

A groundbreaking and ingenious public high school, the Early College combines the knowledge, hard work and resources of Gaston College and Gaston County Schools.



## Benefits

- Small school setting of no more than 250 students
- Continuous support for academic success
- Associate of Arts degree
- Free, transferable college credit while attending high school
- Programs and courses that boost academic achievement
- Graduate with a high school diploma and a two-year college degree
- Classroom instruction by exceptional teachers and college professors



## About Us

- **Official Name:** Gaston Early College High School
- **Location:** Gaston College campus, Lena Sue Beam Building
- **Opening Date:** August 2012
- **Number of Students:** 250
- **Grade Span:** Grades 9-13
- **Program:** Offers combination of traditional high school and college courses
- **Degrees:** High School Diploma and Associate of Arts
- **Number of Courses Per Day:** Four per day on a 90-minute block schedule and up to six (6) classes per semester
- **Elective Courses:** Focus is on courses for the Associate of Arts degree
- **Transportation:** Provided by Gaston County Schools using the magnet school model
- **School Calendar:** School calendar is aligned with the college calendar

## Selection Process

Selection for the Gaston Early College High School is conducted through an application and lottery process. Students who are current eighth graders may apply to attend the Early College High School. Students should contact their school counselor for an application and more information.

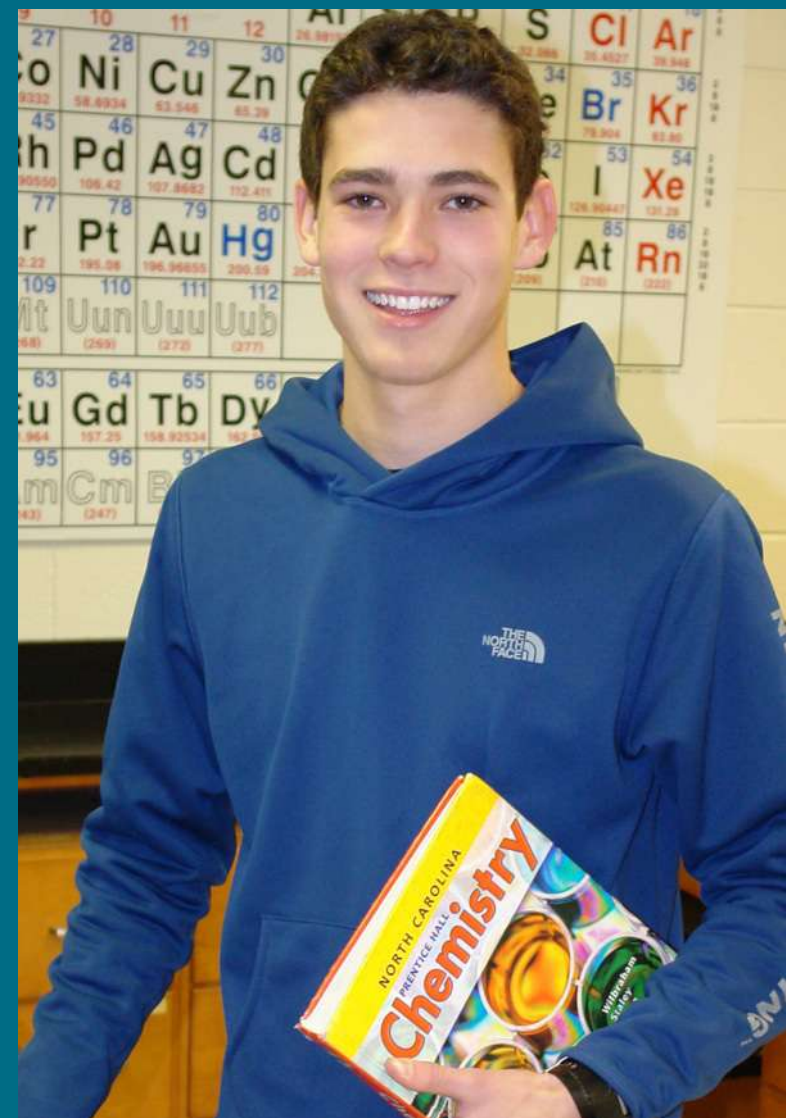


### Gaston County Schools

P. O. Box 1397 Gastonia, NC 28053  
Telephone: 704-866-6100 GCS 21 Education Station  
FAX: 704-866-6175 Website: [www.gaston.k12.nc.us](http://www.gaston.k12.nc.us)

Produced by GCS Communications/Public Information Department

# Gaston EARLY COLLEGE High School



*From here, anything's possible*  
**GASTON COUNTY SCHOOLS**

*Seek a challenge. Go above and beyond.*



## IMAGINE

*A school for the real world with a focused environment for accelerated learning.*

*A school committed to academic excellence, curriculum acceleration and **success for all students**.*

*Gaston Early College High School boasts this and much more.*

### Overview

Gaston Early College High School (GECHS) is an exciting Innovative High School located on the Gaston College campus in Dallas, N.C. The Early College High School is operated by Gaston County Schools and Gaston College through a joint partnership.

This exclusive, non-traditional high school offers Gaston County students a unique opportunity to receive a high school diploma while earning an Associate of Arts degree from the community college.



Early College boasts state-of-the-art technology and rigorous academics. The school allows high school students to take college courses at no additional cost. After graduation, students may transfer to a four-year college or university.

The Early College attracts the best and brightest along with those students who have the potential to be our future leaders.

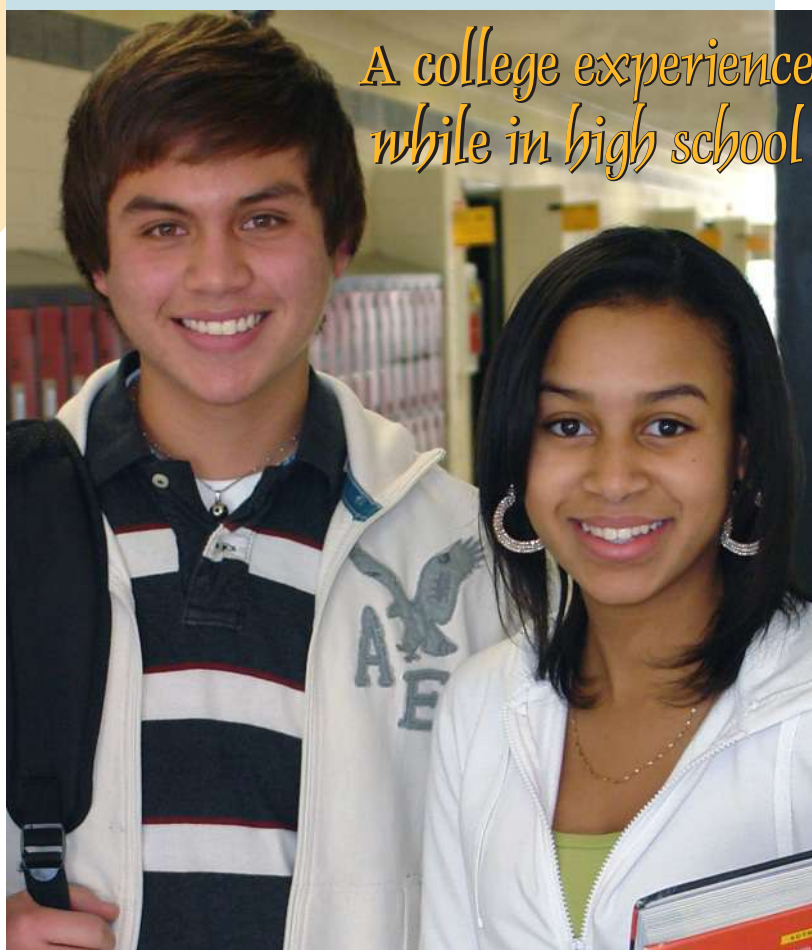
### Goals

*The goals of the Gaston Early College High School are*

- Provide exceptional educational opportunities for students who seek a challenge above and beyond the traditional high school curriculum.
- Foster a “college-going” culture and encourage students to complete the Associate of Arts degree program.
- Offer a college experience for first-generation college students who may not have the financial means to attend.

### Course Offerings

Students take accelerated high school and college-level courses in English, math, science, social studies, digital communications, humanities, foreign language, business, sociology, psychology, health/physical education and music/art. Elective courses also are available.



### Impressive Opportunities

- Offers accelerated studies with a more challenging curriculum.
- Expands and enriches student knowledge.
- Prepares students for four-year college classrooms.
- Allows students to graduate from high school with an Associate of Arts degree or transferrable college credit.
- Provides students a chance to learn about college life while still in high school.
- Opens doors for college scholarships.
- Features collaboration with post-secondary institutions that develops a seamless education experience.
- Gives students internship, job shadowing, and community service experiences and opportunities to network with business leaders.
- Makes it possible for students to learn from the best high school teachers and college professors.
- Affords academic programs that boost academic achievement and outstanding extracurricular activities.
- Includes visits to four-year colleges and universities, cultural events, and programs by nationally-renowned speakers.



The Early College boasts a state-of-the-art learning facility with cutting edge technology. The Lena Sue Beam Building on the Gaston College campus is a totally renovated and expanded facility with the latest technology to enhance student learning.