

BOARD AGENDA INFORMATIONAL ITEM

DEPARTMENT:

6. The elementary school student winners in the Keep Gastonia Beautiful recycled art contest for kindergarten through second grade are **Taylor Barnhill**, first place, **W.A. Bess Elementary**; and **Cooper Huffstetler**, second place, **W.A. Bess Elementary**. For third through fifth grades, the winners are **Mia Lopez**, first place, **W.A. Bess Elementary**; **Alayssa Nieves-Crespo**, second place, **Brookside Elementary**; and **Pyper Whitworth**, third place, **W.A. Bess Elementary**.
7. The following middle school students were winners in the Keep Gastonia Beautiful recycled art contest: **Madilyn Gray**, first place, **Belmont Middle**, and **Abbey Smith**, third place, **Belmont Middle**. The following high school students were winners in the Keep Gastonia Beautiful recycled art contest: **Ada Hendrix**, first place, **East Gaston High School**; **Isabella Biddle**, second place, **Hunter Huss High School**; and **Lucy Augustus**, third place, **Hunter Huss High School**.
8. **Ashbrook High School** student **Cameron Birch** received the 2024 Division on Autism and Developmental Disabilities (DADD) Shriver-Kennedy Student Achievement Award. The honor recognizes students with autism, intellectual disability, or other developmental disabilities who excel in one or more of the following areas: academics, arts, athletics, community service, employment, extracurricular activities, independent activities, technology, and self-advocacy.
9. The **Ashbrook High School** marching band received the following awards at the Porter

15.

26. **Stuart W. Cramer High School** senior **Rich Wills** signed a letter of intent to play golf at Clemson University.

27. The **Stuart W. Cramer High School** hosted a "Past Through Time" at New Hope Presbyterian Church in Gastonia. Students gave tours through the cemetery and introduced participants to people from the past. The event served as a fundraiser for the school's theater arts program.

36. **Highland School of Technology** sophomore **Madison Darnell** won the N.C. High School Athletic Association 1A individual state championship in tennis. In addition, the tennis team was the runner-up in the western regional championship.
37. The **Highland School of Technology** volleyball team were runners-up in the western regional championship.
38. **Highland School of Technology** senior **Liam Fulbright** signed a letter of intent to play baseball at King University.
39. **Pinewood Elementary** received a book vending machine and money to purchase books from Coca-Cola Consolidated.
40. The **South Point High School** marching band received the following awards at the Providence High School “Providence Cup” competition: third place overall and second place, music. Also, the band competed in the Porter Ridge “Pirate Cove Classic” competition and received the following awards: second place overall, Class 2A; first place, drum major; second place, general effect; second place, visual; and second place, music. In addition, the band performed at the Newton-Conover band competition and received the following awards: first place 1A; first place, drum major; first place, color guard; first place, music; and second place, percussion. The band performed at the **Forestview High School** band competition and received the following awards: grand champions for Class 1A and 2A; first place, color guard; first place, drum major.
41. **South Point High School** students **John Armstrong** and **Charlie Birtwhistle** were named to the roster for the East-West all-star football game. Head coach **Adam Hodge** was chosen to serve as an assistant coach.
42. The **Stanley Middle School** chorus sang the national anthem at the Charlotte Hornets basketball game on October 30.
43. **Tryon Elementary** fourth-grade students hosted a Veterans Day program to honor and thank local veterans. The event featured patriotic songs and speeches and intended to create a connection between the students and the veterans in their community.
44. **York Chester Middle School** earned the top spot in Prodigy Education’s Coding in Minecraft competition for North Carolina schools during the 2022-23 year. The school was recognized for the most coding credentials per person.