

**Gaston County Schools
Policy Committee Meeting
Monday, August 3, 2026
4:30 p.m.
MINUTES**

The Gaston County Board of Education Policy Committee met on Monday, August 3, 2026, at 5:03 p.m. at the Central Office Board Room, 943 Osceola Street, Gastonia, NC. Members in attendance were Chair Dot Cherry, Janna Smith, and A.M. Stephens III.

Additional attendees included: Superintendent Houchard, Attorney Sonya McGraw, Associate Superintendent Tonya Kales, Assistant Superintendent of Operations Bessie Harvey, Assistant Superintendent of Student Support Services Rebekka Powers, Executive Director of Human Resources Beth Suber, Legal Department Administrative Assistant Sandra Whitmire, and Board Clerk Cindy Beck.

Ms. Dot Cherry called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m. and welcomed everyone.

Agenda Adoption - Action

The Committee members considered the Agenda Adoption – Action

Motion to adopt the Agenda as presented was made by Mrs. Janna Smith; seconded by Mr. A.M. Stephens III; motion carried unanimously. (3-0)

Approval/Correction of Minutes

Motion to adopt the minutes of June 1, 2026, as presented was made by Ms. Janna Smith, seconded by Mr. A.M. Stephens III; motion carried. (3-0)

NOTE: Following a review of policies discussed during the June meeting, several omissions were identified in the recorded minutes. Consequently, the June 1, 2026 Minutes are to be revised and resubmitted to the Committee for official approval.

Policy 3230/7370: Technology Responsible Use - Information

After discussion, Policy 3230/7370: Technology Responsible Use policy will be held for further review.

Policy 3430 School Improvement Plan - Information

The Committee members reviewed the current policy and recommended Policy 3430 School Improvement Plan for amendments, after which it will undergo a subsequent evaluation at the Policy Committee session scheduled for September.

Policy 4022 Title I Program Comparability of Services- Action

Policy 4022 Title I Program Comparability of Services was reviewed, and revisions will be recommended for approval by the full Board on the August 17, 2026 Consent Agenda.

Policy 4318 Use of Wireless Communication Devices (WCD's) - Action

Policy 4318 Use of Wireless Communication Devices (WCD's) was reviewed, and revisions will be recommended for approval by the full Board on the August 17, 2026 Consent Agenda with recommended language updates.

Policy 4342 Student Searches - Action

Following a review of Policy 4342 Student Searches, it will be recommended with updated language for full Board approval on the Consent Agenda for the August 17, 2026 meeting.

Policy 6220 Operation of School Nutrition Services - Action

Policy 6220 Operation of School Nutrition Services was reviewed and revisions will be recommended for approval by the full Board on the August 17, 2026 Consent Agenda with recommended language updates.

Policy 7531 Military Leave -Action

Policy 7531 Military Leave was reviewed and revisions will be recommended for approval by the full Board on the August 17, 2026 Consent Agenda with recommended legal reference updates.

Motion

Motion to adopt the above Action items was made by Mr. A.M. Stephens III; seconded by Mrs. Janna Smith Motion carried unanimously. (3-0)

Policy 4381 Student Code of Conduct - Action

Dr. Rebekka Powers presented the updates for Policy 4381 Student Code of Conduct. After discussion, Policy 4381 Student Code of Conduct with the updates will be recommended for approval by the full Board on the August 17, 2026 Consent Agenda.

Motion

Motion to adopt the above Action items was made by Mrs. Janna Smith; seconded by Mr. A.M. Stephens III Motion carried unanimously. (3-0)

Other Business

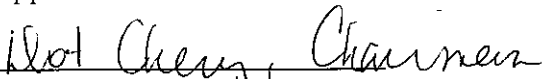
The next Policy Committee Meeting will be on September 14, 2026, at 4:00 p.m. or immediately following the Curriculum and Instruction Committee meeting.

Adjournment

All business being conducted, a Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. A.M. Stephens III; and seconded by Mrs. Janna Smith the motion carried. (3-0)

The Policy Committee adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Approved:


Dot Cherry, Chairman

Date Approved: 9/14/2026