

In Session with the “Oriole” Superintendent

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

Charlotte Public Schools – 2018 Winter Updates

Welcome back to students and staff from the holiday break. I hope everyone was able to spend time with family and friends during the holidays and get some well-deserved rest. Now that we have returned from break and enter 2018, I want to share some updates that are important as we enter the winter months of the school year.

- January is Board of Education recognition month. At the regular Board of Education meeting we took the time to acknowledge our board members and the service they provide to the school district, students and staff and the Charlotte community. Please join me in recognizing the seven members that serve if you see them out and about in the community – Caleb Buhs, Stephanie Hale, Jim Hoyt, Julie Kimmer, Gary King, Ron Schultheiss and Lee Wheaton. Also at the January meeting, Board of Education officers were elected. Lee Wheaton is Board President, Julie Kimmer is Board Vice-President, Ron Schultheiss is Board Secretary and Caleb Buhs is Board Treasurer. Stephanie Hale, Jim Hoyt and Gary King are Board Trustees.
- Community engagement sessions for the proposed November 2018 bond have been underway. We held the first one on Thursday, January 11 and the second one on Monday, January 15. The sessions were held in the HS Lecture room and Media Center from 5:30-7:30 PM. The concepts and potential projects the Bond Steering Committee has been evaluating and assessing were shared. The Board of Education is anticipated to decide the scope of the bond at their February 12, 2018 meeting.
- Inclement weather is upon us. As in the past, we try to make decisions on school delays and closures by 5:30 AM or the night before if possible to allow as much time for families to prepare. Please access our media sites and local TV and Radio stations for the status of the school district. Calling building offices and the transportation department is not your best place for information as staff may not be in the offices at the time a decision is made. Please know that with inclement weather and various road conditions school buses may have some delays. Know in advance that bus drivers will do their best to drive safely and ensure a safe ride to and from school during these winter months. I strongly encourage students to dress accordingly for the winter months with coats, hats, gloves and boots.
- The school district had no school on Monday, January 15 due to professional development with staff. Friday, January 19 was a half day and marked the end of first semester. February 16 and 19 will be observed as mid-winter break with no school for students or staff.

- Winter sports, concert season and many other student based programming are in full swing. Please check our website and the calendar of events for a listing of the activities underway.
- The school district is working with our financial advisors, district attorney and the State of Michigan on refunding efforts associated with past district debt (bond proposals). A refunding is similar to refinancing where savings can be achieved due to lower interest rates. The district conducts refunding efforts when conditions are right for our taxpayers.

Welcome to 2018 and the half way point of the school year. Again, should you see any of our board members out in the community, please extend a thank you for their service as they spend countless hours working on behalf of our students and families.

Go Orioles! Oriole Pride!!