



In Session with the "Oriole" Superintendent

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

Autism Awareness Month - CHS LINKS Program Receives Donation

April is Autism Awareness Month and through the generosity of Glenn Buege Chevrolet and your Michigan Chevy Team, the Charlotte High School LINKS program received a \$1400 donation to continue the program and activities that have been very beneficial to many of our students participating in the LINKS program.

LINKS is a course offered at CHS and run by teacher Lisa Spoelstra. The student that is enrolled in the LINKS program learns to be a mentor, role model and friend to a student with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). LINK students are assigned to an ASD student and in addition, will assist them in such things as appropriate classroom behavior, organization of assignments and supplies, focusing on what the teacher is saying, age appropriate social skills and positive friendship building.

"The LINKS program has changed the way that students at Charlotte High School interact with one another. LINKS are leaders in the school and the example that they set is one of caring, compassion, valuing everyone, and embracing our differences. Mrs. Spoelstra has done an amazing job creating a culture with her LINKS that is not just about helping fellow students and gaining valuable leadership skills, but is truly about changing lives" shared Dr. Bill Barnes, Charlotte High School Principal.

The LINKS program will continue to make a difference in the lives of students at Charlotte High School thanks to the generous donation of Glenn Buege Chevrolet and your Michigan Chevy Team. This is one of the positive and exciting things happening in Charlotte Public Schools that embodies the spirit of Oriole Pride.

Go Orioles! Oriole Pride!