

GASTON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Josh Crisp – Chairman
Dot Cherry – Vice Chairman

Lee Dedmon, Gastonia Township
Tod Kinlaw, South Point Township
Robbie Lovelace, Cherryville Township
Brent Moore, Crowders Mountain Township



Jeff K. Ramsey, At Large
Janna Smith, Gastonia Township
A.M. Stephens, III, Riverbend Township

Dr. Morgen A. Houchard, Superintendent
Rader Staff Development Center
240 Eighth Avenue, Cramerton, NC 28032
Friday, January 23, 2026
9:00 a.m.
Agenda
Regular Meeting

- I. Call to Order
- II. Invocation
- III. Pledge of Allegiance
- IV. Agenda Adoption – Action
- V. Good News – Information
- VI. Resolution: Coretta Scott King Book Awards Literature Week – Action
- VII. Public Expression – Information
- VIII. Approval/Correction of Minutes – Action
December 15, 2025 (Regular Meeting)
- IX. Consent Agenda – Action
Consent Agenda Item (s) will be adopted with a single motion, second, vote, unless a request for removal from the Consent Agenda is heard from a Board Member.
 - A. Recommended Personnel
 - B. Budget Amendments & Budget Transfers
 - C. Construction/Repair Change Orders
 - D. Resolution to Declare Certain Real Property Surplus Property (TRC)
 - E. Sanitary Sewer Easement - Forest Heights/1 Learning Place (Phase 2)
 - F. Contracts
 - Replacement of the intercom system at Woodhill Elementary

- Security Vestibule Design for Ashbrook High School, Bessemer City Primary School, East Gaston High School, and Sherwood Elementary School

- X. Superintendent's Comments
- XI. Closed Session – Information
 - N.C.G.S. §143-318.11(a)(3) Consultation with Attorney
 - N.C.G.S. §143-318.11(a)(6) Personnel
- XII. Adjournment

Agenda
Board of Education Retreat
Rader Staff Development Center
Cramerton, NC 28032
January 23, 2026
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9:00 a.m.
Board of Education Meeting
(See Agenda)

Board of Education Work Session
(Following the Regular Monthly Meeting)

Welcome

Chairman, Josh Crisp

- *The vision of Gaston County Schools is to inspire success and a lifetime of learning.*

State of the Schools Address

Superintendent, Morgen Houchard

- *Mission Statement – Through outstanding employees and community partners, Gaston County Schools provides innovative educational opportunities for all students in a safe and nurturing learning environment.*

Board Responsibilities and Roles

Chris Campbell, Attorney, Campbell Shatley, PLLC Attorneys at Law

- *GCS Policy Code 2010: The Board recognizes the importance of an effective working relationship between the Board and Superintendent. The Board further recognizes the distinct and separate areas of responsibilities of the Board and Superintendent of the school system. The Superintendent is responsible for the administration of the system of schools consistent with the Board's policies.*

Demographic Study Update

Tom Nencetti, Chief of Staff

- *Mission Statement - Through outstanding employees and community partners, Gaston County Schools provides innovative educational opportunities for all students in a safe and nurturing learning environment.*

Lunch

Budget Discussion

Associate Superintendent, Gary Hoskins

- *Innovation – Every employee uses innovative practices to serve all students, parents and other stakeholders.*

Facilities Report/Plan

Bond and Capital Work - Present/Future

Assistant Superintendent, Bessie Harvey

- *Healthy, Safe, and Responsible Schools - Every student has the opportunity to learn in a safe school environment.*

Student Support Services

Assistant Superintendent, Rebekka Powers

- *Mission Statement - Through outstanding employees and community partners, Gaston County Schools provides innovative educational opportunities for all students in a safe and nurturing learning environment.*

Academic Services

Associate Superintendent, Tonya Kales

- *College and Career Ready – Every student will graduate prepared for college, the workforce and other life-enhancing opportunities.*

Closing Remarks

Adjournment