

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

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

### **Michigan State Police School Bus Inspections**

Recently, many media outlets, including the Lansing State Journal, published an article regarding the Michigan State Police school bus inspections. In the article, Charlotte Public Schools and many other schools district across the state, had results shown of past school bus inspections.

Inspections follow a format similar to a traffic light – red, yellow and green. A red tag means the bus must stop being in service until maintenance corrections are made, a yellow tag means minor corrections must happen, and a green tag means the bus is clear and good to go. Please note that the recent media coverage was from the end of last school year and our district had tags in each color.

Over the summer months, our district replaced the buses that were red tagged and repaired all of the yellow tag buses. Further, all of our buses underwent complete and thorough maintenance and cleaning. We do this annually during the summer months.

I want to assure everyone, our buses are in the green and are ready to roll this school year. In addition, we have an on-site mechanic, a maintenance agreement with Grand Ledge Schools and several of our buses are under warranty. Our average fleet age is right around ten years old and we have a replacement cycle and plan in place to keep our fleet current and in good condition.

The state police will do inspections again at some point this school year and we anticipate our fleet to pass their thorough inspection criteria. If maintenance corrections are necessary on any of our buses, we will work quickly to make those happen to ensure the bus is ready for service and can pass inspection. Having buses that meet inspection standards is a primary goal for our district as we care deeply about the safety and welfare of our students.

Go Orioles! Oriole Pride!