



GASTON COUNTY SCHOOLS Board Briefs

Gaston County Board of Education ■ Communication Department ■ 943 Osceola Street, Gastonia, NC 28054
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The Gaston County Board of Education will hold its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, November 13, 2018, 5:30 p.m., at the Gaston County Schools Central Office, 943 Osceola Street, Gastonia. At that time, the Board will . . .

- Recite the Pledge of Allegiance.
 - Consider formal adoption of the Board Agenda as required by Robert's Rules of Order (revised edition).
 - Recognize Students and Employees.
 - Provide an opportunity for Public Expression. At each Board meeting, the public has an opportunity to address the Board.
 - Consider approval of minutes of the October 15, 2018 meeting.
 - Receive the following Good News for November 2018:
1. The **Gaston County Board of Education** received the Gold Bell Award from the North Carolina School Boards Association. The award is given to Boards of Education across the state that have all members to complete training through the Association's Academy of School Boardsmanship.
 2. **Superintendent of Schools W. Jeffrey Booker** visited elementary and middle schools to speak with students in small-group advisory sessions. The students shared feedback about the school lunch menu, library, technology, and several other topics. Mr. Booker also met with the Student Advisory Council, which includes three student representatives from each high school. He shared information about the school district's strategic plan and conducted a discussion with the students about our vision, mission, and goals.
 3. The following high school students were selected for the Broadway Experience sponsored by the N.C. Blumenthal Performing Arts Center: **Marissa Cannon, Ashbrook; Emily Harris, Stuart W. Cramer; and Maddy Rostmeyer, Highland**. The Broadway Experience is an all-expense paid weekend trip to New York City for 12 students from high schools in the Charlotte region. While in New York, the students attended Broadway shows, enjoyed backstage tours, and visited various tourist attractions.
 4. As part of GO Week for Education and Workforce Development, high school students from **Gaston County Schools** participated in campus tours at Gaston College and Belmont Abbey College. The students had the opportunity to learn more about college life, the application process, scholarships, and financial aid.
 5. **Gaston County Schools** held its annual Marching Band Fanfare on November 3 at **Stuart W. Cramer High School**. The event featured performances by all high school marching bands.
 6. **Highland School of Technology** ranked first and **Gaston Early College High School** ranked second in the Charlotte Business Journal's analysis of high schools in the Charlotte region. The rankings focused on how well schools prepare students for college and careers.
 7. **Webb Street School** held a ribbon-cutting ceremony on November 7 to celebrate the opening and dedication of the school's new accessible playground.
 8. **Lingerfeldt Elementary** celebrated International Walk to School Day with students and their parents coming together to walk to school. Joining them were Gastonia Mayor Walker Reid and representatives from the Gaston County Health Department and Lanxess.
 9. The following middle schools won championships during the fall season: Golf - **Cramerton**, Softball - **W.C. Friday**, and Football - **Southwest**.
 10. Students from **Cherryville Elementary, Cramerton Middle, East Gaston High, Forestview High, Rankin Elementary, Pinewood Elementary, Stanley Middle, and Tryon Elementary** participated in the Mount Holly Lantern Parade. Students carried their own handmade lanterns alongside others, which were made to resemble the legendary flying horse Pegasus, a huge fish, a giant snake with working jaws, and colorful butterflies.
 11. The following students participated in the N.C. Middle School Honors Chorus: **Ephraim Ericksen, Matthew Gwaltney, and Jesse Helms, Belmont Middle; Brandon Anthony, Sean Michael Gore, and Caden Sprinkles, Cramerton Middle; and Emilee Barker, Daniel Burns, Isaac Londeree, and Olivia Swan, Holbrook Middle**.
 12. Classroom Central brought its "Vroom" truck to **Woodhill Elementary**, and more than 130 teachers from across the county had the opportunity to "shop" for classroom supplies. The donated supplies were valued at \$32,000.
 13. The **Chapel Grove Elementary** bowling team took first place and received the Most Spirited Team award at the 2018 Junior Achievement Bowl-A-Thon.
 14. The **Stuart W. Cramer High School** Stagestruck Players performed "A Cemetery Walk Through Time" at New Hope Presbyterian Church in Gastonia. Students gave tours through the cemetery and introduced tour participants to people from the past. The event served as a fundraiser for the school's theater arts program.
 15. **Cherryville High School** junior **Juliana Vollmer** attended the Congress of Future Medical Leaders, a summer program in Boston for students who aspire to become physicians. Principal **Kevin Doran** nominated her for the program.
 16. A select group of **Hunter Huss High School** students participated in the 'Hamilton' Education Program at the Blumenthal Performing Arts Center in Charlotte. Student **Donavan Moonie** presented his original rap on stage as part of the program.
 17. **Hunter Huss High School** teachers **Michelle Ellis** and **Deborah Inman** presented at the seventh annual Bridging the Gap Conference in Raleigh. In addition, school counselors **Grant Sparks** and **Heather Griffin** presented a session on building a trauma-informed staff at the North Carolina School Counselor Association's fall conference.

18. **Hunter Huss High School** chorus teacher **Jackie Robinson** organized a Male Vocal Workshop to give students in her classes an opportunity to hear from two male voice professors. Dr. Carl DuPont and Dr. Brian Arreola from the UNC-Charlotte School of Music led the workshop, which was intended to give the students (especially the boys) a chance to learn from male voice instructors about singing techniques.
19. Students in the **Hunter Huss High School** Beta Club hosted the annual “Haunted Huss” trick-or-treat event for the community. Students decorated classroom doors and handed out candy to children.
20. **Hunter Huss High School** football players **Prince Bemah** and **Tony Davis** were selected for the 2018 Shrine Bowl.
21. **Page Primary** students enjoyed a Book Character Parade as students dressed up as characters from their favorite books.
22. **Pinewood Elementary’s** PTO funded a project and remodeled the teachers’ lounge by adding cabinets, counters, and storage space. In addition, the United Auto Workers Association at Daimler in Mount Holly donated chart paper, markers, and electric pencil sharpeners for the teachers’ classrooms.
23. Volunteers with United Way of Gaston County are serving as reading buddies for a group of second graders at **Sherwood Elementary**.
24. **Stanley Middle School** students collected more 1,050 bags of candy for the residents of the Stanley Total Living Center. The residents handed out the candy to children who visited the center for Halloween.
25. **Stanley Middle School** art teacher **Kaitlin Bumgarner** received a Bright Ideas grant from Rutherford Electric Membership Corporation for \$953.54 to design and create a photography dark room. The grant is one way the school is expanding its art department as part of the STEAM curriculum.
26. The “Stanley Sings!” Choral Festival featured performances by the **East Gaston High School** concert choir and the **Stanley Middle School** eighth grade chorus. The program was funded by a Gaston County Education Foundation fine arts grant named for Jennie Stultz, who retired last year after serving as the Foundation’s long-time executive director.
27. **Tryon Elementary** received a Duke Energy Science Night kit to participate in the 2019 North Carolina Science Festival. The kit includes 13 hands-on science activities for all students. **Dawn Whitworth**, the school’s instructional facilitator, coordinated the project.
28. **Warlick Academy** hosted a Family Night program to celebrate the success of students who achieved perfect attendance and were named to the A and A/B honor roll. The students also enjoyed participating in the “Where in the World is the Warlick Patriot” game.
29. National Pawn donated a variety of musical instruments to the fine arts program at **York Chester Middle School**.
30. First ARP Church in Gastonia donated and planted pansies, azaleas, and camellias for the Got Heart Service Day at **York Chester Middle School**. The volunteers also raked leaves and cleaned up the front lawn of the school.
31. **York Chester Middle School** completed the month-long Superhero Day for Kindness Challenge. The “Super Cougar” mascot visited classrooms to remind students about the importance of showing kindness all school year long.
32. **York Chester Middle School** held its annual International Music and Arts Festival and had significant support from the community.
33. The following **Stuart W. Cramer High School** students participated in the UNC-Charlotte Invitational Honors Band: **Dillon Wilson**, French Horn; **Gina Palisi**, Flute; **Stormy Smith**, Clarinet; **Bayla McSwain**, Flute; **Lake Loftin**, Tenor Saxophone; **Trivice Sadler**, Clarinet; and **Johanna Talamantes**, B flat Contrabass Clarinet. **Kameron Radford** is the school’s band director.
34. The following **East Gaston High School** students participated in the UNC-Charlotte Invitational Honors Band: **Bianca Rushing**, Alto Saxophone; **Arian Stephenson**, Tuba; **Dakota Richardson**, Trombone; **Bryan Clingerman**, Trumpet; **Jasper Powe**, Tuba; **Elena Suarez**, Euphonium; **Dorian Melograna-Ward**, Trombone; and **Brianna Knott**, Clarinet. **Brandon Taylor** is the school’s band director.
35. The following **Forestview High School** students participated in the UNC-Charlotte Invitational Honors Band: **Steven Giang**, Alto Saxophone; **Aaron Gigliotti**, Trumpet; **Riley Bramwell**, Trombone; **Matthew Shelley**, Trumpet; **Alexandra Koone**, Trombone; **William Buzzee**, Tuba; and **Dalton Putnam**, French Horn. The school’s band director is **Jerry Smalls**.
36. The following **Hunter Huss High School** students participated in the UNC-Charlotte Invitational Honors Band: **Raven Anderson**, Flute; **Keinoria Foster**, Flute; **Edward Vargas**, Percussion; **Tera Huffsmith**, Clarinet; **Ron’Nasia Patterson**, Euphonium; **Caleb McCraw-Guyer**, Tenor Saxophone; **Robert Jones**, Percussion; and **Juwan Mattocks**, Percussion. The school’s band director is **Heaven Watson-Weary**.
37. The following **North Gaston High School** students participated in the UNC-Charlotte Invitational Honors Band: **Cecilia Chan**, Flute; **Alondra Martinez**, Trumpet; **Zakiyah McCullough**, Euphonium; **CJ Reid**, Clarinet; **Haley Peninger**, Clarinet; and **Jasmin Umanzor**, Bass Clarinet. The school’s band director is **Tim Reed**.

- Classroom Moment.
- Consider the American Education Week Proclamation.
- Consider the First Semester High School Exam Schedules.
- Receive information regarding the Strategic Plan.
- Receive information regarding the Growth Report.
- Receive information regarding the Board Policy Updates.
- Consider Consent Agenda. The Board previously authorized the use of a Consent Agenda for routine items. The following items will be considered under the Consent Agenda:
 - Recommended Personnel.
 - Budget Amendments and Transfers.
 - Construction/Repair Change Orders.
 - School Improvement Plans (SIP) for Low-Performing Schools (LPS)
 - SMARTnet Renewal
 - Brookside Elementary Sanitary Sewer Lift Station
 - School Nutrition Delivery Truck Replacement
 - School Nutrition Delivery Cargo Van Replacement
 - Storage Area Network (SAN) Equipment and Services Purchase
 - Classroom Libraries
 - Contract: Belmont Middle School General Contractor (Beam Construction)
- Superintendent’s Comments.
- Recognition for Outgoing Board of Education Member.

For more information, please contact the Communications/Public Information Department, Todd Hagans, (704) 866-6118.