

BOARD AGENDA INFORMATIONAL ITEM

DEPARTMENT: Communications/Public

Boyd, and Spencer Baker, South Point High School; and Nii Abbey, Emmanuel Berry, Sha'Hirah Black, Jorel Breeden, Leah Brooks, Annette Carrillo, Grace Cera-Isbell, Chauncey Collins, Catherine Coronel-Nava, Ryan Cruz Trujillo, Ayden Dellinger, Saliou Diouf, Sof teachers completed the 400+ Gaston County

Schools AIG Local Endorsement (G.A.L.E.) training program to work with academically and intellectually gifted students. They are Jennifer Amato, Jennifer Clark, Sarah Payne, Kaitlyn Speas, Allie Walsh, and Sarah Williams, Page Primary;

5. Students from **South Point High School** and **Holbrook Middle School** designed and created scarecrows that are part of Daniel Stowe Botanical Garden's "Scarecrow Hollow" exhibit.

6. The following students received awards in the Mount Holly Plein Air art contest: **Anna Broome, Stuart W. Cramer High School**, second place; **Ava Hoerst, Cramerton Middle School**, third place; and **Briana Banuelas Ibarra, Highland School of Art**, honorable mention.

~~Anna Broome, Stuart W. Cramer High School, second place; Ava Hoerst, Cramerton Middle School, third place; and Briana Banuelas Ibarra, Highland School of Art, honorable mention.~~

17. The **Bessemer City High School** band performed “The Star-Spangled Banner” at a recent Gastonia Baseball Club game.
18. **Carr Elementary School and John Chavis Middle School** sponsored collection drives for people affected by Hurricane Helene.
19. The **Cherryville High School** marching band received several awards in Class 2A at the East Lincoln High School Carolina Classic: first place for drum major, third place for general effect, and third place for music. **Cole Crawford** is the band director.
20. The **Stuart W. Cramer High School** Raging Storm Marching Band received several awards at the Cox Mill Charger Cup, including second place in Class 2A, second in music performance, second in visual performance, second in general effect, and second in percussion. **Kameron Radford** is the band director.
21. **Stuart W. Cramer High School** tennis player **Olivia Michael** won the Big South 3A Conference tournament championship.
22. The **East Gaston High School** marching band received several awards in Class 3A at the **North Gaston High School** Wildcat Invitational competition, including first place overall and first place in general effect, music performance, visual performance, drum major, percussion, and color guard. **Brandon Taylor** is the band director.
23. The **East Gaston High School** JROTC won first place in the unarmed squad competition at the Nation Ford High School Falcon Meet. Additionally, the JROTC collected and delivered several hundred pounds of donated food and clothing to benefit people affected by Hurricane Helene.
24. **East Gaston High School’s** athletes and band members were invited to greet students at **Pinewood Elementary** as part of the school’s “Start the Day with a Hello!” program.
25. **Aruzhan Suleimenova** of **East Gaston High School** was chosen for the BigFuture Ambassadors program by the College Board.
26. In partnership with Keep Gastonia Beautiful, the **Forestview High School** AP (Advanced Placement) Environmental Science class picked up nearly 300 pounds of trash and debris around the school grounds. **Sam Braxton** is the teacher.
27. **Forestview High School** doubles players **Olivia Hensley** and **Lily Cabe** placed second in the Big South Conference tournament to advance to the regional tournament.
28. **Gaston County Board of Education** member **Lee Dedmon** visited **Forestview High School** at a student’s request for a biography project interview. He answered questions and gave the student a basketball trading card from his days as a player at UNC-Chapel Hill.
29. On September 11, the **W.C. Friday Middle School** band performed patriotic songs before the start of school to commemorate Patriot Day.

30. **Gaston Early College High School** held a leadership luncheon to connect students with local professionals. Students were paired with experts in their chosen career fields, and both students and professionals enjoyed the chance to connect and learn from each other while enjoying lunch.
31. **Kiser Elementary** received a \$1,000 grant for being a finalist in the Carolina Panthers spirit rock competition.
32. **Lingerfeldt Elementary** received a donation of teacher supply bags from Loray Baptist Church. Additionally, Officer Jamar Kendrick with the Gaston County Police Department held a back-to-school drive and donated school supplies and other necessities to teachers.
33. The **Mount Holly Middle School** seventh-grade chorus performed the national anthem and “God Bless America” at a recent Gastonia Baseball Club game. The school chorus teacher is **Amy Carpenter**.
34. **New Hope Elementary School** received a donation of school supplies from Seven Oaks Church. In addition, the church provided gift cards to teachers and served a delicious meal during parent-teacher conferences.
35. The **North Gaston High School** JROTC collected supplies for people affected by Hurricane Helene and delivered them to the Linville Land Harbor distribution site. In addition to delivering their supplies, the cadets helped unload donations, load supplies, sort items, and interact with local residents.
36. **Page Primary School** raised more than \$44,000 during its recent dance-a-thon fundraiser. The funds will be used to purchase books and science materials.
37. **Pinewood Elementary School** celebrated a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new outdoor mural created by artist Jake Summerour. The mural is a collaboration between **Gaston County Schools** and the City of Mount Holly and is inspired by students’ artwork. In addition, the ceremony featured a musical performance by the fifth grade under the direction of **Heather McKoy**.
38. **Pinewood Elementary’s** assistant principal, **Carmin Adams**, was nominated for Assistant Principal of the Year by the North Carolina Principals and Assistant Principals Association.
39. **Sadler Elementary** celebrated “Start With Hello Week,” which is a national call to action dedicated to making new social connections and creating a sense of belonging among youth.
40. **Sadler Elementary** launched phase one of its multilingual initiative by offering English as a Second Language opportunities to parents and foreign language classes to select fourth and fifth-grade students.

41. The **South Point High School** marching band received several awards at the **North Gaston** Wildcat Invitational. In Class 1A, the band earned first place overall, along with first place for drum major, second place for color guard, and first place for percussion, general effect, visual performance, and music.
42. The following **Stanley Middle School** students placed in the “Design a Classroom” challenge: **Martha Tobiasson**, front office, first place; **Abigail Summey**, library, second place; **Diego Summey**, second place, auditorium; and **Ailany Kaskay**, science room, third place. The following teacher classrooms also placed in the competition: **Renee Withers**, first place; **Kennedy Ballard**, second place; and a tie for third place: **Kristy Summey** and **Susan Tobiasson**.
43. **York Chester Middle School** hosted an International Music and Art Festival that showcased the school’s band and chorus and included a display of student artwork. The program was designed to celebrate cultural awareness and diversity through the fine arts.