



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

## **Bond Proposal Process**

To review where the Bond proposal process began and leading up to where we are now, last summer, construction professionals updated the district's Facilities Assessment Report to verify already identified facility infrastructure needs, and to document any additional findings.

Taking their update into consideration, CPS staff conducted their own tour of each building to understand and document program needs across all grade levels.

In October 2017, a 32-member Bond Steering Committee, comprised of staff, students, parents, board members and other community members, was formed to analyze and prioritize the infrastructure and program needs.

The needs included upgrades to address health, safety, security, energy savings, technology, and accessibility issues within our facilities as well as address program upgrades to support current educational offerings.

The steering committee met a total of six times over the course of several months. They conducted building tours and two community engagement sessions in order to fully educate the committee on all aspects of the recommended improvements and solicit feedback from the community.

Their hard work and diligence culminated in a recommendation to the Board of Education (BOE) on February 12, 2018. The BOE unanimously supported moving forward with a November 6, 2018 bond election in the amount of \$29,850,000.

Many have asked about the impact of the bond on taxes. In last week's article I shared that you can visit [CPSbond2018.com](http://CPSbond2018.com) to view up-to-date information on the bond, program details, frequently asked questions, renderings of proposed upgrades and submit your own questions regarding the bond or process. You can also visit the site to view specific examples regarding the tax impact.

As you will see when visiting the site, a taxpayer owning a home with a value of \$100,000 would see a tax impact of \$3.75/month. This amount will adjust slightly up or down depending on your home or property values. A more detailed calculator is available on the [CPS2018.com](http://CPS2018.com) site.

The bond would provide facility improvements that support teaching and learning, improve safety and security, and upgrade operational efficiencies including heating, air conditioning and

electrical. It is the intent of the District and the Board of Education to maintain quality programs and facilities in order to attract and retain students. Upgrades identified in this program would enhance the district's agricultural sciences program, in addition to transforming classrooms throughout the district in response to current technology and teaching methods.

The steering committee, that again was comprised of staff, students, parents, board members and other community members, worked hard to ensure the bond proposal sent to the BOE represented essential items for the students, teachers and our community. The bond addresses needed improvements that support teaching and learning and are intended to protect the community's past investment in our school district.

Go Orioles! Oriole Pride!!