

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

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

### **2017-2018 Pre-Labor Day Start Waiver Submitted to the State**

Earlier this month, the Eaton Regional Educational Services Agency (ERESA) submitted an application on behalf of the five Eaton County area schools; Charlotte, Eaton Rapids, Grand Ledge, Maple Valley and Potterville, seeking a waiver that would allow school to start before Labor Day for the 2017-18 school year. All of the Eaton County schools are in agreement in seeking the waiver for 2017-18, which brings the potential to have a common five (5) year pre-Labor day calendar out to 2021-22.

Some Eaton County schools started before Labor Day this year as the waiver was granted for 2016-17. Charlotte Public Schools, as most of you know, stayed with a post Labor Day start by starting on September 6<sup>th</sup>. Charlotte, as deemed appropriate by the Board of Education, stayed with the September start this year (2016-2017) as approval from the State was not granted until late last spring. Our Board determined it created too many conflicts for staff and families who already had other plans in place.

**Please note: for 2017-18, if the waiver is granted, school will start on or near August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017.**

It is unknown right now if the waiver will be approved, but we want our families, staff and community to know there is a strong possibility school will start in August instead of September. Please be aware of this now and add the potential August 21<sup>st</sup> start date to your personal calendars and begin to plan accordingly.

Once the state acts on the application for the pre-Labor day start, either approving or denying it, we will confirm the information out to our families, staff and community. The ERESA should hear something back from the state within the next four to eight weeks. Hopefully, we will know the results in a timely manner.

Again, please mark your calendars now as there is the potential that school may start around August 21<sup>st</sup> for the upcoming 2017-18 school year.

Go Orioles! Oriole Pride!