

## **In Session with the “Oriole” Superintendent**

By, Mark D. Rosekrans, Superintendent of Charlotte Public Schools

### **State Assessments after Spring Break**

Spring Break for Charlotte Public Schools is fast approaching at the end of this month. Spring Break will begin on Friday, March 31 and go through Sunday, April 9, 2017. School resumes for everyone on Monday, April 10, 2017. The district will also be closed in observance of Good Friday on April 14, 2017.

Immediately upon return from Spring Break, State of Michigan assessments will begin for our district and all districts across the state. The “window” to administer the assessments is a seven (7) week period of time which begins in mid-April and extends into late May.

The state mandated subject areas and grade levels to be assessed are as follows:

- English Language Arts (ELA), grades 3-8
- Mathematics, grades 3-8
- Science grades 4 and 7
- Social studies, grades 5 and 8
- SAT, ACT Work-Keys, M-Step Science and Social Studies, grade 11
- PSAT grades 9 and 10

Parents are strongly encouraged to review building level newsletters and make contact with their respective building principal and/or their child’s teacher(s) for specific building assessment dates and times. I also strongly encourage parents to access the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) website, [www.Michigan.gov/MSTEP](http://www.Michigan.gov/MSTEP). The MDE site has extensive information on the assessments and resources for parents to use with their child to prepare for them.

District assessments have been done the past few years in the online format. Our Board of Education and community have supported district staff and students with technological and curricular resources so aligning to the online format was logical for us vs. paper and pencil administration of the assessments. Our buildings and classrooms have gradually been preparing students for the past few weeks and will continue to do so while continuing regular instructional activities.

Gradual preparation is important so students feel comfortable taking the digital assessments. Preparation, along with daily hard work by students and teachers, has provided proven results each year as our students have performed at or above state and local averages in most of the subjects assessed.

Go Orioles! Oriole Pride!