

Gaston County Schools
Curriculum & Instruction Committee Meeting
Monday, August 4, 2025

MINUTES

The Curriculum and Instruction Committee met on Monday, August 4, 2025, at 11:30 a.m. in the Central Office Board Room, 943 Osceola Street, Gastonia, NC. Those members in attendance were: Chairman Jeff Ramsey, Robbie Lovelace, Janna Smith, and A.M. Stephens III.

Additional attendees included: BOE Chairman Josh Crisp, Vice Chairman Dot Cherry, Superintendent Dr. Morgen A. Houchard, Attorney Sonya McGraw, Associate Superintendent Tonya Kales and Assistant Superintendents Rebekka Powers and Bessie Harvey, Executive Director of Human Resources Beth Suber, Executive Directors Bryan Denton, Kevin Doran, and Tyler West, Chief of Staff Tom Nencetti, Board Clerk Cindy Beck.

Curriculum & Instruction Committee Chairman Ramsey called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m. and welcomed everyone.

Approval/Correction of Minutes

Motion to adopt minutes of June 2, 2025, as presented was made by Mrs. Janna Smith, seconded by Mrs. Robbie Lovelace, motion carried unanimously. (4-0)

HR Update for Opening of Schools

Executive Director of Human Resources Beth Suber gave an update on Staffing.

(View PowerPoint)

Facilities Update for Opening of Schools

Assistant Superintendent of Operations Bessie Harvey presented the following updates on Summer Projects: Grier Middle School, LED Conversion Upfits, Freezer, Cooler Replacements, Bottle Fillers, Kitchen Piping, and Drain Replacement, Boiler Replacements, School Nutrition Dock Curtain Replacements, Chiller Replacements, Cooling Tower Replacements, Ida Rankin Drainage Reconfiguration, Fencing, and In-house projects.

Mrs. Janna Smith asked Assistant Superintendent of Operations Bessie Harvey to ensure that the Forestview High School roof access was secure.

Assistant Superintendent of Operations Bessie Harvey presented the Construction Manager at Risk (CM-at-Risk) method that will be used at the Belmont Central addition to work alongside the architect and engineer to help oversee this project and potentially larger projects in the future.

(View PowerPoint)

Safer School Video State Mandated

Dr. Rebekka Powers presented information about the Safer School Video Program, which is state-mandated pursuant to G.S. 115C-124.7. She shared that the process to be used by schools to comply with this mandate, and parental information about the videos will be distributed at the school level, along with the beginning-of-the-year materials. Parents will choose to opt in or out for their child to participate.

Capacity and Utilization Update

Chief of Staff Tom Nencetti presented information on The Gaston County Schools Demographic Study and Utilization Report. The data from the Cropper Geographic Information Systems (GIS) could forecast the District Population Change, School Level Forecast, and Enrollment Forecast. Tom Nencetti presented that Cropper GIS Consulting could be an option to help Gaston County Schools plan for the future.

(View Presentation)

2025-2026 District Literacy Intervention Plan

Executive Director Tyler West presented the 2025-2026 District Literacy Intervention Plan. Senate Bill 387 requires districts to have a current Literacy Intervention Plan in place.

(View Presentation)

Motion

The Motion was made by Mr. A.M. Stephens III; seconded by Mrs. Janna Smith that the Board approve the 2025-2026 District Literacy Intervention Plan. Item to be placed on the Consent Agenda for the August 18, 2025, Board Meeting.

Academic Services Team Draft SMART Goals - Information

The Board participated in developing SMART goals.

Academic Services Team Updates - Information

Executive Director Tyler West presented information on the below:

- Academic Services Team Opening of Schools Support Plan
- 2025-2026 Executive Directors' Case Loads
- Leadership Conference Feedback
- TIPS (New Teachers' Feedback)
- Teaching and Learning Conference Agenda

(View Presentation)

Board Policy Updates

Attorney Sonya McGraw presented the proposed Board Policy Updates as per the changes from State Law, or state Board of Education policies. These policies are placed on the Gaston County Schools website for review. This item will come back before the Board at the August 18th, 2025 meeting.

(View Presentation)

Next Committee Meeting Date/Time

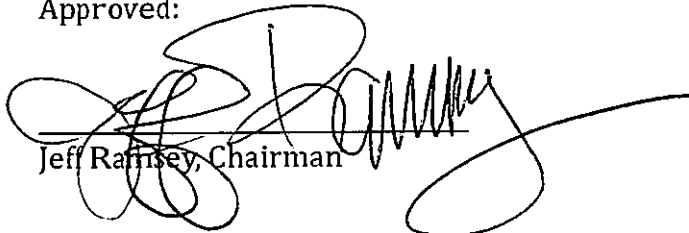
The next C&I Committee Meeting is scheduled for September 8, 2025 in the Central Office Board Room beginning at 11:30 a.m.

Adjournment

All business being conducted, Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. A.M. Stephens III; seconded by Mrs. Janna Smith. Motion carried unanimously. (4-0)

The Curriculum & Instruction Committee Meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Approved:

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jeff Ramsey', is written over a horizontal line.

Jeff Ramsey, Chairman

Date Approved: 9-17-25