

In Session with the “Oriole” Superintendent

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

Cooperative efforts between Charlotte Public Schools, Hayes Green Beach Hospital and Alive!

I met last week with Patrick Sustrich, Executive Director of Alive and Laurie Newland, Grow Manager at Alive, to better understand all of the cooperative efforts, projects and initiatives between the school district, HGB, and Alive. Needless to say, I did not realize everything that was going on. Here is just a sampling of several good things that are currently going on between organizations.

First and foremost, the CPS Aquatic Center and HGB / Alive re-habilitation services have had a long standing exercise pool use agreement in place to service patients that need dedicated warm water treatment. The patients receive prescriptive exercise time in the therapy pool which assists in their recovery.

Second, the CHS athletic trainer, Mr. Derek Sanders is a shared employee. Derek brings expertise and compassion to the student athletes in Charlotte and he attends most if not all major competitions and daily practice sessions.

School based initiatives such as “Harvest”, with CHS Agri-Science teacher Nick Thompson and Washington Elementary students at the Alive gardens was started in 2014. In 2015, the Harvest project will be expanded to include Parkview Elementary. The students use the vegetables from the garden to make recipes to enjoy; integrating science, math, reading, and nutrition. Fuel Up to Play 60, Explore 90, and Fit Kids are all programs based upon creating healthy long lasting life style choices among our youth. Emphasis is on exercise and good choices with foods and nutrition. All of these student based efforts are intended to establish a fun and healthy life style early on in life. Ultimately an active lifestyle results in reduced health care costs when the students become adults.

In summary, the cooperative efforts of Charlotte Public Schools, HGB, and Alive make our community a great place to live, work, learn, and play. Charlotte is fortunate to have these arrangements and I look forward to more efforts in the future. Please take the time to check out Alive’s fall program and the many offerings that are available to you and your children. Having our students active and healthy makes them better prepared for our academic classes and offerings.