

In Session with the “Oriole” Superintendent

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

Balanced Calendar Community Forum Report

Charlotte Public Schools hosted a Board of Education community forum on Wednesday, December 2, 2015, in the High School lecture room regarding the balanced calendar concept. The forum was well attended with approximately 80 to 100 participants attending.

The forum included a presentation on the calendar concept, general questions and answers, and break-out sessions for grades K-6 and 7-12.

The forum generated many questions and comments from the participants. We are presently in the process of summarizing them and intend to provide answers to the best of our ability. When they are available they will be posted to our website.

I want to stress again that no decision on this concept has been made. We continue our information gathering and are assessing all aspects both positive and negative. If you want your opportunity to provide input, please access the website and complete our survey. The survey has been active since September and we value the input and feedback.

Our overall goal remains to present a recommendation to our Board of Education in April of 2016. The recommendation will be to either stay with a traditional calendar or move to implement some form of a balanced calendar.

Due to our recognition and firm understanding that this is a significant change, if it is determined to implement some form of a balanced calendar, it would not happen until the 2017-18 school year. We feel a full year of planning and preparation for families, the school district and the community would be sufficient.

Please let me stress that we are looking at this calendar concept as an opportunity to work differently with our students and to enhance the education our school district provides them. This is a consideration the school district is voluntarily looking into and is not mandated by the state. There are both positives and negatives associated with the balanced calendar. Regardless of the outcome, if it is implemented or not, this review will provide good information for our school district to build upon.

Go Orioles! Oriole Pride!