

## BOARD AGENDA INFORMATIONAL ITEM

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**DEPARTMENT:** Communications/Public  
Information Department

**TOPIC: GOOD NEWS**

**FOR THE MONTH OF:** April 2023

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

8. Sixteen students from **Gaston County Schools** were selected to attend the 2023 session of the prestigious North Carolina Governor's School. Students attending Governor's School East at Meredith College are **John Gouch III, South Point High School; Ella Hamilton, East Gaston High School; Logan Watkins, Stuart W. Cramer High School;** and **Bowie Werran, Stuart W. Cramer High School.** Students attending Governor's School West at Winston-Salem State University are **Lauren Arthurs, South Point High School; Aissatou Diouf, Ashbrook High School; Skyler Hernandez, Hunter Huss High School; Benjamin Kimmel, Hunter Huss High School; Ian McGinnis, South Point High School; Samantha Narciso, South Point High School; Pressley Rankin, East Gaston High School; Emma Thweatt, Forestview High School; Ainsley VanderMeer, Stuart W. Cramer High School; Alexander Villarreal, South Point High School;** and **Jacey Williams, Forestview High School.**
9. **Gaston County Schools** held a ceremony on March 29 to celebrate **Cramerton Middle School** being one of six North Carolina schools to earn the Paideia Seminar Nationally Certified School recognition.
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16. The North Carolina Farm Bureau donated 32 copies of “I Love Strawberries” by Shannon Anderson to **Gaston County Schools**. **Lowell Elementary** principal **Kristin Kiser**, the current Gaston County Principal of the Year, accepted the book donation on behalf of the school system.

17. **Ashbrook High School** held its All-Star Pageant on March 18. \_\_\_\_\_ was crowned Mr. Ashbrook and **Zemariah Webb** was crowned Miss Ashbrook. In addition,



