

In Session with the “Oriole” Superintendent

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

2019 Winter Reminders and Updates

Welcome back to students, families and staff from the holiday break, as school resumed on Monday, January 7, 2019. It is hard to believe that first semester will end in two weeks on Friday, January 18, and second semester will start on Tuesday, January 22, 2019. Now that we are underway, I would like to share some updates that are important as we start 2019.

There is no school on Monday, January 21, 2019 in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. day for students. The school district will conduct professional development with staff.

The Board of Education met on Monday, January 7, 2019 and officially welcomed two new members, Ms. Stacey Gingrich and Ms. Marci Kohler. Both began serving their six year terms. Also at the meeting, new Board of Education officers were elected. They are as follows:

- President – Mr. Caleb Buhs
- Vice President – Mr. Jim Hoyt
- Secretary – Ms. Stephanie Leavitt
- Treasurer – Mr. Lee Wheaton
- Trustees – Ms. Stacey Gingrich, Mr. Gary King and Ms. Marci Kohler

At the end of the meeting, Mr. King informed the district and his fellow board members he will be resigning from the Board of Education, effective Monday, January 14, 2019. Mr. King will be joining the Carmel Township Board and as such is not able to serve in both capacities. Mr. King served on the Board of Education since 2011 and just completed his eighth year. Thank you to Mr. King for his service and dedication to the youth of our community. The Board of Education now has (30) days to appoint a new member to serve the remaining two years on Mr. King’s term which ends on December 31, 2020. The board seat, that is a six year term, will be open for all candidates at the next regular election to be held in November 2020.

The school district had a conference call with the State of Michigan Treasury department on Wednesday, January 2, 2019 regarding its preliminary bond proposal application for a May, 7, 2019 election. In a recent press release submitted by Mr. Buhs and Mr. Hoyt, it was shared the Board of Education has decided to revisit the bond proposal in May with some reductions in scope and a reduction in the requested millage increase. Subject to the treasury department’s review, the May proposal will be for \$27.75 million. This proposal includes reductions of \$2.1 million from the \$29.85 million requested in November 2018 and is a .8 millage increase request which is a .1 reduction from the .9 requested in November. The Board of Education approved the preliminary application at their January 7, 2019 meeting. You will receive much more information on revisiting the bond proposal in the coming months as the steps with the State of Michigan advance and are authorized.

The school district continues its search for a new principal at Washington Elementary. Mr. Martin resigned just before holiday break. The position was posted and we have been screening applicants since that time. In the meantime, Ms. Eileen Grant-Ball, our Director of Curriculum and Instruction, has been assisting at the building and we are also contracting leadership with former Galewood and Parkview Elementary principal, Ms. Gloria Gonzalez. Ms. Gonzalez will be with us at Washington soon as we continue to work to find a permanent principal. Welcome back Gloria!

Again, welcome back from Holiday break. I hope all of you had a safe and enjoyable time with family and friends. Make the most of the start of the new calendar year.

Go Orioles! Oriole Pride!