

GASTON COUNTY
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR SESSION



Shaping Our Future

943 Osceola Street, Gastonia, NC 28054
December 16, 2024
5:30 p.m.

Agenda Item

Meeting Date: 12/16/2024

Agenda Item Title/Topic: Agenda Adoption

Type of Item: ☐ Consent ☒ Action ☐ Information

Main Points:

Consideration of Formal Agenda for Monday, December 16, 2024.

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. Morgen A. Houchard

Department: Superintendent

GASTON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Dr. Morgen A. Houchard, Superintendent
943 Osceola Street, Gastonia, NC 28054

Monday, December 16, 2024

5:30 p.m.

Agenda

Regular Meeting

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Agenda Item

Meeting Date: 12/16/2024

Agenda Item Title/Topic: Good News

Type of Item: ☐ Consent ☐ Action ☒ Information

Main Points:

Each month, the Communications/Public Information Department compiles "Good News" about our schools, students, employees, and community partners. See attachment.

Fiscal Implications:

None

Recommendation:

None

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)

BOARD AGENDA INFORMATIONAL ITEM

DEPARTMENT: Communications/Public
Information Department

TOPIC: GOOD NEWS

FOR THE MONTH OF: December 2024

1. **Gaston County Schools** launched the “Nickels for Neighbors” campaign to raise money for seniors in the Class of 2025 in Mitchell County Schools. The Principals Leadership Team coordinated the fundraising effort with help from the Superintendent’s Student Advisory Council and set a goal of collecting \$25,000 to help students affected by Hurricane Helene.
2. **Gaston County Schools** has three students in the Class of 2025 who were named QuestBridge Scholars: **Ayana Bigger, North Gaston High School**, Amherst College; **Joshua Mendoza Vargas, Highland School of Technology**, Boston University; and **Julien Boyce, Highland School of Technology**, University of Notre Dame. QuestBridge Scholars are matched with a college/university and awarded a full scholarship to attend the school.
3. The following students were recognized as overall school winners in the City of Gastonia’s art show: **Richard Church, York Chester Middle School**; **Camila Trejo, Highland School of Technology**; and **Hannah Szymborski, Hunter Huss High School**. The students’ artwork is currently on display at The Schiele Museum.
4. Former **Gaston County Board of Education** member **Dot Guthrie** received the Duke Energy Citizenship and Service Award. The prestigious award recognizes individuals who inspire through volunteer service and civic engagement and create a positive and lasting influence in their communities.
5. **Gaston County Schools** received a check in the amount of \$16,000 from the Gaston County Education Foundation, through a partnership with the Gaston County Community Foundation, to support students who are multilingual learners.
6. The **Gaston County Schools** Human Resources Department collected more than 2,000 canned goods and non-perishable items to benefit the “One Can Make A Difference” food pantry at **Webb Street School**.
7. A generous donor partnered with the Belmont Bookshop to provide a copy of “Kisses from Space” to every elementary school in **Gaston County Schools**.
8. Thanks to Gaston County Farm Bureau, **Gaston County Schools** received a copy of “Pick a Pine Tree” by Patricia Toht for each elementary school’s media center.

9. The Gaston Regional Science and Engineering Fair was held over three days at The Schiele Museum. In the high school category, **Sofia Jimenez Beltran, Inari Joseph, and Hayden Trinh** of **Gaston Early College High School** placed first overall; **Lauren Campbell, Olive Campbell, and Charlotte Hearne** from **Gaston Early College High School** placed first in the Biological Sciences A category, followed by **Betany McSwain** and **Michael Gray**, both from **East Gaston High School**. In the Biological Sciences B category, **Reese Sexton** of **East Gaston High School** placed first, followed by **Alexa Cloninger** and **Peyton Safrit** of **East Gaston High School**, and **Aylin Prado** of **Stuart W. Cramer High School**. In the Chemistry category, **Sophia Jimenez Beltra, Inari Joseph, and Hayden Trinh** of **Gaston Early College High School** placed first, followed by **Mahi Patel**, of **Gaston Early College of Medical Sciences**, and **Lillian Moore** and **Peyton Fredrick** of **Gaston Early College of Medical Sciences**. In the Earth and Environmental Sciences category, **Jordan Reeves** of **East Gaston High School** placed first, followed by **Caroline Cox** of **East Gaston High School**, and **Carmello Buntyn** and **Natalie Sanchez** of **Hunter Huss High School**. In the Mathematics and Physics category, **William McClelland** of **Stuart W. Cramer High School** placed first followed by **Gorbin Fortenberry** of **Gaston Early College of Medical Sciences**, and **Ellaina Elcock** of **Gaston Early College of Medical Sciences**. In the Engineering category, **Aubree Huffstickler** of **Gaston Early College High School** placed first, followed by **Caiden Buckner** and **Jayden Sullivan** of **Gaston Early College High School**, and **Lucas Moretz** and **Aydan Wynn** of **Gaston Early College High School**. In the Technology category, **Taylor Klinkiewicz, Maya Martin, and Alyssa Mullis** of **Gaston Early College High School** placed first. **Alyssa McEntire** of **Highland School of Technology** was the recipient of the Naval Science Award, and **Bethany McSwain** of **East Gaston High School** was the recipient of the SPARC3 of Genius Award from Gaston College with **Karlee Reid** of **East Gaston High School** receiving honorable mention.
10. The following middle school students received awards at the Gaston Regional Science and Engineering Fair: **Kelvin Aguilar Gonzalez** and **Sebastian Caro** of **Grier Middle School** were the overall winners. In the Biological Sciences A category, **Elizabeth Briand** of **Chavis Middle School** received first place followed by **Alex Bocchino** of **Belmont Middle School** and **Waylon Hensley** of **Belmont Middle School**. In the Biological Sciences B category, **Selah Rose Smith** of **Belmont Middle School** placed first, followed by **Addilyn Gardner, Madelyn Salter, and Adelyn White** of **Chavis Middle School** and **Jacob Greene, Sofia Young, and Brissa Vidales** of **Chavis Middle School**. In the Chemistry category, **Emma McGinnis** of **Belmont Middle School** placed first, followed by **Peyton Weaver** and **Donte Hall** of **Grier Middle School**, and **Zayden Guinn** of **Holbrook Middle School**. In the Earth and Environmental Sciences category, **Tyler Koket** of **Belmont Middle School** placed first, followed by **Elizabeth Shires** of **Belmont Middle School**, and **Eileen Vasquez** and **Londyn Sanders** of **Stanley Middle School**. In the Physics and Mathematics category, **Aidan Wood** of **Belmont Middle School** placed first, followed by **Avery Price, Sofia Edwards, and Bailey Safrit** of **Stanley Middle School**, and **Mason Black** and **McKinley Ward** of **Chavis Middle School**. In the Technology category, **Case Conner, Iain Brown, and Cash Anderson** of **Stanley Middle School** place first, followed by **Kane Navey** and **Jaxon Vernitsky** of **Stanley Middle School**, and **Caleb Porter** of **W.C. Friday Middle School**. In the

Engineering category, **Caitlyn Leonard** of **Belmont Middle School** placed first, followed by **Owen Goryl** of **Belmont Middle School**, and **Gaven Hoke**, **Navy Roberts**, and **Aaron Hollis** of **Grier Middle School**. The following students received the Navy Science Award: **Marlow Morris** of **Stanley Middle School** and **Elijah Hartman** of **Belmont Middle School**.

11. The Gaston Regional Science and Engineering Fair elementary awards were presented over two days. On the first day of the event, **Jax Jenkins** and **Connor Pursley** of **North Belmont Elementary** were the overall winners. **Schafer Nunn**, **Anderson Hammond**, and **Karson McDonald** of **McAdenville Elementary** placed first in the Biological Sciences category; **Jameson Patterson** of **Tryon Elementary** placed second, and **Audrey Sullivan** of **W.B. Beam Intermediate** placed third. In the Chemistry category, **Artemis Shuford** of **W.B. Beam Intermediate** placed first; **Sydney Huffstetler** of **Catawba Heights Elementary** placed second; and **Breonna Nelson** of **Gardner Park Elementary** placed third. In the Earth and Environmental Sciences category, **Ava Satterfield**, **Madison Bell**, **Ryleigh McLean**, **Mason Melton**, and **Bethany Lazenby** of **Chapel Grove Elementary** placed first; **Luke Parton** and **Gabriel Parton** of **McAdenville Elementary** placed second; and **Addyson Powers** of **Catawba Heights Elementary** placed third. In the Physics and Mathematics category, **Landon Satterfield**, **Duane Byers**, **Aidan Rhoten**, **Marek Chase**, **Nolan Barber**, and **Addilynn Brannon** of **Chapel Grove Elementary** placed first; **Sky Youmans** of **Catawba Heights Elementary** placed second, and **Annie Glover**, **Myles Glenn**, and **Neil Glenn** of **Tryon Elementary** placed third. In the Engineering and Technology category, **Amariah Henderson**, **Camari McBryant**, **Jace Whitehead**, and **Zaiden Wallace** of **Brookside Elementary** placed first; **Parker Wellman** and **Jordan Heaton** of **Bessemer City Central Elementary** placed second; and **Anthony Teofilo**, **Madrid Oliver**, **Ellis Beaty**, **Abigail Trainor**, and **Jeremiah Everette** of **Chapel Grove Elementary** placed third. **Emma Pruitt** of **W.B. Beam Intermediate** received the Schiele Award. On the second day of the event, **Matthew Wilcox** of **Kiser Elementary** was the overall winner. **Will McLean** of **Hawks Nest STEAM Academy** placed first in the Biological Sciences category; **Parker McCradden** of **New Hope Elementary** placed second, and **Taylor Allen** of **Kiser Elementary** placed third. In the Chemistry category, **Luisanna Surez** of **Pinewood Elementary** placed first; **Jimbo Anderson** and **Jude Fann** of **Belmont Central Elementary** placed second; and **Harper Hall** of **Costner Elementary** placed third. In the Earth and Environmental Sciences category, **Blythe Sipe** of **Hawks Nest STEAM Academy** placed first; **Olivia Powers** of **New Hope Elementary** placed second; and **Amelia Memrick** and **Annalise Halfhill** of **Belmont Central Elementary** placed third. In the Physics and Mathematics category, **Ben Cherry**, **Hayes Howvis**, and **Will Trogdon** of **W.A. Bess Elementary** placed first; **Jericho Martin** of **Pleasant Ridge Elementary** placed second; and **Truett Blackwell** of **Pinewood Elementary** placed third. In the Engineering and Technology category, **Henry Markwith** of **Hawks Nest STEAM Academy** placed first; **Marcus Willie** of **Costner Elementary** placed second; and **Braxton Allen** of **Belmont Central Elementary** placed third. **Elle Lee** of **Robinson Elementary** won The Schiele Award.
12. The following schools won county sports championships: **Cramerton Middle**, boys soccer; **Belmont Middle**, volleyball; and **Holbrook Middle**, wrestling.

13. Zaxby's presented "Big Zax Snak Meal" gift cards to the school and central-level employees who served as campaign coordinators for **Gaston County Schools'** annual fundraising efforts for the United Way of Gaston County.
14. The **Ashbrook High School** cheerleading team placed third in the Junior Varsity Game Day Non-Tumbling-D1 division at the state cheerleading championships in Raleigh.
15. **Ashbrook High School** cheerleader **Chaydon June** was selected to represent her school on the West team at the 2024 Queen City Senior Bowl.
16. **Ashbrook High School** students **Jonathan Moore, Martino Smith, John Gordon, Caleb Gordon, Chloe Morales, Andi Ballard,** and **Charlye Floyd** were selected to attend the prestigious Youth Leadership Conference at the Charlotte Touchdown Club.
17. **H.H. Beam Elementary**, in partnership with Second Harvest Metrolina and volunteers from the Rotary Club of Gastonia, packed and handed out nearly 300 meals to families prior to the Thanksgiving holiday.
18. Throughout November, **H.H. Beam Elementary** and **Hunter Huss High School** collected and delivered more than 1,000 Thanksgiving meal items to students and families at Freedom Trail Elementary and Cranberry Middle School in Elk Park, N.C.
19. Since September, more than 50 students have been inducted into the Bulldog Club, a new recognition program at **H.H. Beam Elementary** that honors students for their excellent character, strong work habits, and academic growth. Each month, inductees are celebrated at a special ceremony sponsored by the Rotary Club of Gastonia.
20. **W.B. Beam Intermediate** media specialist **Melanie Sherrill** received a \$999.52 grant from Rutherford Electric Membership Corporation for her project titled "Listening to Read," which will be used to purchase audiobooks.
21. **Belmont Central Elementary School** organized a collection drive to benefit the Gaston County animal shelter.
22. The **W.A. Bess Elementary** "Bulldog Spotlight Players" hosted "An Evening of Holiday Stories." The Bulldog Spotlight Players consisted of third, fourth, and fifth-grade students who auditioned to be part of this theater group and had been practicing diligently since September. They were ready to showcase their acting skills.
23. **Tionna Pettus** of **Bessemer City High School** set a new Gaston County single-game scoring record with 65 points in a win over **North Gaston High School**.
24. **Bessemer City High School** students participated in the Charlotte Auto Show poster contest and claimed the top three spots. **Nicole Saldana** won first place, **Payton Thompson** took second, and **Jaiden McDaniel** finished third.

25. **Bessemer City High School** football coach **Shane Short** was named the Southern Piedmont 1A/2A Coach of the Year.
26. **Carr Elementary** students created ornaments, crafted button trees, and illustrated Christmas scenes on wooden discs that were used in the garland at the historic Dallas Square gazebo. Teachers **Elizabeth Perkins** and **Angela Newton** assisted in the decorating.
27. Both the **Carr Elementary** and **Chapel Grove Elementary** cafeteria staffs scored a 100 on their sanitation rating.
28. Eighth grade students at **John Chavis Middle School** wrote 82 cards to a nursing home in Fletcher, N.C. that was affected by Hurricane Helene. Teacher **Summer Self** organized the activity.
29. The **Cherryville High School** cheerleading team received several awards at the North Carolina High School Athletic Association state championship: Junior Varsity Performance Non-Tumbling-D2; Varsity Game Day Small-D2; and Varsity Performance Small-D2.
30. **Avery Beam** of **Cherryville High School** received the Cheerleader Spirit Scholarship Award during the North Carolina High School Athletic Association cheerleading competition.
31. **Emily Allen** of **Cherryville High School** was named to the North Carolina Volleyball Coaches Association all-state second team.
32. **Justin Willyoung**, who previously worked as a school counselor and track coach at **Cherryville High School**, has written an inspirational book titled “Iron and Thunder” that recounts his time working at the school and with young people. It also highlights the importance of teachers and coaches in the lives of students.
33. The **Stuart W. Cramer High School** Chick-fil-A Leadership Academy collected toys that were purchased with donations from the school’s powder puff game. The toys were delivered to Big Meadows Baptist Church in western North Carolina for families affected by Hurricane Helene.
34. **East Gaston High School** science teacher **Brian Johnson** earned the District Six High School Outstanding Science Teacher Award. The award honors his hard work and creative teaching in science. Johnson was nominated by his peers and school leaders for inspiring students, using new ideas in the classroom, and connecting science to other subjects. Additionally, Johnson’s Honors Research Methods II class presented their research projects at the annual East Gaston High School Science Symposium. In collaboration with Instructional Technology Facilitator **Krystal Strader**, the students developed an app that allowed symposium attendees to learn more about the event and provide constructive feedback on the students’ projects and presentations.

35. The **East Gaston High School** Tri-M Music Society performed Christmas carols for the residents of Stanley Total Living.
36. The **East Gaston High School** cheerleading team placed second at the North Carolina High School Athletic Association championship in the Varsity Game Day Medium/Large-D2 category.
37. **Forestview High School** senior **Ford Poag** was selected to participate in the UNC-Charlotte Honors Band.
38. LifeShare Carolinas visited **Forestview High School's** Health Science II class to educate students about organ donation and transplantation. The students enjoyed learning about the donation process and participated in an exciting, hands-on opportunity to examine human organs, including the liver, lungs, and kidneys.
39. The **W.C. Friday Middle School** band participated in the annual McAdenville tree lighting ceremony on December 2. Band director **Cindy Owens** was honored for her faithful 10 years of providing holiday music for the event with her band students. Owens was recognized by Pharr McAdenville Corporation with flowers and an introduction that highlighted her contributions to the event over the years. Additionally, Pharr made a donation of \$200 to the band program.
40. **W.C. Friday Middle School** in collaboration with the Project Unify Club, hosted the Special Olympics of Gaston County Young Athletes Day. Special recognition goes to **Angela Collett**, exceptional children classroom teacher and department chair, as well as physical education teachers **Amy Brown** and **Jake McDaniel** for their efforts in making the event a success.
41. **Gaston Early College of Medical Sciences** students **Sadie Morton** and **Autumn Queen** are both UNC-Chapel Hill Morehead-Cain Scholarship semifinalists.
42. The following **Gaston Early College High School of Medical Sciences** students earned a perfect score on the Pre-ACT: **Libby Carter** and **Cooper Hamrick** in science and **Sophie Hoerst** in science, reading, and STEM.
43. **Gaston Early College High School of Medical Sciences** senior **Andrea Padilla** is a semifinalist for the Tucker Scholarship at Gardner-Webb University. The Tucker Heart, Soul, Mind, and Strength Scholarship is a full-tuition and room and board scholarship that is awarded to one high school student who exemplifies the principles and values of the Gardner-Webb community.
44. **Gaston Early College of Medical Sciences** sophomore **Mariam Raja** participated in the PATCH Regional Program, which is a pathway initiative designed for high school students from underrepresented backgrounds. The program offers exposure to various health professions and is a collaboration between Atrium Health Medical Education, Wake Forest University School of Medicine, and Workforce Development.

45. **Gaston Early College of Medical Sciences** sophomore **Jayleigh Whisnant** was selected to participate in the Wake Forest Summer Immersion Program. This summer, she will spend a week at Wake Forest, gaining hands-on experience in the medical field and exploring various career opportunities. During the program, she will visit healthcare facilities, participate in simulations and labs, and learn essential skills such as taking blood pressure and suturing.
46. National Honor Society students at **Gaston Early College of Medical Sciences** made blankets for patients at the CaroMont Health Cancer Center.
47. The **Highland School of Technology** student council hosted a canned food and non-perishable food collection drive to benefit Second Harvest Food Bank, Crisis Assistance Ministry, and Cancer Services of Gaston County.
48. Nineteen **Highland School of Technology** HOSA members attended the Regional Learning Conference in Shelby. **Menaal Shaikh** placed first in Health Informatics; **Zuha Shaikh** placed first in Health Career Photography; **Katie Fangman** and **Joshua Mendoza** placed second in Dental Science; and **Abigail Anderson** placed third in Dental Terminology.
49. **Madison Darnell** of **Highland School of Technology** was named to the 2024 North Carolina High School Tennis Coaches Association's all-state team.
50. **Madison Thompson** and **Alise Mayers** of **Highland School of Technology** were named to the North Carolina Volleyball Coaches Association's all-state team.
51. The **Hunter Huss High School** cafeteria staff earned a score of 100 on its sanitation inspection.
52. **Kiser Elementary** collected more than 2,200 non-perishable food items for the **Webb Street School** "One Can Make A Difference" food pantry.
53. The **Lingerfeldt Elementary School** cafeteria staff earned a score of 100 on its sanitation inspection.
54. Students in the Leadership Academy at **North Gaston High School** collected 245 toys for children in Burnsville, N.C., who were impacted by Hurricane Helene.
55. The **North Gaston High School** FCA club packed boxes for Operation Christmas Child. Thanks to the incredible generosity of students, staff, and community families, the school assembled 50 boxes to spread joy to children around the world for the holiday season.
56. **North Gaston High School** teacher **Kyle Haywood** has been selected to serve as a side judge in one of the four North Carolina High School Athletic Association state football championships.
57. **Logan McKnight**, **Ruby Ruiz-Vargas**, **Mikaili Small**, and **Ronald Tovilla-Pablo** of **North Gaston High School** were selected to participate in the UNC-Charlotte

Invitational Honor Band Clinic. Logan and Ruby earned first chair positions in the top band, while Ronald earned third chair in the same band. Additionally, the **North Gaston High School** Marching Wildcats performed at the annual Carols on the Square event in Dallas on Friday, December 6. Several band members are also playing for the Christmas Eve services at City Church in Gastonia.

58. **Pinewood Elementary** received a \$25,000 donation from National Gypsum company. The check presentation ceremony featured a performance by the school's fifth grade show choir.
59. The **Pinewood Elementary** cafeteria staff earned a score of 100 on its sanitation inspection.
60. **South Point High School** senior **Asher Dover** is a semifinalist for the UNC Chapel Hill Morehead-Cain Scholarship.
61. **South Point High School** senior **James Dover**, who is the recipient of the Calvin Coolidge Scholarship, attended the 2024 Winter Gala in New York City and was able to spend time with writer George Will.
62. The **South Point High School** marching band received several awards at recent competitions. At the North Lincoln Roundtable Tournament of Bands, the band took home the Class 1A first place band award, as well as first place in music performance, visual performance, and general effect. They also earned second place in colorguard and first place in percussion. At the North Gaston Wildcat Invitational, the band continued its success with the Class 1A first place band award and first place in music performance, visual performance, general effect, drum major, and percussion, along with the CJ Hill Prop/Pit Crew Award. Additionally, they secured second place in colorguard. At the Porter Ridge High School Pirates' Cove Classic, the band achieved the Class 1A second place band award, third place in music performance, second place in visual performance, general effect, colorguard, and percussion, and first place for drum major.
63. The **South Point High School** cheerleading team placed first in the Super D1 category at the North Carolina High School Athletic Association state cheerleading championship. They also placed first in the Super Varsity Division at the UCA Piedmont Prestate Competition at Cox Mill High School and the Mav Classic at Marvin Ridge High School.
64. The **South Point High School** Environmental Club in partnership with Keep Belmont Beautiful cleaned up areas in and around Belmont.
65. The **Tryon Elementary** student council organized a canned food collection drive, collecting more than 1,300 cans for the **Webb Street School** "One Can Make A Difference" food pantry.
66. The **Webb Street School** cafeteria staff earned a 100 sanitation rating.

Agenda Item

Meeting Date: 12/16/2024

Agenda Item Title/Topic: Classroom Moment

Type of Item: ☐ Consent ☐ Action ☒ Information

Main Points:

Webb Street is a separate public school within Gaston County Schools which serves students ages 5-22 with cognitive impairments. Webb Street School continues to enhance and improve its music program in order to offer diverse opportunities to the students who attend Webb Street School. The integration of this program allows the students at Webb Street to engage through music and participate in activities similar to those of their non-disabled peers. The students at Webb Street School will be showcasing some of the musical skills that have been acquired through this program by performing a holiday selection.

Fiscal Implications:

N/A

Recommendation:

N/A

Policy Implications:

N/A

Submitted by: Stacy Huffman
Executive Director, Department for Exceptional Children

Department: Academic Services

Agenda Item

Meeting Date: 12/16/2024

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) during 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)

Agenda Item

Meeting Date: 12/16/2024

Agenda Item Title/Topic: Approval/Correction of Minutes

Type of Item: ☐ Consent ☒ Action ☐ Information

Main Points:

Approval of Minutes from:
November 18, 2024 Regular Meeting

Efficient consideration of matters pertinent to the successful operation of the school system.

Fiscal Implications:

None

Recommendation:

The Board will approve the minutes presented.

Policy Implications:

Validation of Board Proceedings.

Strategic Goal Alignment:

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

Submitted by: Dr. Morgen A. Houchard

Department: Superintendent

Gaston County Schools
Board of Education
Monday, November 18, 2024
Meeting 5:30 p.m.
Regular Meeting

MINUTES

The Gaston County Board of Education met in a regular session on Monday, November 18, 2024 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 (absent), Tod Kinlaw, Robbie Lovelace, Brent Moore, and A.M. Stephens III.

Additional attendees include: Superintendent Dr. Morgen A. Houchard, Attorney Sonya McGraw, Associate Superintendent Gary Hoskins, Chief Communications Officer Todd Hagans, Chief Technology Officer Curtis Poplin and Board Clerk Dana Luoto.

Chairman Ramsey called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and welcomed everyone.

Invocation

Lewis Lowery, Pastor of Fancy Hill Baptist Church, led the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance

Zaylin Oxindine, York Chester Middle School, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Character Trait

Nolan Liska reported on the Character Trait of generosity for Belmont Central Elementary School.

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. Tod Kinlaw; motion carried unanimously. (8-0)

Good News – Information

Mr. Todd Hagans recognized the South Point High School girls' golf team - Carli Anne Phillips, Madison Pruden, Sophie Travenski, Chloe Villarreal, Sammie Clements, Caroline Mumford, and Coach Steve Hudgins.

Last month, the team made history by winning the school's first-ever 3A state championship in golf. The team finished the tournament with a combined score of 510, just one stroke ahead of second-place Lake Norman Charter, which scored 511. In addition to their state championship, these students also won the Big South 3A conference championship for the third consecutive year and were runners-up in the West Regional.

Mr. Tod Kinlaw presented a Certificate of Recognition to each student.

Mr. Todd Hagans recognized Jonette Mungo from the Gaston County Extension Service, along with North Gaston High School Art teacher Mary Bratyanski and student, Cory Carpenter, who is president of the art club. We are celebrating the impressive mural, measuring four feet tall and nine feet wide in three panels, which was created by the North Gaston art club for Cotton Ginning Days in October. The mural will be displayed at the Gaston County Museum, then at the Public Library, and will ultimately be housed at the Citizens Resource Center in Dallas. Visitors to Cotton Ginning Days had the unique opportunity to contribute to painting the mural. The mural was designed in paint-by-number format to make it easy for citizens to set up, grab a brush, and contribute to making this artistic piece come to life.

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

Mr. Todd Hagans recognized school counselors and social workers who went to Ashville to provide support as students in Buncombe County Schools returned to class following the devastating effects of Hurricane Helene.

Christy Clark, East Gaston High School
Caroline James, Brookside Elementary
Diane Busch, Lowell Elementary
David Rice, North Gaston High School
Kayla Harris, Kiser Elementary
Danielle Summerville, Pinewood Elementary

The school counselors and social workers provided support by addressing the emotional, social, and academic needs of students, and they helped teachers understand what to say to their students and how to respond to students' emotions and also offered resources and encouragement to staff. Additionally, they played a role in helping seniors with the college application process, ensuring they had the necessary information and resources to apply to colleges and universities. They also distributed donated supplies to students in need and packed food bags to send home with students.

Chairman Ramsey and Superintendent Houchard presented a Certificate of Recognition to each employee.

Mr. Todd Hagans announced that we were recently notified that eight of our schools are being recognized for achieving a significant milestone – 50 years as an accredited institution. A representative from Cognia, which is the organization that is responsible for school accreditation, will attend our December meeting to honor Belmont Central Elementary, Carr Elementary, North Belmont Elementary, Pinewood Elementary, Pleasant Ridge Elementary, W.C. Friday Middle, North Gaston High, and South Point High Schools.

American Education Week Proclamation – Action

Chairman Ramsey recognized Mr. Todd Hagans who read the American Education Week Proclamation:

Motion

The Motion was made by Ms. Dot Cherry; seconded by Mr. A.M. Stephens III that the Board
Approve American Education Week Proclamation

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

Chairman Ramsey presented a Recognition Plaque.

(View Proclamation)

Classroom Moment – Information

Chairman Ramsey recognized Ms. Lisa Jordan, ESL Director, who presented a PowerPoint on Supporting our Multilingual Learners.

(View PowerPoint)

Public Expression – Information

Cherie Feemster, President of NCAE

1440 Logan Patrick Ct.

Gastonia, NC 28052

RE: Current needs and concerns of teachers and staff

Approval/Correction of Minutes – Action

Motion to adopt minutes of October 21, 2024 as presented was made by Mr. Lee Dedmon; seconded by Ms. Dot Cherry; 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

Josh Crisp is chair of the committee and members are Dot Guthrie, Tod Kinlaw and Robbie Lovelace. Chairman Ramsey recognized Mr. Tod Kinlaw of the Curriculum & Instruction Committee who provided a summary of topics considered and discussed at the most recent meeting.

(View Report)

Consent Agenda – Action

The Board considered the Consent Agenda:

- A. Recommended Personnel
- B. Budget Amendments & Budget Transfers
- C. Construction/Repair Change Orders
- D. School Improvement Plans (SIP)
- E. School Improvement Plans (SIP) for Low Performing Schools (LPS)
- F. K-3 Class Size Exception Waiver
- G. Contracts
 - Bessemer City Middle School – Chiller Replacement
 - Agency Contracts – Reallocation of Funds
 - Hunter Huss High School Athletic Facilities Grant

Motion to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented was made by Mr. A.M. Stephens III; seconded by Mr. Josh Crisp motion carried unanimously. (8-0)

Superintendent's Comments

Superintendent Houchard announced that our Principals Leadership Team is coordinating the "Nickels 4 Neighbors" fundraiser on December 3-4 to collect money for seniors in the Class of 2025 at Mitchell High School and Mayland Early College High School. As part of our Hurricane Helene relief and recovery efforts, we are adopting Mitchell County Schools with a focus on supporting the seniors and trying to give them as normal of a senior year as possible, given the devastating effects of the storm and how it impacted the lives of so many people.

Superintendent Houchard congratulated our football teams on their success this season, and this Friday night, we have the second round of the state playoffs, and our games are:

- Ashbrook at South Point; and
- Robbinsville at Bessemer City

We want to wish Ashbrook, South Point, and Bessemer City "good luck" as they play this week and continue in their quest for a football championship.

Superintendent Houchard announced the holiday season is here, which means it is time for the annual Christmas parades. If you are going to any of the parades, be sure to look for our classic bus along with our marching bands, cheerleaders, and other school groups as we celebrate the holiday season in Gaston County. The parade season kicks off this Sunday, November 24 with the Bessemer City parade, and there is a full schedule of parades taking place over the next several weeks.

Superintendent Houchard announced Thanksgiving is next week, which means Wednesday is a student holiday and annual leave day for teachers. Thursday and Friday are holidays for all employees, and our schools and central office buildings will be closed. We hope everyone has a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday with family and friends as we pause to show our gratitude for all that we have in our lives.

Superintendent Houchard announced the Gaston Regional Science and Engineering Fair will be held on December 4-6 at The Schiele Museum. The science fair features projects by elementary school, middle school, and high school students. The competition for elementary schools is December 4-5; the projects will be on display in the morning with awards presented each day at 11:00 a.m. On Friday, December 6, the middle schools and high schools will compete in the morning with the awards presentation at 12:30 p.m.

Superintendent Houchard announced that the Board of Education will come together on Monday, December 2 for the Organizational Meeting where the Board will select a chairman and vice chairman to serve for the next two years. The Organizational Meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 2, in the Board Room at 10:00 a.m. – immediately following the swearing-in ceremony at 9:00 a.m. at the Gaston County Courthouse.

Special Recognition

At this time, we would like to congratulate Mrs. Robbie Lovelace, Mr. Brent Moore and Mr. Jeff Ramsey on their re-election and welcome Ms. Janna Smith in December as a new Board Member.

Mr. Todd Hagans took a moment to recognize, honor and thank Mr. Jeff Ramsey for serving four years as Board Chairman (serving two consecutive terms) on the Board of Education. Vice-Chairman Cherry presented a gavel plaque to Mr. Ramsey on behalf of the Board of Education.

Closed Session

Not Needed

Adjournment

All business having been conducted, Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Tod Kinlaw; seconded by Mr. A.M. Stephens III motion carried unanimously. (8-0)

The Board Meeting adjourned at 6:32p.m.

Approved:

Josh Crisp, Chairman
[Corporate Seal]

Morgen A. Houchard, Secretary

Date Approved: _____

Agenda Item

Meeting Date: 12/16/2024

Agenda Item Title/Topic: Operations Committee Report

Type of Item: ☐ Consent ☐ Action ☒ Information

Main Points:

The Gaston County Board of Education's Operations Committee meets regularly to discuss operations-related projects and issues. Brent Moore is chair of the committee and members are Dot Cherry, Lee Dedmon and Tod Kinlaw.

Fiscal Implications:

None

Recommendation:

None

Policy Implications:

The Board will be informed of Operations Committee discussions and information.

Strategic Goal Alignment:

Other: Policy or Gen Statute. See above.

Submitted by: Gary F. Hoskins, CFO and
Associate Superintendent

Department: Finance

Agenda Item

Meeting Date: 12/16/2024

Agenda Item Title/Topic: Curriculum & Instruction Committee Report

Type of Item: ☐ Consent ☐ Action ☒ Information

Main Points:

The Gaston County Board of Education's Curriculum & Instruction Committee meets regularly to discuss curriculum and instruction-related topics and issues. Jeff Ramsey is chair of the committee and members are Robbie Lovelace, Janna Smith and A.M. Stephens III.

Fiscal Implications:

None

Recommendation:

None

Policy Implications:

The Board will be informed of Curriculum and Instruction Committee discussions and information.

Strategic Goal Alignment:

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

Submitted by: Curriculum and Instruction Committee

Department: Curriculum and Instruction

Agenda Item

Meeting Date: 12/16/2024

Agenda Item Title/Topic: District and School Safety and Security Update

Type of Item: ☐ Consent ☐ Action ☒ Information

Main Points:

A priority of the Gaston County School's Mission Statement is to ensure a healthy, safe and responsible school where every student has the opportunity to learn in a safe school environment. An update will be provided to the Gaston County Schools Board of Education regarding district and school safety and security. We will also provide details on specific school safety plans during closed session as required by law.

Fiscal Implications:

None

Recommendation:

None

Policy Implications:

Policy Code: 3430 School Improvement Plan

Strategic Goal Alignment:

Other: Policy or Gen Statute. See above.

Submitted by: Bessie Harvey, Assistant
Superintendent of Operations **Department:** Facilities

Agenda Item

Meeting Date: 12/16/2024

Agenda Item Title/Topic: Board Policy Updates

Type of Item: ☐ Consent ☐ Action ☒ Information

Main Points:

Periodically, policies need to be reviewed and revised. Changes in State and Federal law, general maintenance of policies upon review by staff, and State Board of Education Policy revisions can all lead to the need for revisions to Gaston County Board of Education Policies. These recommendations come after review and input from key stakeholders.

See attached for complete list of policies to be revised. Drafts of policies recommended for revision are posted on the GCS website for review.

This matter will come back to the Board for approval at its next meeting.

Fiscal Implications:

None

Recommendation:

Board of Education will consider proposed policy revisions for approval at its next meeting.

Policy Implications:

Policies will be revised as approved by the Board of Education.

Strategic Goal Alignment:

Other: Policy or Gen Statute. See above.

Submitted by: Sonya C. McGraw

Department: Legal

2024 PLS Updates

[illegible]

Agenda Item

Meeting Date: 12/16/2024

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
 - Grier Middle School – New Furniture

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. Morgen A. Houchard

Department: Superintendent

Agenda Item

Meeting Date: 12/16/2024

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 administration of schools.

Strategic Goal Alignment:

Other: Policy or Gen Statute. See above.

Submitted by: Dr. Morgen A. Houchard

Department: Human Resources

Agenda Item

Meeting Date: 12/16/2024

Agenda Item Title/Topic: Budget Amendments and Budget Transfers

Type of Item: ☒ **Consent** ☒ **Action** ☐ **Information**

Main Points:

Budget amendments are needed to adjust the approved budget to reflect actual changes in revenue and budget transfers are needed to transfer money to proper expenditure codes as requested by fund managers.

Fiscal Implications:

Makes adjustments to the 2024-2025 budget.

Recommendation:

Approval of the attached listing of recommended budget amendments and transfers.

Policy Implications:

Policy Code: 8300 Fiscal Management Standards

Strategic Goal Alignment:

Other: Policy or Gen Statute. See above.

Submitted by: Gary F. Hoskins, CFO and
Associate Superintendent

Department: Finance

Gaston County Schools
Changes in Appropriations

2024-2025 Budget Resolution - November
Transfers Between Functions

State Public School Fund

Function	Description	Expense Increase	Expense Decrease
51000	Regular Instructional Services	2,441,066	
52000	Special Population Services	57,441	
53000	Alternative Programs and Services	619,202	
54000	School Leadership Services		1,172,863
58000	School-Based Support Services	1,055,154	
65000	Operational Support Services		3,000,000
		<u>4,172,863</u>	<u>4,172,863</u>

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

Gaston County Schools
Changes in Appropriations

2024-2025 Budget Resolution - November
Transfers Between Functions

Local Current Expense Fund

Function	Description	Expense Increase	Expense Decrease
51000	Regular Instructional Services		159
55000	Co-Curricular Services		3,741
61000	Support and Development Services		500
65000	Operational Support Services	4,400	
		<u>4,400</u>	<u>4,400</u>

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

Gaston County Schools
Changes in Appropriations

2024-2025 Budget Resolution - November
Transfers Between Functions

Federal Grants Fund

Function	Description	Expense Increase	Expense Decrease
52000	Special Population Services	16,189	
53000	Alternative Programs and Services		11,068
58000	School-Based Support Services		4,931
62000	Special Population Support and Development Services		17,992
65000	Operational Support Services	5,025	
81000	Payments to Other Governmental Units	12,777	
		<u>33,990</u>	<u>33,990</u>

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

Gaston County Schools
Changes in Appropriations

2024-2025 Budget Resolution - November
Transfers Between Functions

Restricted Grants Fund

Function	Description	Expense Increase	Expense Decrease
52000	Special Population Services		15,000
62000	Special Population Support and Development Services	15,000	
		<u>15,000</u>	<u>15,000</u>

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

**Gaston County Schools
Changes in Appropriations**

**2024-2025 Budget Resolution - November
Proposed Expenditures and Sources of Revenue**

State Public School Fund

#	Function	Description	Expense Increase (Decrease)	Revenue Increase (Decrease)
1	31000	Revenue - State Public School Fund		(14,955)
	53000	Alternative Programs and Services	(14,955)	
		This amendment adjusts funds for the Summer Reading Camps - Allotment Revision #46 - FY25 (PRC0016)		
2	31000	Revenue - State Public School Fund		85,000
	52000	Special Population Services	85,000	
		This amendment budgets funds for the Behavioral Support - Children with Disabilities Allotment - Allotment Revision #39 - FY25 (PRC0029)		
3	31000	Revenue - State Public School Fund		554,844
	53000	Alternative Programs and Services	554,844	
		This amendment budgets funds for the Literacy Intervention - 3rd grade - Allotment Revision #38 - FY25 (PRC0085)		
4	31000	Revenue - State Public School Fund		5,000
	58000	School-Based Support Services	5,000	
		This amendment budgets funds for the Feminine Hygiene Grant - Allotment Revision #43 - FY25 (PRC0088)		
5	31000	Revenue - State Public School Fund		473,673
	52000	Special Population Services	473,673	
		This amendment budgets funds for the Children with Disabilities - Special State Reserves allotment - Allotment Revision #40 - FY25 (PRC0089)		
6	31000	Revenue - State Public School Fund		484,282
	51000	Regular Instructional Services	484,282	
		This amendment budgets funds for the Hurricane Relief & Recovery allotment - Mental Health Allocations - Allotment Revision #46 - FY25 (PRC0230)		
Total State Public School Fund Amendments			1,587,844	1,587,844

Gaston County Schools
Changes in Appropriations

2024-2025 Budget Resolution - November
Proposed Expenditures and Sources of Revenue

Federal Current Expense Fund

#	Function	Description	Expense Increase (Decrease)	Revenue Increase (Decrease)
1	36000	Federal Revenue		166,627
	52000	Special Population Services	161,537	
	81000	Payments to Other Governmental Units	5,090	
	This amendment budgets funds for the IDEA - Section 619 Preschool Grant - FY25 (PRC0049)			
2	36000	Federal Revenue		7,362,293
	52000	Special Population Services	6,354,869	
	62000	Special Population Support and Development Services	790,974	
	81000	Payments to Other Governmental Units	216,450	
	This amendment budgets funds for the IDEA - Section 611 Grants to States - FY25 (PRC0060)			
3	36000	Federal Revenue		19,421
	53000	Alternative Programs and Services	19,421	
	This amendment budgets funds for the Title I - School Improvement- FY25 (PRC0105)			
Total Local Current Expense Fund Account			7,548,341	7,548,341

Gaston County Schools
Changes in Appropriations

2024-2025 Budget Resolution - November
Proposed Expenditures and Sources of Revenue

Restricted Grants Fund

#	Function	Description	Expense Increase (Decrease)	Revenue Increase (Decrease)
1	48000	Local Sources - Restricted		303,093
	53000	Alternative Programs and Services	177,835	
	63000	Alternative Programs and Services - Support and Development Services	103,693	
	65000	Operational Support Services	21,565	
	This amendment budgets funds for the 21st Century Community - A.S.P.I.R.E. Grant - FY25 (PRC0110)			
2	48000	Local Sources - Restricted		30,826
	51000	Regular Instructional Services	30,826	
	This amendment adjusts funds received for the Building On Success Grant - FY25 (PRC0375)			
3	48000	Local Sources - Restricted		9,452
	71000	Community Services	9,452	
	This amendment budgets funds received for the Community Use Fund - FY25 (PRC0704)			
4	48000	Local Sources - Restricted		19,000
	66000	Financial and Human Resource Services	19,000	
	This amendment budgets funds received for the Insurance Claims Fund - FY25 (PRC0840)			
Total Restricted Grants Fund Amendments			362,371	362,371

Agenda Item

Meeting Date: 12/16/2024

Agenda Item Title/Topic: Construction/Repair Change Orders

Type of Item: ☒ **Consent** ☒ **Action** ☐ **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:

Approval of the attached listing of construction/repair change orders.

Policy Implications:

Policy Code: 9030 Facility Construction

Strategic Goal Alignment:

Other: Policy or Gen Statute. See above.

Submitted by: Bessie Harvey, Assistant
Superintendent of Operations

Department: Facilities

GCS CHANGE ORDER NOTIFICATION

In accordance with GCS Board Policy 9030 - Facility Construction, all construction and repair change orders approved by the Superintendent, or his designee, shall be reported to the Board. In addition, any change orders that involve amounts over \$100,000 must be approved by the Board. This GCS Change Order Notification provides the required information for change orders \$100,000 or less that have already been approved by the Superintendent, or his designee, and change orders over \$100,000 that need Board approval.

Presented to BOE	Contractor's Name	Project name	Description of Change	Contract Amount	Change Order Amount
12-10-24	AVM Contractors	South Point High School Athletic Renovations	The state funded this project to improve the sports facilities at South Point High School. However, an additional \$57,435 is needed to raise the walkway elevation to match the height of the existing bleachers and to add an asphalt walking path to the running track. Additionally, more stone is required to backfill the grade drop.	\$474,111	\$57,435

Agenda Item

Meeting Date: 12/16/2024

Agenda Item Title/Topic: Contracts and Expenditures >\$100,000

Type of Item: ☒ Consent ☒ Action ☐ Information

Main Points:

The attached listing of contracts and expenditures more than \$100,000 was reviewed by staff and recommended for approval by the Board, or are contracts less than \$100,000 but recommended to the Board for approval.

Fiscal Implications:

All contracts and expenditures will be paid using bond funding, capital proceeds or operational savings.

Recommendation:

Approval

Policy Implications:

Board Policy 8640

Strategic Goal Alignment:

Other: Policy or Gen Statute. See above.

Submitted by: Gary F. Hoskins, CFO and
Associate Superintendent

Department: Finance

Agenda Item

Meeting Date: 12/16/2024

Agenda Item Title/Topic: Grier Middle School – New Furniture

Type of Item: ☒ **Consent** ☒ **Action** ☐ **Information**

Main Points:

The new Grier Middle School, which is being constructed adjacent to the existing school, will be open for students in August 2025. The new school will also include new furniture throughout the building. We conducted a request for qualifications to identify qualified vendors to supply furniture, fixtures, and equipment for the new Grier Middle School project. After reviewing submissions, we narrowed the candidates down to four vendors, who were invited to submit bids for the project. Nu-Idea submitted the lowest responsive and responsible bid. The proposed cost of providing furniture in all of the classrooms, offices, and common spaces in the new school totaled \$1,539,300. This represents a 12.2% increase from the cost of comparable furniture purchased a few years ago for a similar-sized Belmont Middle School. This increase is consistent with the cumulative rate of inflation that we have experienced over the past several years.

Fiscal Implications:

The proposed cost of \$1,539,300 will be paid with school bond proceeds.

Recommendation:

Approve contract with Nu-Idea to provide furniture for the new Grier Middle School.

Policy Implications:

Policy Code 9200 – Care and Maintenance of Facilities

Strategic Goal Alignment:

Other: Policy or Gen Statute. See above.

Submitted by: Bessie Harvey, Assistant
 Superintendent of Operations

Department: Facilities

Agenda Item

Meeting Date: 12/16/2024

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:

—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. Barber and The Gaston County Board of Education

—21-CVS-5018 Brittain vs. Beason and The Gaston County Board of Education

—21-CVS-5019 Long vs. The Gaston County Board of Education

—3:23-CV-643-RJC-DCK Roger Perkins vs. The Gaston County Board of Education

—Any other legal matters.

Fiscal Implications:

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
Adams	Rosalyn	Promotion	School Nutrition
Allison	Alayna	Promotion	School Nutrition
Ball	Holly	Resignation	Southwest Middle School
Barajas	Julian	Transfer	School Nutrition
Belk	Dawn	Hire	South Point High School
Benfield	William	Resignation	Highland School of Technology
Bolen	Lacey	Resignation	Stanley Middle School
Brice	Gail	Transfer	School Nutrition
Brooker	Nevada	Resignation	H.H. Beam Elementary School
Bryant	Penny	Promotion	School Nutrition
Burgess	LaTonya	Resignation	Student Support Services
Butler	Melissa	Transfer	Bessemer City Central School
Camp	Lance	Resignation	North Gaston High School
Canas	Maricela	Promotion	School Nutrition
Chase	Linda	Resignation	Edward D. Sadler, Jr. Elementary School
Cook	Deborah	Hire	School Nutrition
Cook-Brewton	Tracy	Resignation	Grier Middle School
Crawford	Kathleen	Demotion	Hunter Huss High School
Criminger	Kinzie	Promotion	Transportation
Dempsey	Kaleigh	Hire	South Point High School
Dillard	Heidi	Resignation	Ashbrook High School
Elliott	Grayling	Hire	Bessemer City High School
Falls	Barbara	Hire	School Nutrition
Fleming	Amber	Resignation	John Chavis Middle School
Gardner	Kierra	Resignation	Woodhill Elementary School
Gavilanez	Luisa	Transfer	Hawks Nest STEAM Academy
Glover	Remika	Hire	Elementary Instruction
Goins	Tony	Promotion	Southwest Middle School
Gramarossa	Christine	Promotion	School Nutrition
Hayden	Sherry	Transfer	Webb Street School
Holland	Lennie	Resignation	Bessemer City High School
Holley	Heidi	Transfer	Bessemer City Central School
Howe	Marsha	Rehire an Employee	H.H. Beam Elementary School
Hunter	Shirley	Promotion	School Nutrition
Jackson	Kaliyah	Resignation	Pinewood Elementary School
June	Leesa	Resignation	School Nutrition
Justice	Steven	Promotion	North Gaston High School
Kendrick	Alicia	Demotion	School Nutrition
Kitchen	Kelly	Transfer	W.A. Bess Elementary School
Lindsey-Smith	Pearldora	Hire	Stuart W. Cramer High School
Little	Korbin	Hire	Department for Exceptional Children
Lovejoy	Rachel	Hire	J.B. Page Primary School
Lowrimore	Amy	Transfer	Webb Street School
Machacuay Amaro	Clever	Resignation	Pleasant Ridge Elementary School
Mack	Marilyn	Resignation	Southwest Middle School
Marett	Kirsten	Retirement	McAdenville Elementary School

Last Name	First Name	Category	School
Martin	Anna	Promotion	Ashbrook High School
Massey	Christopher	Resignation	Southwest Middle School
Mayhue	Tonya	Promotion	Transportation
McCall	Kristy	Hire	Forestview High School
McCaskill	Jasmine	Demotion	School Nutrition
McDowell	Andrea	Transfer	School Nutrition
Medlock	Robin	Rehire an Employee	Springfield Elementary School
Mekrut	Iliana	Hire	John Chavis Middle School
Messer	Jessica	Demotion	School Nutrition
Meyer	Kevin	Hire	South Point High School
Mitchell	Jonie	Resignation	Webb Street School
Mitchell	Roxie	Demotion	School Nutrition
Molinelli	Hannah	Resignation	Catawba Heights Elementary School
Moore	Dawn	Resignation	Webb Street School
Morgan	Beatrice	Hire	School Nutrition
Morrow	Ayden	Hire	North Gaston High School
Moxley	Christie	Rehire an Employee	School Nutrition
Neumayer	Andrew	Hire	Southwest Middle School
Odom	Amanda	Resignation	Stanley Middle School
Okungbowa	Monica	Resignation	Pinewood Elementary School
Oliver	Latarshia	Resignation	H.H. Beam Elementary School
Packer	Sarah	Transfer	Webb Street School
Parker	Russell	Hire	High School Instruction
Patterson	Meridith	Promotion	Ashbrook High School
Pepper	Kellie	Transfer	School Nutrition
Perez	Martha	Hire	School Nutrition
Pitts	Shaun	Promotion	School Nutrition
Poplin	Curtis	Promotion	Technology Support Services
Power	Heather	Promotion	School Nutrition
Rafko	Glenn	Hire	Facilities
Rector	Kelly	Resignation	Stuart W. Cramer High School
Reid	Valarie	Hire	Elementary Instruction
Robinson	Shamerra	Hire	John Chavis Middle School
Rodden	Sonja	Promotion	North Gaston High School
Rushing	Madison	Hire	Student Support Services
Selph	Kristen	Transfer	School Nutrition
Shaney	Leigh	Retirement	Bessemer City High School ,
Shaver	Cristal	Transfer	School Nutrition
Shipes	Daniel	Hire	Facilities
Smith	Jennifer	Resignation	Bessemer City Primary School
Spake	Tabatha	Promotion	Highland School of Technology
Tafoya	Megan	Hire	Brookside Elementary School
Taylor	DaQuesha	Resignation	Robinson Elementary School
Tharp	Elizabeth	Promotion	Sherwood Elementary School
Thifault	Annelise	Resignation	Department for Exceptional Children
Tremaine	Lorie	Hire	School Nutrition

Last Name	First Name	Category	School
Turner-Kelley	Carly	Hire	Edward D. Sadler, Jr. Elementary School
VeStrand	Sydney	Hire	Department for Exceptional Children
Wallace	Donna	Hire	Lingerfeldt Elementary School
Ware	Karen	Transfer	Department for Exceptional Children
White	Kara	Resignation	Ashbrook High School
Wilson	Ashley	Promotion	Edward D. Sadler, Jr. Elementary School
Witten	Stephanie	Promotion	Technology Support Services
Woods	Martavius	Resignation	Southwest Middle School