

**GASTON COUNTY
SCHOOLS**

COLLEGE Expo

**Saturday, February 18
10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

Gastonia Conference Center

Expand Your Horizons
COLLEGE EXPO 2012



Welcome! COLLEGE Expo

Gaston County Schools in partnership with the Alliance for Children & Youth and Communities In Schools is proud to present **College Expo 2012**.

The theme for our event is *Expand Your Horizons*. Colleges and universities from across the Southeast region are here to show our students what significant educational opportunities await them beyond high school.

College planning is an exciting time. It is a time for decisions. It is a time for making the best choices. It is a time to plan for the future. We encourage students and parents to talk with the college representatives, ask questions, gather information, and attend the various sessions.

The choices you make now will help to fulfill your career ambitions. The Gaston County Board of Education joins me in wishing you great success in the college selection process.

– **L. Reeves McGlohon**, Superintendent
Gaston County Schools

Schedule of Events

10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

College/university representatives available to speak with students and parents

10:30 - 11:30 a.m. Concurrent Sessions I

Room 100

College Foundation of North Carolina (CFNC) and Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

Room 201

First-Generation College Applicants

Room 202

Get Ready to Win a College Scholarship!

Room 205

College 101: What's It All About?

12:00 - 1:00 p.m. Concurrent Sessions II

Room 100

Historically Black Colleges and Universities

Room 201

First-Generation College Applicants

Room 202

How to Market Yourself to Colleges

Room 205

NCAA Athletic Eligibility Rules

1:30 - 2:30 p.m. Concurrent Sessions III

Room 100

College Foundation of North Carolina (CFNC) and Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

Room 202

Get Ready to Win a College Scholarship!

Room 205

College 101: What's It All About?

About Our Sessions

■ College Foundation of North Carolina (CFNC) and Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

Presenter: Mathieu Chapman, Highland School of Technology

This session covers two important tools for the college planning process. College Foundation of North Carolina (CFNC) is a free service that provides comprehensive career and college planning resources for elementary, middle and high school students. Find out how CFNC can help you plan, apply, and pay for college. Learn about the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) that must be completed by seniors who want to be considered for federal and state need-based aid. The session also includes how to complete the FAFSA and what financial aid resources are available to students.

■ First-Generation College Applicants

Presenter: Jessica Daniels, Bessemer City Early College High School

Learn best practices for first-generation college-bound students as they progress through high school and transition into the university environment. This session includes how to plan and pay for your college education.

■ Get Ready to Win a College Scholarship!

Presenter: Grant Sparks, Gaston County Schools director of counseling and media services

Learn what it takes to win scholarships – especially the big ones! This presentation will help students and parents understand how to prepare and be competitive to win scholarships, how to find scholarships, and how to avoid common mistakes in the scholarship process.

■ College 101: What's It All About?

Presenter: Ami Parker, Ed.D., Highland School of Technology

College 101 covers the important tasks that help students and parents prepare for the college planning process. Topics include researching colleges, the application process, testing requirements, and financing college. Participants are encouraged to ask questions.

■ Historically Black Colleges and Universities

Presenter: Anthony Ervin, North Carolina Central University assistant director of undergraduate admissions

This session provides information about historically black colleges and universities' history, current status, and future. It's everything you ever needed to know and much more.

■ How to Market Yourself to Colleges

Presenter: Kevin Plonk, Ph.D., Hunter Huss High School

How do you “toot your horn” without blowing it when writing college or scholarship essays? Or perhaps you’ve been asked to interview, but you’re worried you will sound arrogant. Or are you the shy student who sells herself short? The presenter will share expertise in academic coaching and proofreading essays. Tips and strategies from Peggy Klaus’ book, *Brag! The Art of Tooting Your Own Horn Without Blowing It*, will be used to help students learn how to market themselves to colleges and to scholarship panels.

■ NCAA Athletic Eligibility Rules

Presenters: Larry Carpenter, Ashbrook High School, and Panel

Come and hear discussion about the NCAA eligibility requirements for each school division – Division I, II, and III. Mr. Carpenter will discuss how to determine your core GPA and the scores needed on the SAT to be eligible as well as the application process for the Initial Eligibility Clearinghouse. Former college athletes will provide information about NCAA expectations once you are on campus. There will be a question-and-answer period.

Gaston County Schools

We are delighted to have these colleges and universities with us today for COLLEGE EXPO 2012.

Appalachian State University
Belmont Abbey College
Brevard College
Campbell University
Catawba College
Clemson University
Coastal Carolina University
Coker College
East Carolina University
East Tennessee State University
Furman University
Gardner-Webb University
Gaston College
King's College
Lenoir-Rhyne University
Liberty University
Limestone College
Meredith College
North Carolina Central University
Newberry College
Paul Mitchell – The School of
Listeva, Inc.
Presbyterian College
Southern Wesleyan University
Sweet Briar College
UNC Asheville
UNC Charlotte
UNC Greensboro
Wake Forest University
Western Carolina University

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We want to thank our sponsors for helping to make COLLEGE EXPO 2012 a success.

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