

Gaston County Schools  
Board of Education  
Monday, June 12, 2023  
Meeting 5:30 p.m.

**MINUTES**

The Gaston County Board of Education met in a regular session on Monday, June 12, 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 (absent), Brent Moore, and Mr. 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 5:30 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 Mr. A.M. Stephens III; motion carried unanimously. (8-0)

**Recognition of Superintendent**

Chairman Ramsey recognized Mr. Todd Hagans who reported that Superintendent Booker will be leaving Gaston County Schools at the conclusion of the school year after more than nine years as Superintendent. Mr. Hagans recognized the Honorable Chief Resident Superior Court Judge David Phillips, the Honorable Judge Justin Davis, Mr. Mark Upchurch, Mr. Kevin Collier, Mr. Reeves McGlohon and Mrs. Andrea Stephens. Mr. Hagans highlighted some of the significant accomplishments of Superintendent Booker during his tenure at Gaston County Schools. Chairman Ramsey presented a crystal vase to Superintendent Booker. Board Members thanked Superintendent Booker for his leadership and commitment to Gaston County Schools.

A brief reception was held honoring Superintendent Booker.

**Good News – Information**

Mr. Todd Hagans recognized Ms. Lynn Whiteside, principal of New Hope Elementary School. Over the past 10 years, New Hope Elementary has successfully raised a total of \$69,496.35 in support of the American Heart Association! In the past three years alone, the school has surpassed \$47,000 in fundraising, which shows the growing support for the school-wide efforts to support the American Heart Association.

Mr. A.M. Stephens III presented a recognition plaque to Ms. Whiteside.

Mr. Todd Hagans recognized Ms. Aissatou Diouf of Ashbrook High School. Last week, Aissatou was among the distinguished service award winners, who were recognized by the Gaston County Jaycees during a dinner and ceremony. Aissatou is the founder of a non-profit chapter of Cancer Kids First NC, which focuses on providing support for children with cancer. She rallied a group of teen volunteers, who have worked to bring awareness to pediatric cancer and collected more than \$1,000 through various fundraisers. Each month, it is Aissatou's goal to have either a fundraiser, collection drive, or some type of service project to benefit Levine Children's Hospital. Additionally, she is one of 18 students to be selected to participate in the North Carolina Governor's School and will attend the prestigious academic enrichment program beginning next week at Winston-Salem State University where she will study natural science.

Mrs. Dot Guthrie presented a recognition plaque to Aissatou.

Mr. Todd Hagans recognized Mrs. Darlene Byers of Pleasant Ridge Elementary School for receiving the Jaycees Distinguished Service Award for Outstanding Teacher. Mrs. Byers is a veteran educator with more than 20 years of successful teaching experience. This past school year, Mrs. Byers volunteered to teach a group of 40 students that needed additional academic support with an emphasis on small-group and one-to-one personalized instruction.

Ms. Dot Cherry presented a recognition plaque to Mrs. Byers.

Mr. Todd Hagans reported our Accountability Department is responsible for conducting a school-based audit for PowerSchool, which is our student information system. Every two years, an audit is completed for each school. Mr. Hagans recognized the schools that achieved a perfect score of 100 percent on the PowerSchool audit, meaning they had no errors for the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 school years.

- Darla Mellon — Gaston Early College of Medical Sciences
- Natasha Fulbright — Hawks Nest STEAM Academy
- Toni Lowrance — Cramerton Middle School
- Dolly Bristol — East Gaston High School
- Kathy Wellborn — Webb Street School

Chairman Jeff Ramsey and Ms. Dot Cherry presented a recognition plaque to each employee.

Mr. Toddy Hagans recognized the schools that scored a 99 percent on the PowerSchool audit for the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 school years.

- Melissa Knox — Sherwood Elementary
- Bonnie Saylor — Ashbrook High School
- Leah Stewart — Gaston Early College High School
- Deborah McCarn — Hunter Huss High School
- Kristin Boone — North Gaston High School
- Becky Ford — Stuart W. Cramer High School
- Teresa Whitesides — Belmont Central Elementary
- Angela Weaver — Pleasant Ridge Elementary
- Cherri Johnston — Belmont Middle School

- Susan Johnson — Mount Holly Middle School
- Judy Mauldin — Southwest Middle School
- Christy Kiser — Highland School of Technology

Chairman Ramsey and Ms. Dot Cherry presented a recognition plaque to each employee.

Superintendent Booker thanked our district-level PowerSchool specialists, Scott Cassell and Susie Bradley, for working with our school data managers and ensuring that our student data is current and accurate.

### **Public Expression – Information**

No one signed up for Public Expression.

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

The Board considered Approval/Correction of Minutes – Action

Motion to adopt minutes of May 1, 2023 (Work Session) and May 15, 2023 (Regular Meeting) as presented was made by Mr. Lee Dedmon; seconded by Mr. Josh Crisp; motion carried unanimously.  
(8-0)

### **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 Mr. Josh Crisp of the Curriculum & Instruction Committee who provided a summary of topics considered and discussed at the most recent meeting.

(View report)

### **Career & Technical Education Update – Information**

Chairman Ramsey recognized Mr. Brett Buchanan who presented a PowerPoint on 2022-2023 Career & Technical Education Highlights.

(View PowerPoint)

### **School Nutrition Annual Report – Information**

Chairman Ramsey recognized Mrs. Angela Calamia who presented a PowerPoint on School Nutrition Annual Report.

(View PowerPoint)

### **School Nutrition School Year 2023-2024 Formal Bids – Action**

Chairman Ramsey recognized Mrs. Angela Calamia who asked the Board to consider approval of the 2023-2024 formal bids for the period beginning August 1, 2023 – July 31 2024.

#### **Motion**

The Motion was made by Ms. Dot Cherry; seconded by Mrs. Dot Guthrie that the Board  
**Approve the 2023-2024 School Nutrition Formal Bids**

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

### **Out-of-County Tuition – Action**

Chairman Ramsey recognized Mr. Gary Hoskins who presented a PowerPoint on Out-of-County Tuition.

(View PowerPoint)

#### **Motion**

The Motion was made by Mr. Lee Dedmon; seconded by Mr. Josh Crisp that the Board  
**Approve the 2023-2024 tuition rate of \$1,779 for GCS students domiciled outside of Gaston County and \$8,945 for GCS students domiciled outside of North Carolina**

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

### **2023-2024 Budget Update – Information**

Chairman Ramsey recognized Mr. Gary Hoskins who presented a PowerPoint on Budget Update.

(View PowerPoint)

### **2023-2024 Interim Budget – Action**

Chairman Ramsey recognized Mr. Gary Hoskins who presented a PowerPoint on Interim Budget.

(View PowerPoint)

#### **Motion**

The Motion was made by Mr. Lee Dedmon; seconded by Mr. Josh Crisp that the Board  
**Approve the 2023-2024 Interim Budget at the level of 80% of the 2022-2023 Budget**

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

### **New Classroom Teacher Recruitment and Retention Bonus – Action**

Chairman Ramsey recognized Mr. Gary Hoskins who presented a PowerPoint on New Classroom Teacher Bonus.

(View PowerPoint)



### **Motion**

The Motion was made by Ms. Dot Cherry; seconded by Mrs. Dot Guthrie that the Board  
**Approve the recruitment and retention bonus for new classroom teachers as outlined by Mr. Hoskins**

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

### **Superintendent Selection Process, North Carolina School Boards Association – Action**

Chairman Ramsey recognized Mr. Sam Thorp, NCSBA - Assistant Legal Counsel for Superintendent Searches who reviewed the Superintendent Search Process. Discussion occurred.

### **Motion**

The Motion was made by Mr. Brent Moore; seconded by Mr. A.M. Stephens III that the Board  
**Move forward to post our Superintendent vacancy with the North Carolina School Boards Association (NCSBA) on Tuesday, June 13, 2023 and hold a scheduled Work Session as soon as possible to discuss customizing the survey. Move application deadline to Monday, August 7, 2023 and utilize the paid advertising option with American Association of School Administrators (AASA) for sixty days.**

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

### **Consent Agenda – Action**

The Board considered the Consent Agenda:

- A. Recommended Personnel
- B. Budget Amendments & Budget Transfers
- C. Construction/Repair Change Orders
- D. Federal Programs Budget 2023-2024
- E. Contracts
  - Ashbrook High School – Boiler/Chiller Replacement
  - Kiser Elementary School Media Center Carpet Replacement
  - Cellular Telephone Contract
  - VoIP Contract
  - WAN Contract
  - Restorative Practices Professional Development
  - 2023-2024 Career and Technical Education Local Application System Grant
  - Student-Specific Support Aids

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

### **Superintendent's Comments**

Superintendent Booker thanked the Board for the earlier recognition.

Superintendent Booker recognized and thanked Todd Hagans and the Communications Department for all the “behind the scenes” work you do with our events. Our events always run smoothly and efficiently and we thank you for everything you do.

Superintendent Booker reported we had the privilege of hosting 15 graduation ceremonies that featured more than 2,000 students proudly receiving their well-deserved diploma.

Superintendent Booker announced we have transitioned to our summer work schedule for both our schools and central office buildings. Monday through Thursday, we are open from 7:00 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. and closed on Fridays. The summer schedule will be in effect until Friday, July 28.

Superintendent Booker highlighted several summer programs already in progress:

The Commissioners School of Excellence is currently underway and will conclude Thursday, June 15, 2023 after two weeks of activities. Our Camp Gaston summer enrichment program began last week, and our summer nutrition program, which offers convenient access to meals at various school and community sites throughout the county, will continue until August 3, 2023. Information about the summer meals program is on our website.

Superintendent Booker reminded everyone that new student enrollment and kindergarten registration are ongoing throughout the summer. We encourage parents to register online to avoid the rush in August.

Chairman Ramsey thanked Superintendent Booker for his dedication, devotion and leadership to make Gaston County Schools the success that it is and we wish you continued success.

Chairman Ramsey reported we typically do not hold a Board Meeting in July but we may need to hold a meeting in July to continue discussion on the superintendent search.

### **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. Josh Crisp; motion carried unanimously. (8-0)

The Board went into Closed Session at 8:22 p.m.

The Board returned to Open Session at 8:44 p.m.

### **Motion**

The Motion was made by Mr. A.M. Stephens III; seconded by Mr. Tod Kinlaw that the Board

**Award a two-year Assistant Principal contract effective July 1, 2023 for the following:**

William Benson, Jr.

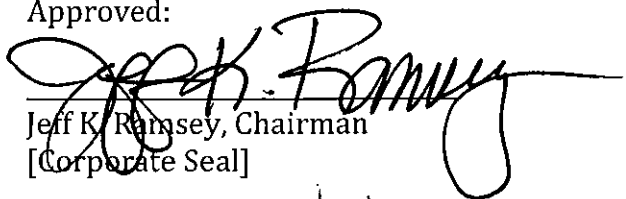
A vote was taken and motion to approve the item as presented carried unanimously. (8-0)

## Adjournment

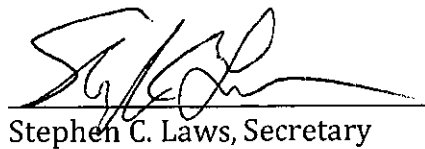
All business having been conducted, Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Josh Crisp; seconded by Mr. Lee Dedmon motion carried unanimously. (8-0)

The Board Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Approved:



Jeff K. Ramsey, Chairman  
[Corporate Seal]



Stephen C. Laws, Secretary

Date Approved: 7/10/2023

## **Gaston County Schools**

### **Operations Committee Report – June 12, 2023**

The Operations Committee met on Monday, June 5, 2023 at 8:30am. Our committee consists of Chairman Brent Moore, Lee Dedmon, Dot Cherry, and A. M. Stephens III.

Our agenda and discussions included the following:

1. Executive Director of Auxiliary Services, Morgen Houchard, updated us on numerous summer projects, our two state funded capital projects, and progress on Grier Middle School Construction.
2. Two architectural firms have been selected through the RFQ process and will begin design work on an eight-classroom addition at Belmont Central Elementary and on safety and façade improvements at North Gaston High School.
3. The Cherryville City Manager has requested that GCS allow Gaston County to build a gymnasium on GCS property adjacent to Cherryville Elementary School. However, no recommendations were made regarding this request as the City of Cherryville has apparently found a different location for this gym.
4. A developer has requested permanent access to our road at Learning Place. They have also asked the Board to consider selling .75 of an acre that we own that adjoins their property. The Committee has declined to recommend these requests.
5. A change order for \$300,000 has been issued to replace unsuitable soils with stone and geo-grid for the drainage project at North Gaston High School. The Committee recommends approval of this change order.
6. Gary Hoskins, Associate Superintendent for Finance and Operations and Chief Financial Officer, updated us on the School Business Systems Modernization. As of June 2<sup>nd</sup> all retirement accounts are up to date and employee benefit files have been submitted, but are waiting to be accepted. Comp time is currently the only global issue outstanding and we are working with Oracle and CherryRoad for a solution. Freshdesk, a ticketing system used by employees to document questions and concerns regarding payroll and HR and to streamline the communication regarding these issues began on May 1<sup>st</sup>. There are currently 318 unresolved payroll folder issues and 13 unresolved HR folder issues.
7. Kecia Coln, the Executive Director of Human Resources, informed us that there were currently 220 certified vacancies and 110 classified vacancies.

8. The Committee reviewed and is recommending approval of the following contracts on the consent agenda:
  - a. Ashbrook High School – Boiler/Chiller Replacement
  - b. Kiser Elementary School – Carpet Replacement
  - c. Cellular Telephone Contract
  - d. VoIP Contract
  - e. WAN Contract

Our next meeting is Monday, August 7, 2023, at 8:30am in the Board Room.

Gaston County Schools  
BOE Curriculum & Instruction Committee  
Report for June 5, 2023

Members Present:

Dot Guthrie, Josh Crisp, Tod Kinlaw, Dot Cherry, Jeff Ramsey

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

Gary Hoskins, Chief Financial Officer, provided an update about the School Business Systems Modernization (SBSM). Mr. Hoskins provided information about retirement files, and the global and individual concerns for some employees.

Brett Buchanan shared information about the 2023-2024 Career & Technical Education (CTE) grant. The grant supports CTE teacher and support staff salaries, classroom equipment, technology, professional development, and student credentials.

Stacy Huffman gave the committee information for Student Specific Support Aids, formerly known as One-on-Ones. These aids support the development and management of safe and inclusive environments within the classroom and school setting.

Jill Payne provided information on Restorative Practices Professional Development. Restorative practice focuses on equipping educators for building and strengthening relationships and community. Educators will learn the fundamental theory and practices for engaging with students, staff, and parents in the school setting.

The Executive Directors shared an update on summer school. Summer camp for all levels will begin on Monday, June 12 through June 29, 2023. Approximately 3,400 students are expected to participate in summer camp.

Academic Services will have the following items on the consent agenda for the Board of Education meeting on June 12, 2023:

- \*Federal Programs Budget 2023-2024
- \*2023-2024 Career & Technical Education Grant
- \*Student Specific Support Aids
- \*Restorative Practices Professional Development

The meeting adjourned at 1:16 pm.

The committee's next meeting is scheduled for August 7, 2023, at noon.





# 2022 - 2023 Career & Technical Education Highlights

June 12, 2023



## Facts & Figures

Schools that offer CTE	23
CTE staff	140
CTE courses in grades 6 - 12	150+
CTE student enrollment	16,000+
CTE Proficiency	*80.5%

\* 5/23 preliminary data

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## 5th Grade Career Awareness

- 12 schools, 1,000+ students\*
- Catawba Heights, Chapel Grove, W.A. Bess
- Lingerfeldt, GVA, Pinewood, Costner, Sherwood
- Brookside, New Hope, Kiser, Bessemer City Central

W. A. Bess



Bessemer Central



Kiser

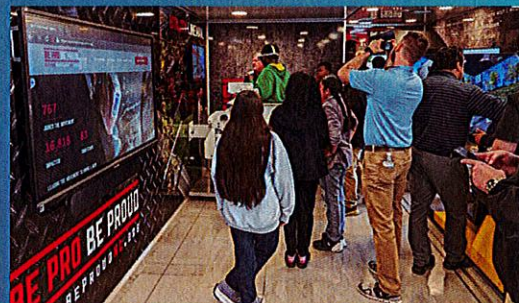


\* includes duplicates

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## Middle School Career Awareness

- 6,000+ students\*
- Students@Work - 3,500+ students
- Be Pro Be Proud March 7 & 8 at Gaston College - 12 middle schools, 350+ students



\* includes duplicates

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# High School Career Awareness

- 18,000+ students\*
- Internships = 30+ students, 21 businesses, majority paid - record high (transportation was available)
- 65+ Lunch & Learns involving 35+ businesses - new
- Goodwill forklift certification partnership - new
- 93% NC Nurse Aide I pass rate (CNA) - record high
- Career Signing Day - 11 businesses, 18 students - record high

\* includes duplicates

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## Internships

ABHS, BCHS, EGHS/Dixon



HHHS/Gaston Day



CVHS/GCS



HST/Blum



FVHS/McGee Brothers



NGHS & SCHS/SSI



SPHS/GSM



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**AMERICA'S TOP STATES FOR BUSINESS**

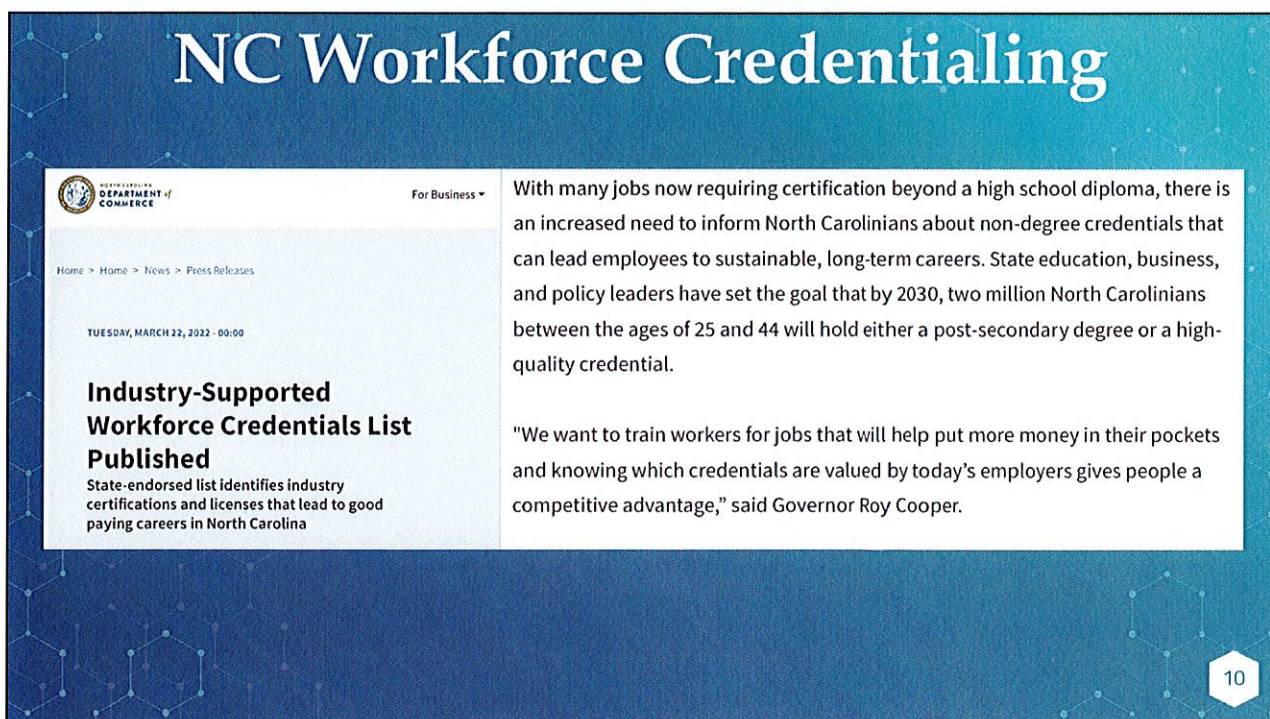
THE FULL LIST | METHODOLOGY | PAST RANKINGS

TOP STATES FOR BUSINESS


## By putting partisanship aside, North Carolina ranks No. 1 in America's Top States for Business, with the nation's strongest economy

PUBLISHED WED, JUL 13 2022 8:12 AM EDT | UPDATED WED, JUL 13 2022 2:41 PM EDT

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# NC Workforce Credentialing



For Business ▾

Home > Home > News > Press Releases

TUESDAY, MARCH 22, 2022 - 09:00

## Industry-Supported Workforce Credentials List Published

State-endorsed list identifies industry certifications and licenses that lead to good paying careers in North Carolina

With many jobs now requiring certification beyond a high school diploma, there is an increased need to inform North Carolinians about non-degree credentials that can lead employees to sustainable, long-term careers. State education, business, and policy leaders have set the goal that by 2030, two million North Carolinians between the ages of 25 and 44 will hold either a post-secondary degree or a high-quality credential.

"We want to train workers for jobs that will help put more money in their pockets and knowing which credentials are valued by today's employers gives people a competitive advantage," said Governor Roy Cooper.

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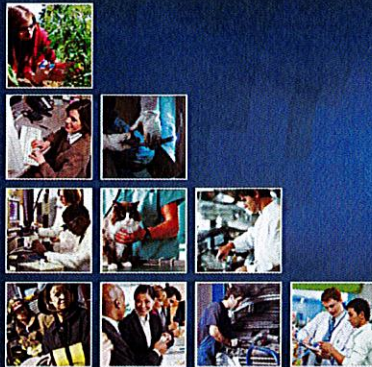


# NC General Assembly & SBE Report

NORTH CAROLINA CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

## Credential Attainment Report

2021-2022



North Carolina Department of  
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION



### 2021-2022 Highest Number of Earned Credentials

Public School Unit (PSU)	Region	2021-2022 Earned	2020-2021 Earned
Wake County Schools - 920	North Central	16,489	5,602
Union County Public Schools - 900	Southwest	11,135	9,218
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools - 600	Southwest	8,990	3,256
<b>Gaston County Schools - 360</b>	<b>Southwest</b>	<b>8,195</b>	<b>6,065</b>
Cumberland County Schools - 260	Sandhills	7,933	3,105
Guilford County Schools - 410	Piedmont-Triad	7,118	2,966
Caldwell County Schools - 140	Northwest	6,686	6,516
Randolph County School System - 760	Piedmont-Triad	5,812	4,004
Davidson County Schools - 290	Piedmont-Triad	5,671	2,359
Burke County Schools - 120	Northwest	5,551	3,249

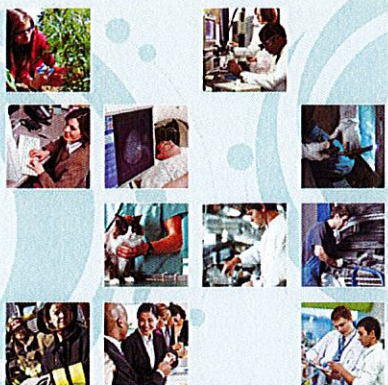
### 2021-2022 Highest Credential Attainment Rate

Public School Unit (PSU)	Region	2021-2022			2020-2021
		Earned	Potential	CredAttRate	CredAttRate
Yancey County Schools - 995	Northwest	876	1,326	66.1%	30.8%
Burke County Schools - 120	Northwest	5,551	8,453	65.8%	44.3%
Caldwell County Schools - 140	Northwest	6,686	10,493	63.7%	59.5%
Cherokee County Schools - 200	Western	1,564	2,468	63.4%	32.4%
<b>Gaston County Schools - 360</b>	<b>Southwest</b>	<b>8,195</b>	<b>14,098</b>	<b>58.1%</b>	<b>39.1%</b>
Lincoln County Schools - 550	Southwest	2,743	4,735	57.9%	38.4%
Newton-Conover City Schools - 182	Northwest	1,824	3,206	56.9%	21.0%
Weldon City Schools - 442	Northeast	467	821	56.9%	38.2%
Perquimans County Schools - 720	Northeast	550	971	56.6%	25.3%
Davie County Schools	Piedmont-Triad	1,927	3,438	56.1%	44.6%

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# NC General Assembly & SBE Report

NORTH CAROLINA CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION  
2020-21 Credentialing Data



PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA  
State Board of Education, Department of Public Instruction



### Highest Number of Earned Credentials

Public School Unit	State Board of Education Region	Earned
900 Union County Schools	Southwest Region	9,218*
140 Caldwell County Schools	Northwest Region	6,516*
<b>360 Gaston County Schools</b>	<b>Southwest Region</b>	<b>6,065</b>
920 Wake County Schools	North Central Region	5,602
760 Randolph County Schools	Piedmont-Triad Region	4,004
670 Onslow County Schools	Southeast Region	3,624
800 Rowan-Salisbury Schools	Southwest Region	3,601
600 Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools	Southwest Region	3,256
120 Burke County Schools	Northwest Region	3,249*
260 Cumberland County Schools	Sandhills Region	3,105

\*Indicates an increase in number of earned credentials from previous year

### Highest Percent Credentials Earned Based on Potential

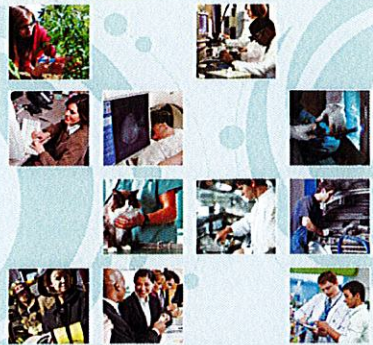
Public School Unit	State Board of Education Region	Potential Credentials	Earned	Percent Earned
140 Caldwell County Schools	Northwest Region	10,954	6516	59.49%
138 Cabarrus Charter Academy	Southwest Region	44	22	50.00%
710 Pender County Schools	Southeast Region	5,732	2794	48.74%
300 Davie County Schools	Piedmont-Triad Region	3,357	1497	44.59%
120 Burke County Schools	Northwest Region	7,329	3249	44.33%
630 Moore County Schools	Sandhills Region	6,907	2908	42.10%
030 Alleghany County Schools	Northwest Region	2,603	1084	41.64%
<b>360 Gaston County Schools</b>	<b>Southwest Region</b>	<b>15,514</b>	<b>6065</b>	<b>39.09%</b>
550 Lincoln County Schools	Southwest Region	5,239	2012	38.40%
950 Watauga County Schools	Northwest Region	2,146	824	38.40%

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# NC General Assembly & SBE Report

## NORTH CAROLINA CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION 2019-20 Credentiaing Data



PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA  
State Board of Education | Department of Public Instruction



	Public School Unit Name	Earned
360	<b>Gaston County Schools</b>	<b>14,986</b>
920	Wake County Schools	12,895
260	Cumberland County Schools	12,883
800	Rowan-Salisbury Schools	7,660
600	Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools	7,016
430	Harnett County Schools	6,337
900	Union County Public Schools	6,121
760	Randolph County School System	5,625
140	Caldwell County Schools	5,195
670	Onslow County Schools	5,107

	Public School Unit Name	% Earned
360	<b>Gaston County Schools</b>	<b>219%</b>
182	Newton-Conover City Schools	211%
140	Caldwell County Schools	204%
830	Scotland County Schools	199%
470	Hoke County Schools	170%
40	Anson County Schools	168%
421	Roanoke Rapids City Schools	164%
720	Perquimans County Schools	162%
30	Alleghany County Schools	161%
400	Greene County Schools	154%

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# NC General Assembly & SBE Report

## NORTH CAROLINA CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION 2018-19 Credentiaing Data



PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA  
State Board of Education | Department of Public Instruction



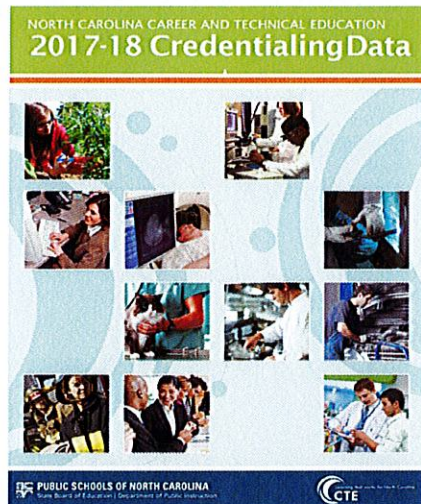
	Public School Unit Name	Earned
920	Wake County Schools	16,154
360	<b>Gaston County Schools</b>	<b>10,811</b>
600	Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools	8,595
430	Harnett County Schools	8,415
670	Onslow County Schools	7,676
760	Randolph County School System	6,563
230	Cleveland County Schools	6,554
410	Guilford County Schools	6,224
900	Union County Public Schools	6,174
260	Cumberland County Schools	5,817

	Public School Unit Name	% Earned
730	Person County Schools	241%
120	Burke County Schools	219%
400	Greene County Schools	213%
380	Graham County Schools	212%
140	Caldwell County Schools	204%
280	Dare County Schools	195%
421	Roanoke Rapids City Schools	191%
90	Bladen County Schools	187%
430	Harnett County Schools	183%
230	Cleveland County Schools	179%

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# NC General Assembly & SBE Report



	Local Education Agency	Credentials Earned
920	Wake County Schools	16,534
360	<b>Gaston County Schools</b>	<b>12,566</b>
430	<b>Harnett County Schools</b>	<b>10,790</b>
760	<b>Randolph County Schools</b>	<b>8,708</b>
670	Onslow County Schools	8,348
900	Union County Public Schools	8,145
410	Guilford County Schools	7,824
740	Pitt County Schools	7,739
260	Cumberland County Schools	7,429
800	Rowan-Salisbury Schools	7,212

	Local Education Agency	% Earned
730	Person County Schools	221.2%
421	Roanoke Rapids City Schools	211.2%
430	<b>Harnett County Schools</b>	<b>187.6%</b>
400	Greene County Schools	181.8%
530	Lee County Schools	165.4%
292	Thomasville City Schools	163.7%
880	Transylvania County Schools	163.3%
90	Bladen County Schools	161.8%
360	<b>Gaston County Schools</b>	<b>161.5%</b>
760	<b>Randolph County Schools</b>	<b>160.0%</b>

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No other public school unit in NC, out of 174, has been on both top 10 credential lists 4 out of the last 5 years!

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*Gaston County Schools*

# School Nutrition Report

Angela Calamia, MS, RD, LDN, SNS  
School Nutrition Director  
Gaston County Schools

Presentation to the Board of Education

June 12, 2023

## School Nutrition 2022-2023

First Full Year Post COVID

National School Breakfast and Lunch Program

- Students had to qualify to receive free meals
- 19,000 Lunches Daily
- 8,000 Breakfast Daily

Gaston County Schools



## School Nutrition 2022-2023

- New Titan software successfully implemented
- Filled many of the open School Nutrition positions
- Continued to grow our robust Management Training Program
- Initiated the Farm to School Program

Gaston County Schools

## School Nutrition Financials

- Positive Fund Balance in School Nutrition Fund 50
  - ❖ Over two months of operating budget
- Grant Funds Received
  - ❖ Equipment Purchases totaling \$85,000
  - ❖ Local Foods Grant (LFS) – NCDA totaling \$112,000
  - ❖ Supply Chain Assistance Grant- \$1,332,500

Gaston County Schools

## Community Eligibility Provision(CEP)

Since 2014

- Gaston County has had 19 CEP Schools on the program

Beginning 2023-24 School Year

- ❖ **40 Schools** will be on the CEP program

Gaston County Schools

## Benefits of CEP

- No application needed for families to be eligible for free meals at CEP schools
  - ❖ **All students at the 40 CEP schools eat free**
- Reduces the amount of student debt
- Eliminates the need for complimentary meals at these schools

Gaston County Schools

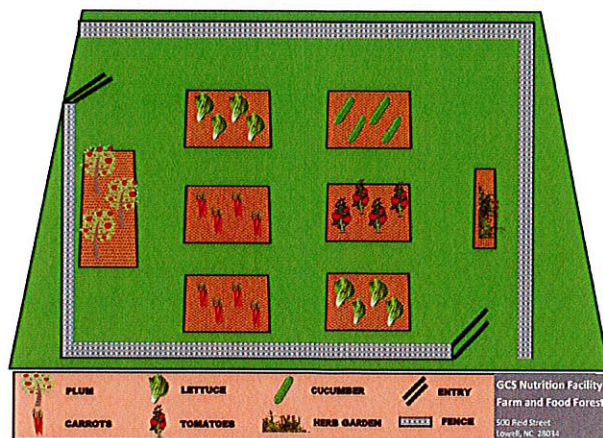


## Farm to School Project

- Collaboration between Gaston County Schools, Gaston County Cooperative Extension and Carolina Farm Trust
- Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners launched the "garden"
- Has provided over 500 pounds of squash, zucchini, lettuce and tomatoes for salads
- All were used to serve in the school lunches for Gaston County students

Gaston County Schools

## Farm to School Project – Site Plan



Gaston County Schools

## **Farm to School Project**

- Goal is to produce lettuce, cucumbers, tomatoes, carrots and other produce to be used in the School Meal Program
- The garden has expanded this Spring 2023 and will continue to expand with the help of Facilities

**Gaston County Schools**

## **Summer Feeding 2023**

**14 Gaston County School Sites  
Open through  
June 29, 2023  
Breakfast and Lunch**

**Gaston County Schools**



## Summer Feeding 2023

### **52 Community Sites Open Throughout the Summer Breakfast and Lunch**

Gaston County Schools

### Summer Feeding Program 2023

- Serving Hot Meals for students Monday -Thursday at Gaston County School Sites
- Providing Cold Meals for students Monday - Friday at Community Camp Sites
- Providing bus delivery to some neighborhoods with limited access to meal sites

Gaston County Schools

## School Nutrition Community Outreach

- Continued support of the Gaston County Head Start Pre-K Program
  - ❖ **Provided 250 breakfast, lunch, and snacks each day**
- Partnerships with Dairy Alliance and No Kid Hungry
- Year Round Partnerships with YMCA (not just summer feeding)
- ASPIRE Supper Program in HH Beam, Pleasant Ridge, Lingerfeldt, Woodhill

**Gaston County Schools**

## School Nutrition Looking Forward – 2023 - 2024

School Meals will be funded through the National School Breakfast and National School Lunch Programs

- **Non CEP School Families will need to apply for Free or Reduced meals**
- **Applications available after July 1 , 2023 online**

**Gaston County Schools**



## **School Nutrition Looking Forward 2023 - 2024**

### **Projects and Goals for Fiscal Year 2024:**

- Increase in meal participation due to CEP
- Grow the Farm to School Project/Increase processing of fresh produce at CK
- USDA and Commodity Foods Management
- Recruit talented staff and provide essential training
- Advertise and promote use of online menu, meal application and the Ling App

**Gaston County Schools**

## **Action Items**

**Approval of SN BIDs for  
2023-2024  
Approval of SN Procurement Plan**

**Gaston County Schools**

**THANK YOU!**

**Gaston County Schools**



# Out of County Tuition

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## Out of County Tuition

Historical tuition rates for Gaston County students domiciled **outside** of Gaston County were as follows:

	<u>In state</u>	<u>Out of State</u>
• 2020-21	\$1,656	\$7,885
• 2021-22	\$1,715	\$7,981
• 2022-23	\$1,759	\$8,717

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## Out of County Tuition

Tuition rates are calculated based on the total **local operating revenue** divided by the 20 day **student count** for the first month. The in-state, **out of county tuition** for 2023-2024 is recommended to be **\$1,779** which was calculated as follows:

Local Operating Revenue	\$53,251,704
<i>divided by</i>	<i>divided by</i>
Student Count (PMR 1)	29,936

Local operating revenue includes both the County appropriation (\$52,501,704) and fines, forfeitures and interest (\$750,000)

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## Out of County Tuition

Tuition for **out of state students** includes the out of county tuition rate of **\$1,779** plus the State per pupil expenditure (PPE) for 2021-2022. DPI has reported the 2021-2022 PPE to be **\$7,166**. Therefore the out of state tuition is recommended to be **\$8,945**.



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## Out of County Tuition

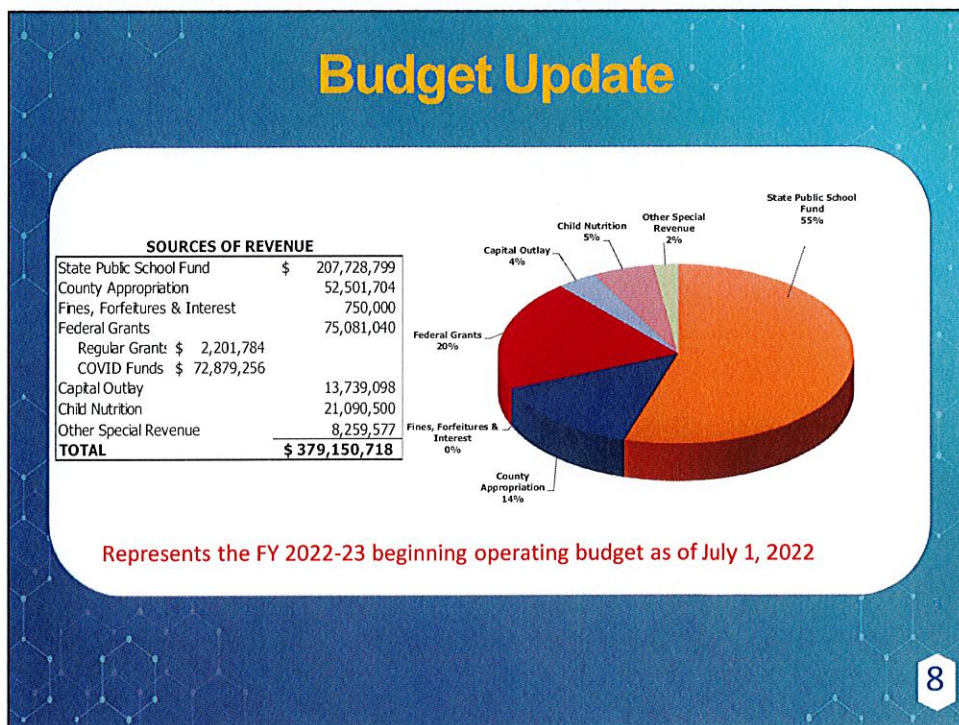
**Recommend** approval of the out of county student tuition rate of:

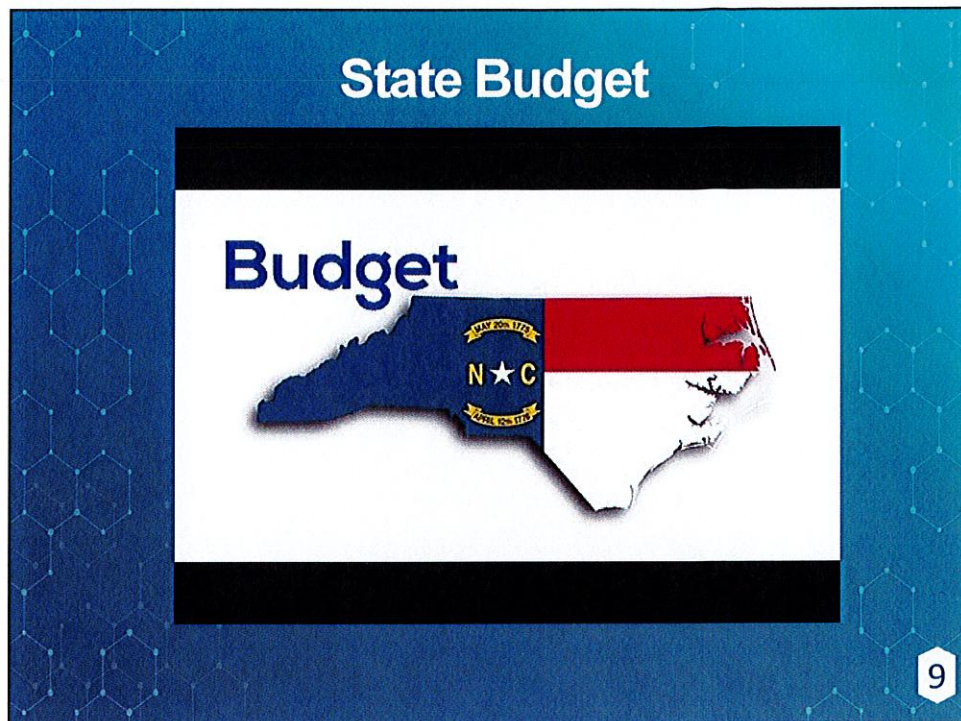
- **\$1,779** for in-state, out of county students and
- **\$8,945** for out of state students

for the 2023-2024 school year.









## State Funding

### Primary Use of State Funds

- Classroom Teachers
- School Administrators
- School Psychologists
- Instructional Support (Counselors, Social Workers, etc.)
- Teacher Assistants
- Clerical and Custodial personnel

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## State Funding

### Primary Use of State Funds

- Transportation services
- Central office administration
- Special programs – AIG, CTE, ML, EC, etc.
- School safety – School Resource Officers
- At-risk and disadvantaged students
- Classroom supplies, textbooks and technology

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## State Funding

### State FY 2023-2025 Biennial Budget Proposal

- Governor – released March 16th
- House – released March 29th
- Senate – released May 15th

**Reminder:** There is a supermajority in the NC House and NC Senate that could override a veto by the Governor

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## State Funding

Item	House	Senate
State Income Tax (4.75%)	4.50%	4.50%
Teacher Masters Pay	Yes	No
Teacher Supplement	Yes	No
<b>Salary (2023-2024):</b>		
Principals	4.25%	2.50%
Central Office	4.25%	2.50%
Teachers	4.25%	5.13% - 0.37%

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## State Funding

### Teacher Salary Schedule Proposals

Years of Experience	Current Monthly Salary	Proposed Monthly Salary	
		House	Senate
0	\$3,700	\$3,857	\$3,900
1	\$3,800	\$3,962	\$4,000
2	\$3,900	\$4,066	\$4,100
3	\$4,000	\$4,170	\$4,200
4	\$4,100	\$4,274	\$4,300
5	\$4,200	\$4,379	\$4,400
6	\$4,300	\$4,483	\$4,480
7	\$4,400	\$4,587	\$4,560
8	\$4,500	\$4,691	\$4,640
9	\$4,600	\$4,796	\$4,720
10	\$4,700	\$4,900	\$4,800
11	\$4,800	\$5,004	\$4,880
12	\$4,900	\$5,108	\$4,960
13	\$5,000	\$5,213	\$5,040
14	\$5,100	\$5,317	\$5,120
15-24	\$5,200	\$5,421	\$5,220
25+	\$5,400	\$5,630	\$5,420

Proposed Monthly Salaries are for FY 2023-2024

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## State Funding

### Teacher Salary Schedule Proposals

Years of Experience	Current Monthly Salary	Proposed % Change	
		House	Senate
0	\$3,700	4.24%	5.13%
1	\$3,800	4.26%	5.00%
2	\$3,900	4.26%	4.88%
3	\$4,000	4.25%	4.76%
4	\$4,100	4.24%	4.65%
5	\$4,200	4.26%	4.55%
6	\$4,300	4.26%	4.02%
7	\$4,400	4.25%	3.51%
8	\$4,500	4.24%	3.02%
9	\$4,600	4.26%	2.54%
10	\$4,700	4.26%	2.08%
11	\$4,800	4.25%	1.64%
12	\$4,900	4.24%	1.21%
13	\$5,000	4.26%	0.79%
14	\$5,100	4.25%	0.39%
15-24	\$5,200	4.25%	0.38%
25+	\$5,400	4.26%	0.37%

Proposed Monthly Salaries are for FY 2023-2024

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## State Funding

### HB 259 – 2023 Appropriations Act

- House – Conference Committee Appointed 06/01
- Senate – Conference Committee Appointed 06/05

Conference Budget is **expected before 06/30**

**Reminder:** There is a supermajority in the NC House and NC Senate that could override a veto by the Governor

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## Local Budget



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## Local Funding

### Primary Use of Local Funds

- Salary supplements
- Instructional supplies
- Maintenance and custodial supplies
- Technology
- Utilities and insurance
- School Resource Officers
- Athletics and arts programs
- Charter school allotments



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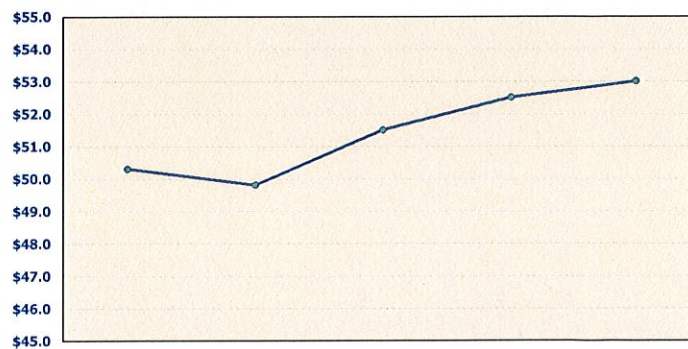
## Local Funding

<b>County Request</b>	<b>2023-24</b>
<b>Prior Year County Appropriation</b>	<b>\$52,501,704</b>
<b>Requested Funding Increase</b>	<b>\$2,885,000</b>
<b>Total County Request</b>	<b>\$55,386,704</b>

<b>County Funding</b>	<b>2023-24</b>
<b>Prior Year County Appropriation</b>	<b>\$52,501,704</b>
<b>Actual Funding Increase</b>	<b>\$500,000</b>
<b>Total County Appropriation</b>	<b>\$53,001,704</b>

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## Local Funding



Date	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 50,311,704</b>	<b>\$ 49,811,704</b>	<b>\$ 51,501,704</b>	<b>\$ 52,501,704</b>	<b>\$ 53,001,704</b>
<b>Change</b>	<b>\$ 1,960,000</b>	<b>\$ (500,000)</b>	<b>\$ 1,690,000</b>	<b>\$ 1,000,000</b>	<b>\$ 500,000</b>

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## Local Funding

### Future Challenges

- State increases in salaries and benefits will result in higher expenses for locally paid employees
- The impact of inflation on the cost of goods and services could be significant
- ESSER II funding will expire in September 2023
- ESSER III funding will expire in September 2024

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## Capital Outlay

### Capital Outlay is used for the following purposes:

- |                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| • Roofing Repairs   | • Electrical        |
| • HVAC              | • Technology        |
| • Vehicles          | • Furniture         |
| • Plumbing          | • Life Safety       |
| • Site Improvements | • Other Maintenance |

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## Capital Outlay

- All schools and administrative buildings total about **5.1 million square feet**
- This year we received \$2.2 million in capital outlay, or about **\$0.44 per square foot**
- We requested **\$6.5 million** in capital outlay for 2023-24. This request amounted to **\$1.27 per square foot**

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## Capital Request

Expenditures	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	Proposed 2023-24
Technology	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ -	\$ 100,000
Vehicles	150,000	150,000	100,000	100,000	225,000	100,000
General Renovations	882,000	1,882,000	1,027,000	1,027,000	2,002,000	6,150,000
Furniture	95,000	95,000	50,000	50,000	-	150,000
<b>TOTAL COUNTY CAPITAL</b>	<b>\$ 1,227,000</b>	<b>\$ 2,227,000</b>	<b>\$ 1,227,000</b>	<b>\$ 1,227,000</b>	<b>\$ 2,227,000</b>	<b>\$ 6,500,000</b>

Revenues	Adopted Budget					Approved 2023-24
	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	
County Funds	\$ 1,227,000	\$ 2,227,000	\$ 1,227,000	\$ 1,227,000	\$ 2,227,000	\$ 2,227,000
State Funds	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 1,227,000</b>	<b>\$ 2,227,000</b>	<b>\$ 1,227,000</b>	<b>\$ 1,227,000</b>	<b>\$ 2,227,000</b>	<b>\$ 2,227,000</b>

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## Federal Budget



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## Federal Budget

### Primary Federal Funding Sources:

- Title 1 (30 Schools)
- Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA)
- Career and Technical Education (CTE)
- Remaining COVID-19 Funding:
  - ESSER II (\$323,000)
  - ESSER III (\$46.0M)



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## Federal Budget

### COVID-19 funds have been used for:

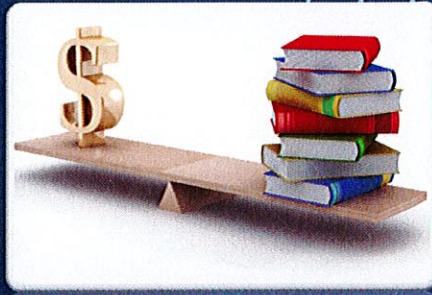
- COVID retention bonuses
- Chromebooks and Wi-Fi access devices for students
- Books, supplies and online learning materials
- Summer learning program and after school tutors
- School nutrition financial support
- EC student support, health support personnel, etc.
- Additional teaching allotments
- Dedicated substitute teachers
- Air purifiers for all classrooms





## Interim Budget

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## Interim Budget

- This is the **last scheduled Board meeting** prior to the start of the 2023-2024 fiscal year
- The State has **not yet approved** the 2023-2024 State budget
- Therefore a **GCS Budget Resolution will not be approved prior to the start of the 2023-2024 fiscal year (July 1, 2023)**

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## Interim Budget

- **State law** (G.S. 115C-434) requires that the Board of Education make **interim appropriations** to pay salaries and other usual expenses for the interval of time between the start of the fiscal year and the approval of a **budget resolution**
- **Recommend** approval of a 2023-2024 interim budget at the level of **80% of the 2022-2023 Budget**



## New Classroom Teacher Bonus

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## New Classroom Teacher Bonus

### **Historical COVID Retention Bonuses:**

Over the past two school years, qualified full-time employees have had the opportunity to receive up to **\$5,000** in COVID retention bonuses. This was paid due to the additional challenges, duties and responsibilities that educational employees have endured since the inception of the pandemic.



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## New Classroom Teacher Bonus

### New Classroom Teacher Bonus:

Since returning to work after the pandemic, we have experienced a higher than normal level of vacancies. This has had a significant impact in our schools. **Teacher vacancies** in the classroom are often covered by substitutes, existing teachers or other school personnel.



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## New Classroom Teacher Bonus

### Summary of New Classroom Teacher Bonus:

In an effort to attract additional qualified teachers to GCS, we are proposing the following **recruitment and retention bonus** that would be paid to new classroom teachers for the 2023-2024 school year.



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## New Classroom Teacher Bonus

### New Classroom Teacher Eligibility:

Must meet **ALL** of the following criteria:

- Must be **newly hired** for the 2023-2024 school year (not employed by GCS during the 2022-2023 school year)
- Must be working by **September 15, 2023**
- Must be the **teacher of record** for GCS K-12 students
- Must be a **full-time permanent** employee

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## New Classroom Teacher Bonus

### Projected Payment Dates:

- **\$1,000** signing bonus paid on September 27, 2023
- An additional **\$1,000** signing bonus paid on September 27, 2023, for K-12 EC teachers, secondary (6-12) math and secondary (6-12) science teachers
- **\$1,000** retention bonus paid in December 2023

*(Bonuses are not subject to State retirement, but are subject to income taxes)*

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## New Classroom Teacher Bonus

### **Recommendation:**

**Approval** of the new classroom teacher recruitment and retention bonus in the amount of **\$2,000** for all new classroom teachers and **\$3,000** for new K-12 EC teachers, 6-12 secondary math and 6-12 secondary science teachers.

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THANK  
YOU

