientific Junior Innovators award.
- 40. Stanley Middle School had eight Envirothon teams compete at the regional competition with two teams advancing to the state competition on April 28. The students who qualified for the state contest are James Hatley, Samantha Franke, Madalyn Gehrig, Rylee Cates, Payton Baker, Jillian Schultheis, Chloe Roberts, Abigail Price, Amelia Burr, and Ramon De La Oz.
- 41. Stanley Middle School held a Roller Coaster Engineering Fair in March. The top three roller coaster teams will compete at Carowinds during Engineering Day on April 28. Students competing are Evan Murphy, Jack Scholz, Dillon Castro, Payton Lennox, Diksha Sharma, Lillyan Wall, and Martha Arana.

Meeting Date: 4/17/2023
Agenda Item Title/Topic: Public Expression
Type of Item: □ Consent □ Action ⊠ Information
Main Points: The Board of Education agenda has been made available to the public for review. Citizens wishing to speak before the Board about an agenda item or other topic may do so during Public Expression.
Fiscal Implications: None
Recommendation: The Board of Education will establish time (30 minutes) at the beginning of the regular monthly meeting for Public Expression. Any citizen not heard during this time may be heard at the end of the business session.
Policy Implications: None
Strategic Goal Alignment: Goal 1. Every student will graduate prepared for post-secondary opportunities.
Submitted by: Todd Hagans, Chief Communications Officer
Department: Communications/Public Information (Superintendent's Office)

Meeting Date:	4/17/2023			
Agenda Item 1	Fitle/Topic: Appr	oval/Correcti	ion of Minutes	
Type of Item:	□ Consent	⊠ Action	☐ Information	
·	nutes of: 3 (Regular Meeting 3 (Joint BOE/BOC	• •		
Efficient consid system.	eration of matters	pertinent to th	he successful operation of the sc	hool
Fiscal Implicat None	tions:			
Recommendat None	tion:			
Policy Implica Validation of Bo	tions: pard Proceedings.			
Strategic Goal Goal 1. Every s		te prepared fo	or post-secondary opportunities.	
Submitted by:	Dr. W. Jeffrey Bo	oker	Department: Superintendent	

Gaston County Schools Board of Education Monday, March 20, 2023 Meeting 5:30 p.m.

MINUTES

The Gaston County Board of Education met in a regular session on Monday, March 20, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in the Board Room, 943 Osceola Street, Gastonia, NC. 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 Ramsey, Vice Chairman Dot Cherry, Josh Crisp, Lee Dedmon, Dot Guthrie, Tod Kinlaw, Robbie Lovelace, Brent Moore, and A.M. Stephens III.

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

Chairman Ramsey called the meeting to order at 5:31 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 Mr. A.M. Stephens III; motion carried unanimously. (8-0) (Dot Cherry briefly stepped out of the room)

Good News - Information

Superintendent Booker recognized Josie Houchard a student at Highland School of Technology. Josie has been selected as one of the top five Career and Technical Education Scholars in North Carolina. Josie was recognized as part of the United States Presidential Scholars Program and was chosen for demonstrating outstanding ability and achievement in Career and Technical Education fields.

Mr. Josh Crisp presented a Certificate of Recognition to Josie.

Superintendent Booker recognized our winners in the Mid-Carolina Scholastic Art and Writing Awards and the Gaston County High School Senior Art Show.

In Gaston County there are two Gold Key, two Silver Key and six Honorable Mention awards in the Regional Scholastic Art and Writing Awards.

Our Gold Key winners are:

Hannah Langley and Sanaa Swain of Cramerton Middle School.

Mr. A.M. Stephens III presented a Certificate of Recognition to students.

Our Silver Key winners are: Amy McPherson and Ramona Rice of Cramerton Middle School

Mr. A.M. Stephens III presented a Certificate of Recognition to students.

Our Honorable Mention winners are:
Emma Quick of Gaston Early College High School
Samantha Saltiel of Highland School of Technology
Joyce Zhu of Cramerton Middle
Sanaa Swain of Cramerton Middle
Amy McPherson of Cramerton Middle (two honorable mentions)

Mr. A.M. Stephens III presented a Certificate of Recognition to students.

Award winners in the Gaston County High School Senior Art Show are: Erin Poteat – of Ashbrook High School. Erin's sculpture titled "Silly Billy" was named "Best of Show" winning the overall top award in the competition.

Ms. Dot Cherry presented a Certificate of Recognition to Erin.

Award winners for "Best of Show" are:
Mark Morales Reyes of Hunter Huss High School – First Place
Brittany Garcia Barrantes of Hunter Huss High School – Second Place
Ashton Pope of North Gaston High School – Third Place

Ms. Dot Cherry presented a Certificate of Recognition to Mark. Brittany and Ashton were unable to attend the meeting tonight.

Superintendent Booker recognized students who won individual state championships from the North Carolina High School Athletic Association.

Camryn Massey of Ashbrook High School and Alexis Willis of Stuart W. Cramer High School. Camryn won the 3A state championship with a first place finish in the girls shot put competition and Alexis won the state championship in the girls triple jump and also claimed the state championship in the girls long jump.

Mr. Tod Kinlaw presented a Certificate of Recognition to Camry. Alexis was unable to attend the meeting tonight and Principal Jessica Steiner accepted the certificate on her behalf.

Matt Karagias, Charlie Sly and Bentley Sly from Stuart Cramer High School won state wrestling championships. Matt won the individual state title in the 160-pound weight class. Charlie won the state wrestling championship in the 132-pound weight class. In addition, Charlie was also named the 3A most outstanding wrestler. Bently won the state championship in the 120-pound weight class.

Mr. Tod Kinlaw presented a Certificate of Recognition to students.

Public Expression - Information

Bobby Padgett 7152 Marlin Street Gastonia, NC 28056

RE: Payroll

Approval/Correction of Minutes

The Board considered Approval/Correction of Minutes - Action

Motion to adopt minutes of February 20, 2023 (Regular Meeting) and February 24, 2023 (Legislative Meeting) as presented was made by Mr. Lee Dedmon; seconded by Ms. Dot Cherry; motion carried unanimously. (9-0)

Operations Committee Report - Information

Brent Moore is chair of the committee and members are Dot Cherry, Lee Dedmon and A.M. Stephens III. Chairman Ramsey recognized Ms. Dot Cherry of the Operations Committee who provided a summary of topics considered and discussed at the most recent meeting.

(View report)

Curriculum & Instruction Committee Report - Information

Dot Guthrie is chair of the committee and members are Josh Crisp, Tod Kinlaw and Robbie Lovelace. 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)

After School Program — ASPIRE - Information

Chairman Ramsey recognized Dr. Cynthia Reynolds and Dr. LeAnne Conyers who presented a PowerPoint on After School Program – ASPIRE.

(View PowerPoint)

High School Exam Schedules - Spring 2022-2023 Traditional High Schools and Gaston Early Colleges - Action

Chairman Ramsey recognized Dr. Cristi Bostic who presented a PowerPoint on High School Final Exam Schedule.

(View PowerPoint)

Superintendent's Budget Request 2023-2024 - Information

Chairman Ramsey recognized Mr. Gary Hoskins who presented a PowerPoint on Superintendent's Budget Request.

(View PowerPoint)

School Business Systems Modernization Update - Information

Chairman Ramsey recognized Mr. Gary Hoskins who presented a PowerPoint on School Business Systems Modernization Update.

(View PowerPoint)

Consent Agenda - Action

The Board considered the Consent Agenda:

- A. Recommended Personnel
- B. Budget Amendments & Budget Transfers
- C. Construction/Repair Change Orders
- D. EOG/EOC Summer School
- E. Reduction in Force Strategic Planning
- F. Contracts
 - Educational Partners International. LLC
 - Participate Learning
 - North Gaston High School Stadium Drainage Project
 - Ashbrook High School Stadium Drainage Project
 - Holbrook Middle School Roof Replacement
 - Cramerton Middle School —Roof Replacement
 - Bessemer City Middle School Roof Replacement
 - Springfield Elementary School Roof Replacement
 - Various Schools HVAC System Cleaning
 - High School Athletic Field Renovations
 - New Grier Middle School Notice to Proceed
 - Scribbles Services, LLC
 - Bayada Addendum
 - Holy Angels Addendum

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

Superintendent's Comments

Superintendent Booker reported that the AIG Department is hosting the Math Masters, Math Elite and Elementary Battle of the Books competitions this week. On Thursday, March 23 at 6:00 p.m. the department will hold the "CoffeeHouse 678" program at Flint Groves Baptist Church. This event is a literary performance where students recite poems and stories.

Superintendent Booker reported that Stuart W. Cramer High School is presenting "Seussical" on March 23, 24 and 25 at 7:00 p.m. and on March 26 at 2:00 p.m. North Gaston High School is presenting the musical, "Into the Woods," on March 23, 24 and 25 at 7:00 p.m. On Saturday, April 1, Hawks Nest STEAM Academy is presenting its production of "Disney's Moana, Junior" with shows at 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.

Superintendent Booker reported that on Saturday, April 1, Forestview High School is hosting a Prom Closet from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. This is an opportunity for students who are in need of a dress for the prom to get one free of charge.

Superintendent Booker reported that Holbrook Middle School is hosting our All-County Middle School Band Concert on Saturday, April 1 at 2:00 p.m. and our All-County Chorus Concert for Middle Schools and High Schools on Tuesday, April 4 at 6:00 p.m.

Superintendent Booker reported that Webb Street School will host its annual plant sale April 3-6. The students have been working hard to get all of the plants in the greenhouse ready for the big sale.

Superintendent Booker reminded everyone that Spring Break is almost here. Friday, April 7 is a state holiday for all employees, and our schools and the central office will be closed. April 10-13 is teacher annual leave days, and Friday, April 14 is an optional teacher workday, which means no school for students the week of April 10.

Superintendent Booker reported that we will hold a Job Fair on Friday, April 28 at Catawba Heights Baptist Church in Belmont. The event runs from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. Applicants interested in attending the job fair may visit the Gaston County Schools website and complete the online form under the "Jobs" tab on the Human Resources page.

Chairman Ramsey wished a "Happy Birthday" to Mr. A.M. Stephens III and Mrs. Robbie Lovelace.

Closed Session

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

Motion to go into Closed Session was made by Ms. Dot Cherry; seconded by Mr. Brent Moore; motion carried unanimously. (9-0)

The Board went into Closed Session at 7:22 p.m.

The Board returned to Open Session at 8:04 p.m.

Adjournment

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

The Board Meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Approved:	
Jeff K. Ramsey, Chairman [Corporate Seal]	W. Jeffrey Booker, Secretary
Date Approved:	

Gaston County Schools Board of Education Joint Board of Education/Board of Commissioner Meeting Tuesday, March 28, 2023 12:00 p.m.

Minutes

The Gaston County Board of Education met in a special meeting on Tuesday, March 28, 2023 at the Gaston County Administrative Building, Conference Room 3A, Gastonia, NC. Board Members in attendance were: Chairman Jeff Ramsey, Vice Chairman Dot Cherry, Josh Crisp, Lee Dedmon, Dot Guthrie, Tod Kinlaw, Robbie Lovelace, Brent Moore and A.M. Stephens III.

Additional attendees from Gaston County Board of Education include: Superintendent Dr. W. Jeffrey Booker, Attorney Sonya McGraw, Associate Superintendents Melissa Balknight and Gary Hoskins, Chief Communications Officer Todd Hagans, and Board Clerk Dana Luoto.

Attendees from Gaston County Board of Commissioners: Chairman Chad Brown, Vice Chairman Bob Hovis, Allen Fraley, Kim Johnson, Tom Keigher, Cathy Cloninger and Ronnie Worley.

Additional attendees from Gaston County Board of Commissioners: County Manager Dr. Kim Eagle, Deputy County Manager Matthew Rhoten and Board Clerk Donna Buff.

Chairman Chad Brown called the meeting to order at 12:11 p.m. and welcomed everyone.

Superintendent Booker presented a PowerPoint on the 2023-2024 Gaston County Schools Budget Request.

(View PowerPoint)

Discussion occurred.

Chairman Brown suggested forming a committee with two Board Members and two Commissioners who collaborate and present a monthly report. Chairman Brown thanked everyone for coming.

The meeting adjourned at 1:26 p.m.

Approved:

Jeff K. Ramsey, Chairman

[Corporate Seal]

Date Approved:

Meeting Date:	4/17/2023		
Agenda Item T	itle/Topic: Ope	rations Comr	nittee Report
Type of Item:	□ Consent	☐ Action	☑ Information
Main Points:			
discuss operation of the Operation	ons-related proje	ects and issues ttee's actions	Operations Committee meets regularly to be The Committee met on April 3, 2023. A and discussions will be made at the Board
Fiscal Implicat	ions:		
None			
Recommendat	ion:		
None			
Policy Implicat	tions:		
The Board will b	oe informed of O	perations Com	mittee discussions and information.
Strategic Goal	Alignment:		
Other: Policy or	Gen Statute. Se	ee above.	
Submitted by:	Gary F. Hoskin Associate Supe for Finance and	rintendent	Department: Operations

Meeting Date: 4/17/2023
Agenda Item Title/Topic: Curriculum & Instruction Committee Report
Type of Item: ☐ Consent ☐ Action ☒ Information
Main Points:
The Gaston County Board of Education's Curriculum and Instruction Committee will report to the Board regarding current committee projects and issues.
A Curriculum and Instruction Committee member will present a report of committee activities occurring since the last Board of Education Meeting.
Fiscal Implications:
None
Recommendation:
None
Policy Implications:
Board will be informed of Curriculum and Instruction projects and issues.
Strategic Goal Alignment:
Goal 1. Every student will graduate prepared for post-secondary opportunities.
Submitted by: Curriculum and Instruction Committee
Department: Curriculum and Instruction

Meeting Date: 4/17/2023
Agenda Item Title/Topic: Teacher Appreciation Week Proclamation
Type of Item: □ Consent ⊠ Action □ Information
Main Points:
To recognize Teacher Appreciation Week in Gaston County Schools, May 8-12, 2023, a proclamation is presented to the Board of Education for consideration and approval.
See the attached proclamation for consideration and approval.
Fiscal Implications:
None
Recommendation:
The recommendation is for the Board of Education to approve the Teacher Appreciation Week Proclamation. Doing so will signify the importance of observing Teacher Appreciation Week in Gaston County Schools.
Policy Implications:
None
Strategic Goal Alignment:
Goal 3. Every employee is capable and committed to the education of the whole child.
Submitted by: Todd Hagans, Chief Communications Officer
Department: Communications/Public Information (Superintendent's Office)





Gaston

PROCLAMATION

Teacher Appreciation Week

MAY 8-12, 2023

WHEREAS, Gaston County Schools is pleased to join school districts across the United States in celebrating Teacher Appreciation Week; and

WHEREAS, Teacher Appreciation Week is one of the most important annual observances in education because it brings attention to the teaching profession, which is worthy of respect, honor, and praise; and

WHEREAS, our teachers in Gaston County Schools are the superstars of public education, and they go beyond expectations every day to ensure that children learn, grow, and thrive in a school environment that is safe, welcoming, nurturing, and productive; and

WHEREAS, we know that our teachers are the people responsible for inspiring student success both inside and outside the classroom, and they are the ones who instill a lifelong love for learning in students; and

WHEREAS, during Teacher Appreciation Week, people across the United States are encouraged to use #ThankATeacher on social media to show appreciation for teachers and to express their thoughts about how a teacher made a significant difference in their life.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED to honor all teachers for their important contributions to our schools and outstanding efforts to positively influence the leaders of tomorrow, the Gaston County Board of Education is proud to proclaim the week of

May 8-12, 2023 **Teacher Appreciation Week**

in Gaston County Schools and encourages students, parents, alumni, and others in the community to express their appreciation for our teachers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this proclamation be made a part of the minutes of the Board of Education, adopted this the seventeenth day of April, 2023.

shaping our future

Meeting Date: 4/17/2023
Agenda Item Title/Topic: National School Library Month Proclamation
Type of Item: ☐ Consent ☐ Action ☐ Information
Main Points: April is National School Library Month. The annual observance is endorsed by various education-related organizations and is intended to promote the importance of school libraries/media centers and the valuable work of school librarians.
See the attached proclamation for consideration and approval.
Fiscal Implications: None
Recommendation:
To approve the proclamation, which will show the Board of Education's recognition of National School Library Month in Gaston County Schools and serve as the Board's acknowledgement of the importance of school libraries and our school librarians/media center coordinators.
Policy Implications:
None
Strategic Goal Alignment:
Goal 2. Every member of our diverse population has the opportunity for individualized instruction.
Submitted by: Todd Hagans, Chief Communications Officer
Department: Communications/Public Information (Superintendent's Office)





Gaston

PROCLAMATION

National School Library Month

WHEREAS, each year since 1985, the month of April is designated "National School Library Month" in an effort to celebrate school libraries and media centers and bring attention to the important role they play in public education in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the library/media center enhances a school's academic program by serving as the heart of a school and providing valuable resources and materials for students, teachers, and others; and

WHEREAS, the libraries in Gaston County Schools offer books, technology, and many other important tools that connect students with information, give teachers what they need to encourage discovery, and foster an engaging and collaborative learning environment; and

WHEREAS, we are proud of our school librarians and media center coordinators in Gaston County Schools, who work diligently to make the library a fun, welcoming, and special place for reading, knowledge, understanding, collaboration, and personal growth.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gaston County Board of Education is pleased to join other Boards of Education across the country in proclaiming April 2023 as

National School Library Month

and encourages the citizens of Gaston County to celebrate "National School Library Month" by thanking our school librarians and media center coordinators for their outstanding work, engaging in activities that bring positive attention to school libraries, and recognizing the significance of libraries to our schools and to our community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this proclamation be made a part of the minutes of the Board of Education, adopted this the seventeenth day of April, 2023.

shaping our future

Meeting Date: 4/17/2023 Agenda Item Title/Topic: Acceptance of the June 30, 2022 Annual Comprehensive Financial Reports (ACFR) ☐ Information Type of Item:

Consent Main Points: Anderson Smith and Wike PLLC, (ASW) Certified Public Accountants, have completed their annual audit of our financial statements and issued their opinion and compliance reports for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022. In the opinion of ASW, the financial statements for Gaston County Schools were presented fairly in all material respects. If accepted by the Board, the ACFR will be distributed to the County and other interested parties. The ACFR will also be available on the District's website along with the ACFRs for the four preceding years. Fiscal Implications: N/A Recommendation: Board moves to accept the June 30, 2022 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report. **Policy Implications:** Board policy 8310 - Annual Independent Audit Strategic Goal Alignment: Other: Policy or Gen Statute. See above. **Department:** Finance Submitted by: Gary F. Hoskins, CFO and Associate Superintendent

for Finance and Operations

Meeting Date:	4/17/2023			
Agenda Item T	itle/Topic: Acce	eptance of the	e June 30, 202	22 Compliance Report
Type of Item:	☐ Consent	⊠ Action	☐ Information	on
Main Points:				
their compliance on the following Federal Prograr was presented	e report for the fi areas: Internal C ms and Compliar	scal year ende Control Over Fi nce with Major s and the Curr	ed June 30, 20 nancial Repor State Progran iculum and In	ccountants, have completed 022. This included a Report ting, Compliance with Majorns. The Compliance Report struction Committees and a
Fiscal Implicat	ions:			
N/A				
Recommendat	ion:			
Board moves to	accept the June	30, 2022 Con	npliance Repo	rt.
Policy Implicat	ions:			
•	00 – Fiscal Mana	ngement Stand	ards	
Strategic Goal	Alignment:			
Other: Policy or	Gen Statute. Se	ee above.		
Submitted by:	Gary F. Hoskins Associate Supe for Finance and	rintendent		Department: Finance

Meeting Date:	4/17/2023			
Agenda Item T	Րitle/Topic։ Annւ	ual Engagem	ent Letter wit	h Independent Auditors
Type of Item:	□ Consent	⊠ Action	☐ Informati	on
Main Points:				
Schools for a rannual audit for 2.5% over the pannual audit fer in prices over the pa	number of years. r the fiscal year 2 past 10 years from e for 2022 was \$4	ASW is prop 023-2024. AS n \$37,500 in 20 11,000. This i ears and the a	oosing a fee of SW has increa 013 to the propersion of the ncrease is during additional time	services to Gaston County of \$47,000 for preparing the ased their audit fee by about posed \$47,000 in 2023. The e to the inflationary changes needed to audit reports and it.
Fiscal Implicat	tions:			
The annual aud	dit for fiscal year 2	2023-2024 will	cost \$47,000.	
Recommendat	tion:			
Approval of the the fiscal year 2		gagement lette	er with ASW t	to perform audit services for
Policy Implicat	tions:			
Board policy 83	310 – Annual Inde	pendent Audit	t	
Strategic Goal	Alignment:			
Other: Policy or	r Gen Statute. Se	ee above.		
Submitted by:	Gary F Hoskins	s CFO and		Department: Finance

Associate Superintendent for Finance and Operations

Meeting Date: 4/17/2023 Agenda Item Title/Topic: 2023-2024 Gaston County Schools Budget Request Type of Item: ☐ Consent ☐ Information Main Points: The school district is required by G.S. §115C-425 to operate under an annual balanced budget resolution. The 2023-2024 budget process began with a budget survey to GCS stakeholders in December 2022. Data obtained from the budget surveys was presented to the Board at their retreat in January 2023 and Fund Managers prepared a budget request for their area of supervision in February and March 2023. The Superintendent's Budget Request was based on information received from our stakeholders and Fund Managers and was presented as information to the Board on March 20, 2023, and was also presented in a Joint Meeting with the Gaston County Commissioners and the Gaston County School Board on March 28, 2023. There were no proposed changes from the Superintendent's Budget Request, so this represents the final budget request that is presented to the Board for approval. After the GCS Budget Request has been approved, it will be submitted to the County for their consideration. **Fiscal Implications:** N/A Recommendation: Board approval of the 2023-2024 Gaston County Schools Budget Request. **Policy Implications:** Board Policy 8100 - Budget Planning and Adoption **Strategic Goal Alignment:** Other: Policy or Gen Statute. See above.

Submitted by: Gary F. Hoskins, CFO and

Associate Superintendent for Finance and Operations

Department: Finance

Meeting Date: 4/17/2023						
Agenda Item T	itle/Topic: Scho	ool Business	Systems Mod	dernization Update		
Type of Item:	☐ Consent	☐ Action	⊠ Informati	on		
Main Points:						
Systems Moder replacing obsole since 1989 and districts for this July 1, 2021 and January 1, 2022 pilot district and finance, payroll	In 2016, the General Assembly passed legislation which began the School Business Systems Modernization (SBSM) initiative. One of the goals of the initiative included replacing obsolete computer systems. Since GCS used SunPac for finance and payroll since 1989 and HRMS for Human Resources since 1992, we became one of the pilot districts for this project. GCS converted its Finance systems from SunPac to Oracle on July 1, 2021 and its Human Resources and Payroll systems from SunPac and HRMS on January 1, 2022. While all computer conversions have issues and challenges, being a pilot district and converting from such an old system created additional challenges in the finance, payroll and human resources areas which we are continuing to work to resolve. We will provide an update on the existing issues and ongoing actions taken to resolve these issues.					
Fiscal Implicati	ions:					
N/A						
Recommendati	ion:					
N/A						
Policy Implicat	ions:					
SL 2016-94 Sec	tion 8.15 School	Business Syst	tems Moderni	zation		
Strategic Goal	Alignment:					
Other: Policy or	Gen Statute. Se	e above.				
Submitted by:	Gary F. Hoskins Associate Super			Department: Operations		

for Finance and Operations

Meeting Date: 4/17/2023

Agenda Item Title/Topic: Consent Agenda

Type of Item: ⊠ Consent ⊠ Action □ Information

Main Points:

Approval of the Consent Agenda by the Board for the following items:

- A. Recommended Personnel
- B. Budget Amendments & Budget Transfers
- C. Construction/Repair Change Orders
- D. Contracts
 - —Academic Services Instructional Resources 2023-2024
 - -Microsoft Software Agreement
 - —Transportation Department CalAmp/Synovia Services
 - -North Gaston High School Stadium Drainage Project
 - —Ida Rankin Elementary School Retaining Wall
 - -East Gaston High School Boiler and Chiller Replacement
 - —Cisco DNA Center Network Management and Automation Purchase
 - -Cisco Next-Generation Firewall Purchase

Fiscal Implications:

None

Recommendation:

Consent items will be adopted with a single motion, second and vote, unless a request for removal from the Consent Agenda is heard from a Board Member.

Policy Implications:

None

Strategic Goal Alignment:

Goal 1. Every student will graduate prepared for post-secondary opportunities.

Submitted by: Dr. W. Jeffrey Booker Department: Superintendent

Meeting Date: 4/17/2023
Agenda Item Title/Topic: Recommended Personnel
Type of Item: ⊠ Consent ⊠ Action □ Information
Main Points: In accordance with the provisions of G.S. 115C-276(j), "It shall be the duty of the Superintendent to recommend and the Board of Education to elect all principals, teachers and other school personnel in the administrative unit." It is also within the powers of the Board to hear requests for approved leave, retirement and resignations or terminations in accordance with employment and dismissal regulations.
Fiscal Implications: N/A
Recommendation: Approve personnel as recommended.
Policy Implications: Necessary and appropriate personnel will be provided to assure successful administratior of schools.
Strategic Goal Alignment: Other: Policy or Gen Statute. See above.

Submitted by: Dr. W. Jeffrey Booker, Superintendent Department: Human Resources

Meeting Date:	4/17/2023		
Agenda Item T	itle/Topic: Budç	get Amendme	ents and Budget Transfers
Type of Item:	⊠ Consent	⊠ Action	☐ Information
Main Points:			
in revenue and		s are needed	approved budget to reflect actual changes to transfer money to proper expenditure
Fiscal Implicat	ions:		
Makes adjustme	ents to the 2022-2	2023 budget.	
Recommendat	ion:		
Approval of the	attached listing o	f recommend	ed budget amendments and transfers.
Policy Implicat	ions:		
Policy Code: 83	00 Fiscal Manage	ement Standa	nrds
Strategic Goal	Alignment:		
Other: Policy or	Gen Statute. Se	e above.	
Submitted by:	Gary F. Hoskins Associate Super for Finance and	rintendent	Department: Finance

Gaston County Schools Changes in Appropriations

2022-2023 Budget Resolution - March Transfers Between Functions

State Public School Fund

		Expense	Expense
Function	Description	Increase	Decrease
5100	Regular Instructional Services		44,023
5200	Special Population Services		373,291
5300	Alternative Programs and Services	40,454	
5800	School-Based Support Services	169,056	
6200	Special Population Support and Development Services		3,890
6300	Alternative Programs and Services - Support and Development Services		14,603
6500	Operational Support Services	226,297	

425 007	42E 007
435.807	435.807
.00,007	

Explanation: These transfers adjust budgeted amounts per requests from fund managers/principals.

Gaston County Schools Changes in Appropriations

2022-2023 Budget Resolution - March Transfers Between Functions

Federal Grants Fund

		Expense	Expense
Function	Description	Increase	Decrease
5200	Special Population Services	463,968	
5400	School Leadership Services	501,508	
6100	Support and Development Services		46,613
6200	Special Population Support and Development Services	496,278	
6300	Alternative Programs and Services - Support and Development Services	500,000	
6400	Technology Support Services	301,077	
6500	Operational Support Services		2,894,222
6600	Financial and Human Resource Services	306,092	
6900	Policy, Leadership and Communication/Public Information Services		3,076
7200	Nutrition Services	305,218	
8100	Payments to Other Governmental Units	69,770	

`	
2 943 912	2 943 912
2,943,912	2,943,912

Explanation: These transfers adjust budgeted amounts per requests from fund managers/principals.

Gaston County Schools Changes in Appropriations

2022-2023 Budget Resolution - March Proposed Expenditures and Sources of Revenue

Publ #	ic School Fur	Description	Expense Increase (Decrease)	Revenue Increase (Decrease)
1	3100	Revenue - State Public School Fund		32,531
-	5100	Regular Instructional Services	32,53 1	•
	This amend	Iment adjusts the Classroom Teacher allotment for NCVPS, NTO, sure up - Allotment Revision #42 & 46- FY23 (PRC0001)	·	
2	3100	Revenue - State Public School Fund		824,951
	5100	Regular Instructional Services	323,197	
	5200	Special Population Services	74,246	
	5300	Alternative Programs and Services	49,844	
	5400	School Leadership Services	74,637	
	5800	School-Based Support Services	70,146	
	6100	Support and Development Services	11,249	
	6200	Special Population Support and Development Services	5,366	
	6300	Alternative Programs and Services - Support and Development Serv	2,171	
	6400	Technology Support Services	912	
	6500	Operational Support Services	130,326	
	6600	Financial and Human Resource Services	32,007	
	6700	Accountability Services	5,468	
	6800	System-Wide Pupil Support Services	5,864	
	6900	Policy, Leadership and Communication/Public Information Services	39,519	
		ment budgets the Non-Contributory Emp Benefits allotment to (3 (PRC0009)		
3	3100	Revenue - State Public School Fund		1,227,867
	5100	Regular Instructional Services	1,227,867	
		ment adjusts the Dollars for Certified Personnel allotment for ABC Illotment Revision #47- FY23 (PRC0010)		
4	3100	Revenue - State Public School Fund		23,643
	5100	Regular Instructional Services	23,643	
	This amendment adjusts the Drivers Education Training - Fuel Reserve - Allotment Revision #42- FY23 (PRC0012)			
5	3100	Revenue - State Public School Fund		402,676

State Public School Fund

	lic School Fu		Expense Increase	Revenue Increase (Decrease)
#	Function 5300		(Decrease) 402,676	(Decrease)
	This amen	Alternative Programs and Services dment budgets the Summer Reading Camps Funding -Allotment 46- FY23 (PRC0016)	182,070	
6	3100 5200	Revenue - State Public School Fund	(263,874)	(263,874)
	This amend	Special Population Services dment adjusts the Children with Disabilities - Group & Foster Homes - Allotment Revision #43- FY23 (PRC0032)	(203,874)	
7	3100	Revenue - State Public School Fund		220,654
		Operational Support Services dment budgets the Transportation of Pupils allotment - Use Tax, ves, & Early College - Allotment Revision #43- FY23 (PRC0056)	220,654	
8	3100	Revenue - State Public School Fund		218,800
		Special Population Services Idment budgets the Children with Disabilities - Special allotment - CDC allotment - Allotment Revision #43- FY23 (PRC0063)	218,800	
9	3100	Revenue - State Public School Fund		(1,227,868)
		Alternative Programs and Services Iment adjusts the At-Risk Student Services/Alternative Schools For ABC Transfer -Allotment Revision #47- FY23 (PRC0069)	(1,227,868)	
10	3100	Revenue - State Public School Fund		92,057
	6400 Technology Support Services This amendment adjusts the Business System Mondernization -LEA Approved Allotment - Allotment Revision #43- FY23 (PRC0153)		92,057	
Total State	Public School	Fund Amendments	1,551,437	1,551,437

Gaston County Schools Changes in Appropriations

2022-2023 Budget Resolution - March **Proposed Expenditures and Sources of Revenue**

Fede	ral Current Function	Expense Fund Description	Expense Increase (Decrease)	Revenue Increase (Decrease)
	2500	5 de al December		231,653
1	3600	Federal Revenue	231,653	231,033
	5200	Special Population Services	231,033	
	(PRC0060)	dment adjusts the DEC - Section 611 Grants to States funds to actual - FY23		
2	3600	Federal Revenue		8,500
	5200	Special Population Services	8,500	
	This amend FY23 (PRCC	dment adjusts the DEC - Special Education State Improvement funds to actual - 1082)		
3	3600	Federal Revenue		20,500
	5200	Special Population Services	18,619	
	5800	School-Based Support Services	989	
	8100	Payments to Other Governmental Units	892	
	This amend (PRC0118)	lment adjusts the DEC - Special Needs Targeted Assistance funds to actual - FY23		
4	3600	Federal Revenue		1,983
	5300	Alternative Programs and Services	1,170	
	6300	Alternative Programs and Services - Support and Development Services	726	
	8100	Payments to Other Governmental Units	86	
	This ameno (PRC0119)	Iment adjusts the DEC - Pre-school Targeted Assistance funds to actual - FY23		
Total I	Local Currer	nt Expense Fund Account	262,636	262,636

Gaston County Schools Changes in Appropriations

2022-2023 Budget Resolution - March Proposed Expenditures and Sources of Revenue

Restricted Grants Fund

ricted: #	Grants Fund	D escription	Expense Increase (Decrease)	Revenue Increase (Decrease
			,,	
1	4800	Local Sources - Restricted		30,940
	5100	Regular Instructional Services	30,940	
	This amend (PRC0012)	ment budgets the Drivers Education Training funds for FY23		
2	4800	Local Sources - Restricted		548
	5200	Special Population Services	548	
	This amend for FY23 (PF	ment budgets the Academically or Intellecutally Gifted (AIG) funds RC0034)		
3	4800	Local Sources - Restricted		56,028
	7200	Nutrition Services	56,028	
	This amend	ment budgets the Child Nutrition funds for FY23 (PRC0035)		
4	4800	Local Sources - Restricted		2,400
	5100	Regular Instructional Services	2,400	
	This amend	ment budgets the Instructional Support funds for FY23 (PRC0216)		
5	4800	Local Sources - Restricted		732,400
	6500	Operational Support Services	732,400	
	This amend (PRC0494)	ment budgets the South Point High Grant funds for FY23		
6	4800	Local Sources - Restricted		500
	6600	Financial and Human Resource Services	500	
	This amenda (PRC0528)	ment budgets the Human Resources-Id Badges funds for FY23		
7	4800	Local Sources - Restricted		5,690
	5800	School-Based Support Services	5,690	
	This amenda (PRC0539)	ment budgets the Business Partnership Brochure funds for FY23		
8	4800	Local Sources - Restricted		2,182
	5100	Regular Instructional Services	2,182	
	This amend	ment budgets the Staff Development funds for FY23 (PRC0549)		

Restricted Grants Fund

#	Function	D escription	Expense Increase (Decrease)	Revenue Increase (Decrease
9	4800	Local Sources - Restricted	,	8,525
	5500	Co-Curricular Services	8525	
	This amend (PRC0580)	lment budgets the NCHSSA-Coaches Cerifications funds for FY23		
10	4800	Local Sources - Restricted		2,000
	5100	Regular Instructional Services	2000	
	This amend (PRC0602)	Iment budgets the Dominion Energy Grant funds for FY23		
11	4800	Local Sources - Restricted		405
	5400	School Leadership Services	405	
	This amend (PRC0605)	Iment budgets the Principal's Masters Fund funds for FY23		
12	4800	Local Sources - Restricted		37,184
	6800	System-Wide Pupil Support Services	37,184	
	This amend (PRC0700)	ment budgets the Local Records Requests Fees funds for FY23		
13	4800	Local Sources - Restricted		870
	5100	Regular Instructional Services	870	
	This amend (PRC0705)	ment budgets the Transcripts/Microfilming funds for FY23		
14	4800	Local Sources - Restricted		70,040
	6500	Operational Support Services	70,040	•
	This amend (PRC0706)	ment budgets the Ineligible Transportation Cost funds for FY23		
15	4800	Local Sources - Restricted		56,490
	6500	Operational Support Services	52,100	
	6600	Financial and Human Resource Services	4,390	
	This amend	ment budgets the Insurance funds for FY23 (PRC0840)		
16	4800	Local Sources - Restricted		541
	6500	Operational Support Services	541	
	This amend	ment budgets the Maintenance funds for FY23 (PRC0880)		
17	4800	Local Sources - Restricted		40,462
	6500	Operational Support Services	40,462	
	This amendi	ment budgets the Fixed Asset Sales funds for FY23 (PRC0881)		

Restricted Grants Fund Expense Revenue Increase Increase (Decrease) Function Description (Decrease) 16,533 18 4800 Local Sources - Restricted 6500 16,533 **Operational Support Services** This amendment budgets the Sale Of Scrap Metal funds for FY23 (PRCO883) 1,731 19 4800 Local Sources - Restricted 6500 1731 **Operational Support Services** This amendment budgets the Duke Energy Solar Lease funds for FY23 (PRC0884) 456 20 4800 Local Sources - Restricted 6500 **Operational Support Services** 456

This amendment budgets the Facilities Remembrance funds for FY23

1,065,925	1,065,925

Total Restricted Grants Fund Amendments

(PRC0885)

Meeting Date: 4/17/2023 Agenda Item Title/Topic: Construction/Repair Change Orders Type of Item: ⊠ Consent ☐ Information Main Points: Attached is a listing of construction and repair change orders that were submitted since the last Board meeting. Any change orders that were less than \$100,000 were approved by the Superintendent or his designee in accordance with Board Policy 9030 - Facility Construction. Change orders greater than \$100,000 must be approved by the Board. Fiscal Implications: All change orders were prefunded prior to recommendation for approval. Recommendation: The Operations Committee has reviewed the attached listing of construction/repair change orders and recommended approval of these items. **Policy Implications:** Policy Code: 9030 Facility Construction Strategic Goal Alignment:

Submitted by: Gary F. Hoskins, CFO and Department: Operations

Associate Superintendent for Finance and Operations

Other: Policy or Gen Statute. See above.

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GCS CHANGE ORDER NOTIFICATION

In accordance with GCS Board Policy 9030 - Facility Construction, all construction and repair change orders approved by the Superintendent shall be reported to the Board. The project change requests (PCR) and change orders (CO) listed below were approved by the Superintendent, or his designee, since the previous Board meeting.

Presented				Contract	Change
to BOE	Contractor's Name	Project name	Description of Change	Amount	Amount
04-17-23 None	None		1		

Meeting Date:	4/17/2023		
Agenda Item T	itle/Topic: Cont	racts and Ex	penditures >\$100,000
Type of Item:	⊠ Consent	⊠ Action	☐ Information
Main Points:			
and recommen		by the Board	ures over \$100,000 was reviewed by Staff , or are contracts less than \$100,000 but
Fiscal Implicat	ions:		
All contracts as operational sav	•	will be paid	using bond funding, capital proceeds or
Recommendat	ion:		
Approval			
Policy Implicat	tions:		
Board Policy 86	340		
Strategic Goal	Alignment:		
Other: Policy or	Gen Statute. Se	e above.	
Submitted by:	Gary F. Hoskins, Associate Super for Finance and	intendent	Department: Finance and Operations

Type of Item: ⊠	7.	□ A -4:	☐ Information
Agenda Item Titl	le/Topic: Acad	emic Service	s - Instructional Resources 2023-2024
Meeting Date: 4	/1//2023		

Main Points:

Academic Services will seek Board approval on contracts being utilized during the 2023-2024 school year to ensure staff members are provided with the necessary research-based resources which support increased academic achievement and student growth. These resources will also support the continued implementation of the North Carolina academic standards. This item was reviewed and discussed by the Curriculum & Instruction Committee at the April 3, 2023 meeting.

ACT WorkKeys Curriculum/Test Prep (9-12) will support test preparation for the ACT WorkKeys at all high schools with Career and Technical Education programs. The program includes a placement screener, quizzes to check for mastery of content, and opportunities for learners to practice skills via embedded, interactive components. A one-year contract will be initiated not to exceed \$14,850.

Curriculum Associates iReady iReady (K-8) is a digital platform for diagnostic assessment and practice for both reading and math. Curriculum Associates will provide an embedded Professional Development Specialist and 20 additional days for district events. Through the Toolbox, K-8 teachers will have access to standards-aligned resources to assist with the delivery of core instruction and intervention. K-5 text will be renewed for one year. A contract will be initiated not to exceed \$1,540,474.

EnVision Professional Development (9) is needed to support Math 1 teachers as they work to implement this resource that was purchased last summer. This additional professional development will allow teachers to receive both virtual and in-person support at a one-year cost not to exceed \$16,830.

Explore Learning/Gizmos (6-12) is used by math and science teachers. This resource includes an online platform that allows access to interactive math and science content for simulations and inquiry-based instruction. This resource has been in place since the 2018-19 school year. A one-year contract will be initiated not to exceed \$96,266.

Imagine Learning (6-12), formerly Edgenuity, is an online platform used to support students in Gaston Virtual Academy and provide additional elective opportunities, as well as the curriculum for our High School students in credit recovery. The current contract

expires on June 30, 2023. We will initiate a three year contract with a payment each year of the contract not to exceed \$236,803.

Instructure (6-12), the parent company for Canvas, is a 6-12 learning management system (LMS) that has all the tools needed to create engaging content, design lessons, and assess student understanding. Canvas helps teachers manage collaborative groups, differentiate instruction, and develop blended instruction. Canvas makes it easier to identify student needs and guide students with learning paths. The current contract expires on June 30, 2023. A one-year contract will be initiated not to exceed \$112,669.

iXL (K-12) is a personalized digital learning platform providing students an opportunity to practice concepts targeting specific learning goals in multiple content areas. A one-year contract will be initiated not to exceed \$542,320.

Leader in Me (K-12) is a framework based on the educational practices of the Franklin Covey Educational Group and the principles of the Seven Habits of Highly Effective People. The Leader in Me program is the focus of the schools in the Dallas Community. The program explores various leadership paradigms by teaching highly effective practices to support the transformation of students as they prepare for college and life as citizens in our community and globally. Educators from Leader in Me schools will participate in training and discussion on new advancements to improve the model and processes to ensure effective transformation results for students. Students in the secondary program will have the opportunity to earn Leadership credentials. A one-year contract will be initiated not to exceed \$142,643.

LETRS training for Staff Members (K-5) is designed to target the needs of instructional leaders who must understand the "what," "why," and "how" of literacy instruction, LETRS for Administrators teaches how to build capacity, collaborate with school leadership teams, manage goal setting, develop assessment plans, and make effective data-based decisions to have a systemic impact on student literacy achievement. It is a comprehensive, flexible, research-based, and relevant professional learning course of study. A one-year contract will be initiated not to exceed \$19,800.

School Specialty (K-12) provides the S.P.I.R.E. and MegaWords curricula, both of which are research-proven reading intervention programs that will be used to support our K-12 students with targeted reading instruction. It is designed to build reading success through an intensive, structured, and spiraling curriculum that incorporates phonological awareness, phonics, spelling, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension in a systematic 10-Step lesson plan. The S.P.I.R.E. curriculum is a unique combination of print and digital resources - students work with print and manipulatives, while the teacher-led instruction is delivered digitally, including assessment and reporting. Megawords is a reading intervention program. This program teaches reading, spelling, and contextual use of multisyllabic words through multisensory instruction and systematic progression of skills. A one-year contract will be initiated not to exceed \$115,951.

Schoolnet is an application provided by Pearson that allows educators to build lesson plans, create instructional materials and supplement their teaching with digital resources. This tool gives teachers the ability to create and modify assessments as well as receive results in real-time with relevant data for reporting purposes. The assessment and reporting tools are complemented by a fully-integrated materials bank for searching, storing, and editing lesson plans and curricular material. It can also support district-wide curriculum management with tools for creating and scheduling curriculum and district-wide pacing guides. A one-year contract will be initiated not to exceed \$40,000.

Transmath (6-12) is a comprehensive math intervention curriculum that targets middle and high school students who lack the foundational skills necessary for entry into algebra and/or who are two or more years below grade level in math. Using a dual-topic approach, TransMath improves math skills by emphasizing fewer topics in greater depth while accelerating students to more advanced math, from number sense to rational numbers, to understanding algebra. TransMath will help students who struggle with math and will boost their confidence. A one-year contract will be initiated not to exceed \$9,776.

Fiscal Implications:

Total cost of contracts: \$2,888,382

Federal, state, and local funds will be used to support instructional resources.

Recommendation:

Approve contracts for the 2023 - 2024 school year to continue supporting instructional resources.

Policy Implications:

N/A

Strategic Goal Alignment:

Goal 2. Every member of our diverse population has the opportunity for individualized instruction.

Submitted by: Derrick Jackson, Department: Academic Services

Executive Director of Elementary Instruction

Chris Bennett.

Executive Director of Middle Grades Instruction

Cristi Bostic,

Executive Director of High School Instruction

Jill Payne,

Executive Director of Student Support Services

Meeting Date	: 4/17/2023			
Agenda Item	Title/Topic:	Microsoft S	oftware Aç	greement

Type of Item: ⊠ Consent ⊠ Action □ Information

Main Points:

Microsoft Enrollment for Education (EES) is the Microsoft volume licensing agreement for academic institutions with 1,000 or more users. This item was reviewed and discussed by the Operations Committee at the April 3, 2023 meeting. This agreement provides the following items:

- 1. Windows operating system
- 2. Microsoft Office Suite
- 3. Active Directory (the software used to manage our Windows network)
- 4. Windows Server operating system.

Fiscal Implications:

There is a line item in the current TSS operating budget in the amount of \$204,587 for this item.

Recommendation:

Approve the purchase of the Microsoft EES.

Policy Implications:

N/A

Strategic Goal Alignment:

Goal 3: Every employee uses innovative practices to serve all students, parents, and other stakeholders.

Submitted by: Aaron Slutsky, Department: TSS

Chief Technology Officer

Meeting Date:	4/17/2023		
Agenda Item Ti	tle/Topic: Tran	sportation De	epartment - CalAmp/Synovia Services
Type of Item:	⊠ Consent	⊠ Action	☐ Information
Main Points:			
Schools for the la activity buses, a attendance for a	ast five years. T and transportation III school bus dr ating. We are se	his software u on fleet servic ivers and it int	oduct that has been used by Gaston County uses GPS to track our yellow school buses, ce vehicles. It is also used for time and ntegrates with the software Bus Planner to tinue these services with CalAmp/Synovia
Fiscal Implicati	ons:		
	with two one-yea	ar renewal agr	a service product will be \$14,601 per month preements. The contract will be paid using
Recommendation	on:		
Board approval our transportatio			th CalAmp/Synovia to provide services for .
Policy Implicati	ons:		
N/A			
Strategic Goal A	Alignment:		
Goal 5. Every stu	udent has the op	portunity to lea	earn in a safe school environment.
Submitted by:	~	chard, Execut uxiliary Servic	-

Meeting Date: 4/17/2023

Agenda Item Title/Topic: North Gaston High School – Stadium Drainage Project

Type of Item: \square Consent \square Action \square Information

Main Points:

The existing drainage system under the North Gaston High School stadium field is failing and needs to be replaced to prevent unsafe playing conditions. After the replacement of the existing drainage system, the stadium field will need to be fine graded and a new irrigation system, turf and fence will need to be installed. This item was reviewed and discussed by the Operations Committee at the April 3, 2023 meeting.

Fiscal Implications:

Only one bid was received for this project on March 13, 2023. In order to ensure competitive pricing, the project was rebid. However, Landmasters, Inc. submitted the only bid at \$268,666. This project will be funded by Gaston County capital funds.

Recommendation:

The Operations Committee recommends approving Landmasters, Inc. to replace the North Gaston High School stadium field turf, irrigation system, drainage system and fencing for \$268,666.

Policy Implications:

Policy Code: 9200 Care and Maintenance of Facilities

Strategic Goal Alignment:

Other: Policy or Gen Statute. See above.

Submitted by: Morgen Houchard, Executive Department: Auxiliary Services

Director of Auxiliary Services

Meeting Date: 4/17/2023

Agenda Item Title/Topic: Ida Rankin Elementary School – Retaining Wall

Type of Item: ⊠ Consent ⊠ Action □ Information

Main Points:

Due to years of erosion, a large void has developed under the outside stairs which has caused the adjacent retaining wall to crack and the patio/bathroom floor at the end of the building to sink. The damage caused by the erosion needs to be corrected and action needs to be taken to prevent future erosion issues. This includes replacing the existing retaining wall. This item was reviewed and discussed by the Operations Committee at the April 3, 2023 meeting.

Fiscal Implications:

Quinn Sales, Inc. provided the lowest responsive bid of \$200,178 to repair the erosion issues affecting the retaining wall and outside stairs at Ida Rankin Elementary School. This project will be funded by County capital funds.

Recommendation:

The Operations Committee recommends approving Quinn Sales, Inc. to repair the damage caused by erosion at Ida Rankin Elementary School.

Policy Implications:

9200: Care and Maintenance of Facilities

Strategic Goal Alignment:

Other: Policy or Gen Statute. See above.

Submitted by: Morgen Houchard, Executive Department: Auxiliary Services

Director of Auxiliary Services

Meeting Date: 4/17/2023

Agenda Item Title/Topic: East Gaston High School - Boiler and Chiller Replacement

Type of Item: \square Consent \square Action \square Information

Main Points:

Due to age and ongoing maintenance, the boiler and chiller at East Gaston High School is in need of replacement. This item was reviewed and discussed by the Operations Committee at the April 3, 2023 meeting.

Fiscal Implications:

Only two bids were received for this project when the bids were opened on March 29, 2023. In an effort to receive the most competitive pricing, we will rebid the project. The new bids will be received later in April. This project will be funded by Gaston County capital funds.

Recommendation

The Operations Committee recommends that the Board authorize the Superintendent and Board Chairman to accept the lowest responsible bid for this project so that the work can begin as soon as possible. This action will be ratified by the Board at a future meeting.

Policy Implications:

9500: Care and Maintenance of Facilities

Strategic Goal Alignment:

Other: Policy or Gen Statute. See above.

Submitted by: Morgen Houchard, Executive Department: Auxiliary Services

Director of Auxiliary Services

Meeting Date: 04/17/2023

Agenda Item Title/Topic: Cisco DNA Center Network Management and

Automation Purchase

Type of Item: ⊠ Consent ⊠ Action □ Information

Main Points:

Gaston County Schools currently uses Cisco Prime Infrastructure to manage its networks. Cisco has announced the end-of-life dates for the Cisco Prime Infrastructure. The last date to receive applicable service and support for this product is November 23, 2023. Cisco has replaced Prime Infrastructure with Cisco DNA Center. Cisco DNA Center is a network controller that resides on a physical appliance that allows us to manage our network. This will allow us to provision and configure all of our network devices. It uses advanced artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) to proactively monitor, troubleshoot, and optimize our network. Cisco DNA also facilitates a secure zero-trust network, improving our cyber security posture. This proposal provides redundancy to eliminate downtime. This item was reviewed and discussed by the Operations Committee at the April 3, 2023 meeting.

Fiscal Implications:

Gaston County Schools will use \$182,591 from the ESSER budget to fund the purchase Cisco DNA Center for each data center.

Recommendation:

The Operations Committee recommends the purchase of Cisco DNA Center Network Management and Automation for each data center.

Policy Implications:

Policy Code: 3226 Internet Safety

Strategic Goal Alignment:

Goal 2: Every student has the opportunity to learn in a safe school environment.

Submitted by: Aaron W. Slutsky, Chief Technology Officer Department: TSS

Meeting Date: 04/17/2023

Agenda Item Title/Topic: Cisco Next-Generation Firewall Purchase

Type of Item: ⊠ Consent ⊠ Action □ Information

Main Points:

Cisco Next-Generation Firewall is a network security appliance. The firewall provides traditional firewall services such as inspection of incoming and outgoing network traffic. A next-generation firewall includes additional features like application awareness and control, integrated intrusion prevention, and cloud-delivered threat intelligence. A firewall is essential for cyber security as it acts as a barrier between our internal network and the internet. This proposal includes two Cisco Next-Generation Firewalls. It is necessary to replace the firewall at each data center at the same time. This item was reviewed and discussed by the Operations Committee at the April 3, 2023 meeting.

Fiscal Implications:

Gaston County Schools will use \$210,412 from the ESSER budget to fund the purchase of two Cisco Next-Generation Firewalls.

Recommendation:

The Operations Committee recommends the purchase of two Cisco Next-Generation Firewalls.

Policy Implications:

Policy Code: 3226 Internet Safety

Strategic Goal Alignment:

Goal 2: Every student has the opportunity to learn in a safe school environment.

Submitted by: Aaron W. Slutsky, Chief Technology Officer Department: TSS

Meeting Date: 4/17/2023								
Agenda Item Title/Topic: Closed Session								
Type of Item:	□ Consent	□ Action	⊠ Information					
Main Points:								
Closed sessions shall be held when required to permit a public body to act in the public interest as permitted by law.								
- N.C.G.S. §143-318.11(a)(6) Personnel								
 N.C.G.S. §143-318.11(a)(3) Consultation with Attorney In order to consult with the Board's attorney and protect the attorney client privilege, and to receive advice with respect to the lawsuits captioned: 								
—22-CVS-2828 Greene vs. Golden and The Gaston County Board of Education et al.								
—20-CVS-3924 The Gaston County Board of Education vs. Shelco, et al.								
—19-CVS-3893 McKinney et al. vs. Goins and The Gaston County Board of Education								
—21-CVS-5016 Bostic vs. Phroneberger and The Gaston County Board of Education								
21-CVS-5017	' Lukinoff vs. Barb	er and The G	aston County Board of Education					
21-CVS-5018	Brittain vs. Beas	on and The G	aston County Board of Education					
21-CVS-5019	Long vs. The Ga	ston County E	Board of Education					
-23-CVS-812 I	—23-CVS-812 NCAE et al. vs. The Gaston County Board of Education							
—Any other lega	al matters.							
Fiscal Implicati	ions:							
N/A								

Recommendation:

Board to consider information provided in Closed Session in accordance with G.S. §143-318.11.

Policy Implications:

N/A

Strategic Goal Alignment:

Other: Policy or Gen Statute. See above.

Submitted by: Sonya McGraw, Attorney Department: Legal/Superintendent's Office

Last Name	First Name	Category	School
Banks	Christy	Hire	Grier Middle School - 408
Barber	Barbara	Hire	Gardner Park Elementary School - 400
Barbour	Vatronza	Hire	Elementary Instruction - 003
Bliley	Rhonda	Resignation	H.H. Beam Elementary School - 492
Brechtel	Amy	Promotion	Brookside Elementary School - 340
Brown	Karen	Resignation	School Nutrition - 007
Brown	Sharon	Resignation	H.H. Beam Elementary School - 492
Brown	Shelia	Hire	Bessemer City Primary School - 338
Bryant	Loretta	Hire	School Nutrition - 007
Bryant	Shelia	Transfer	School Nutrition - 007
Caldwell	Terry	Hire	Gardner Park Elementary School - 400
Campbell	Melissa	Resignation	Cramerton Middle School - 380
Capps	Linda	Resignation	School Nutrition - 007
Carpenter	Andrew	Hire	Academic Services - 021
Carpenter	Maegan	Resignation	W. Blaine Beam Intermediate School - 339
Dawkins	Vanessa	Promotion	School Nutrition - 007
Daza Murcia	Laura	Promotion	Holbrook Middle School - 426
Dionicio	Ruth	Hire	Human Resources - 006
Dixon	Regina	Transfer	School Nutrition - 007
Dobransky	Brandon	Resignation	Belmont Middle School - 324
Durko	Susan	Resignation	Pleasant Ridge Elementary School - 480
Farr	Caitlin	Demotion	Brookside Elementary School - 340
Feathers	Samuel	Hire	Warlick Academy - 372
	Timothy	Rehire an Employee	W. Blaine Beam Intermediate School - 339
Fleming	Victoria	Resignation	Department for Exceptional Children - 010
Fore	Steven	Resignation	Transportation - 009
Gaston	Mariah	Resignation	Stuart W. Cramer High School - 378
Gatlin		Retirement	Edward D. Sadler, Jr. Elementary School - 392
Ghent	Donna	Hire	Holbrook Middle School - 426
Grossman	Scott	Transfer	North Gaston High School - 470
Harkey	Charles	Resignation	Bessemer City Middle School - 436
Heller	Kristen	Resignation	School Nutrition - 007
Henriquez	Johana	Resignation	South Point High School - 494
Hester	Terressa		New Hope Elementary School - 464
Hoagland	Kelly	Hire	South Point High School - 494
Holmes	Jean	Retirement	H.H. Beam Elementary School - 492
Hudspeth	Amber	Transfer	Grier Middle School - 408
Jennings	Nina	Hire	Grier Middle School - 408
Johnson	Jessica	Hire	Hawks Nest STEAM Academy - 420
June	Samuel	Hire	Southwest Middle School - 498
Kohut	David	Resignation	Middle School Instruction - 017
Lynch	Kimberly	Hire	
McCaskill	Rhonda	Transfer	School Nutrition - 007
Means	Bridget	Promotion	Carr Elementary School - 344
Moore	Labreeska	Resignation	School Nutrition - 007
Moss	Nicholas	Resignation	Pleasant Ridge Elementary School - 480
Nelms	Renee	Hire	North Gaston High School - 470

Last Name	First Name	Category	School
Owens	Sherri	Retirement	Southwest Middle School - 498
Phillips	Fran	Death	Forestview High School - 396
Ray	Reshitta	Hire	North Gaston High School - 470
Rayne	Tracy	Rehire an Employee	Gardner Park Elementary School - 400
Reese	Amanda	Promotion	Sherwood Elementary School - 490
Reid	Dane	Resignation	Hunter Huss High School - 428
Roberts	Lashanda	Transfer	School Nutrition - 007
Roland Littlejohn	Monica	Resignation	Hunter Huss High School - 428
 Safrit	Ashley	Resignation	School Nutrition - 007
Sanchez	Yerika	Resignation	Lingerfeldt Elementary School - 438
Shook	Christopher	Hire	W.C. Friday Middle School - 514
Spear	Kristin	Resignation	Sherwood Elementary School - 490
Staples	Daniel	Involuntary Termination	Facilities - 004
Stewart	Tempestt	Hire	North Gaston High School - 470
Stoudt	Maureen	Rehire an Employee	Department for Exceptional Children - 010
Thomas	Haley	Hire	School Nutrition - 007
Thomas	Hunter	Hire	Kiser Elementary School - 432
Welle	Christen	Resignation	Hawks Nest STEAM Academy - 420
Woolard	Donna	Transfer	School Nutrition - 007
Young	Terry	Hire	North Gaston High School - 470