



# Marion Local Schools

Wisdom \* Integrity \* Service

**JANUARY 2024**

## Superintendent's Message...

**Michael L. Pohlman**

The first half of the school year is almost complete and our students have accomplished a lot both academically and in their extra-curricular activities. I would like to congratulate the Marion Local football team on their 14<sup>th</sup> state championship. What a great accomplishment for the players, coaches, and our community. We conducted our senior citizen luncheon on December 8<sup>th</sup> and we were able to celebrate the holidays with a meal and entertainment. I would like to thank Barb Kahlig for organizing this event, Renee Hartings, Deb Ruhenkamp, and the kitchen staff for preparing a wonderful meal. It is great to celebrate Christmas with the senior citizens in our community.

On behalf of the Board of Education, we would like to thank the Marion Local community for their support with the passage of our levy for new facilities. This was truly a community effort in which we had approximately forty community members serve on a task force that worked extremely hard to make recommendations to our Board of Education. They represented our community, gathered feedback, provided great input from their knowledge and experiences, and asked great questions. Below is a tentative timeline for the facility project.

**February – March 2024**  
**January – December 2024**  
**March 2025- August 2026**  
**September 2026**

**Bond Issuance**  
**Design**  
**Construction**  
**Occupancy of new building**

## DRIVERS NEEDED



Finally, I would like to thank the bus drivers who have substituted in our time of need. Those include Linda Broering, Bill Elking, Todd Bruns, Eric Prenger, Dave Moorman, and Joe Heitbrink. We are still looking for drivers, and anyone interested can contact me or Ted Heitkamp (Transportation Supervisor).

Go Flyers!

Mike Pohlman, Superintendent

## **Elementary Principal Kelli Thobe**

As we head into the new year, I want to highlight some of the great things our students have recently accomplished. Our winter athletic season is now in full swing with basketball, cheerleading, and bowling teams competing hard and demonstrating great sportsmanship. We are so proud of the effort and dedication our student-athletes are putting in.

In addition to athletics, many of our students recently participated in stellar performances showcasing their talents. Our 3rd and 4th graders put on an excellent Christmas show last month that was enjoyed by all. The students sang beautifully and their holiday spirit was infectious. Here is the edited section about the band and choir performances:

Additionally, our 5th - 8th grade bands and 7th & 8th grade choir held Christmas concerts that exhibited the musical talents of our students. Students and teachers have been practicing incredibly hard and it showed during their holiday concerts. The audience was treated to a wide repertoire of Christmas songs and carols that truly captured the spirit of the season through their joyful voices and musicianship.

As we embark on more exciting student events coming up this winter, some students had opportunities to participate in Team Ventures where they worked in teams with students from area schools. The teams worked to solve challenging and creative problems that may require them to do hands-on activities like building structures and prototypes, designing robotics systems, and conducting science experiments. Additionally, our talented 3rd grade students performed the national anthem at the Varsity Boys' basketball game on January 12. We appreciate their hard work, talent, and courage to perform in front of a large crowd!

Additionally, registration details for incoming kindergarten students for the 2024-2025 school year have been posted on the school's website and shared with local preschools. If you are considering your child to be a part of the 2024-2025 Kindergarten class, you can complete the initial registration form found at [www.marionlocal.org](http://www.marionlocal.org).

As we enter the new calendar year, I am excited to continue seeing our students thrive in academics, arts, and extracurricular activities. We have such talented and hardworking students and staff, supported by caring families and community members like yourselves. Please feel free to reach out with any questions or comments as the year progresses. Here's to an excellent 2024!

### **Upcoming Events:**

January 22 @ 6:30: Washington DC Meeting for current 7th grade students and parents (Elementary cafeteria)  
January 22 @ 7:00: Freshmen Orientation Meeting for current 8th grade students and parents (HS Gym)  
February 25 (1:30 - 3:00): Father/Daughter Dance for grades K-4 (Elementary Gym)

## **High School Principal Report**

The 2023-24 school year is now officially half over. The start of the second semester is an exciting time as new classes get started and other courses start afresh. Credit is issued at Marion Local High School on a semester basis so we are literally starting over. Good or not, grades from the first semester have no weight on a student's grade from here until the end of the school year.

Even though the winter has started very mild, at some point we will probably get some ice and snow. Every year the high school sees a new batch of drivers and I would like to remind parents to have a conversation about being prepared for winter driving. This would include leaving home earlier than normal to allow for extra time for the commute to school in the morning. It would also include properly cleaning off windows to allow for ample

visibility. Many times the school's parking lots are snow covered and slippery which means we all need to be cautious when driving and parking. Thanks for your help in this matter.

The Marion Local Chapter of the National Honor Society inducted new members in late October. The newly inducted members are: Colten Ahrens, Kelsey Bergman, Carson Bills, Emerson Bruns, Daniel Everman, Brooke Evers, Natalie Evers, Zoey Goettemoeller, Elise Heitkamp, Ethan Heitkamp, Lydia Hess, Parker Hess, Ryan Homan, Luke Kunkler, Drew Lause, Austin Niekamp, Ava Ranly, Ian Rindler, Benton Seitz, Avae Unrast, Emma Wilker, Adam Winner. Marion Local follows the NHS guidelines in inducting students based on academic performance, leadership, character, and service.



Many things are happening academically as well. The high school staff is already planning for next year in revising courses and looking at possible additional courses. Our seniors are busy planning for next year also as they fill out college applications, take the ACT one final time, start to work on scholarship opportunities, and also consider career or military opportunities.

This spring will mark the tenth year of **Ohio's State Tests**. Students will be tested in various subjects, depending on the student's course schedule. **The tests will be given on April 17,18, 24, 25, 29 and 30<sup>th</sup>. Please do everything possible to have your student present on those days.** The tested subjects are: Algebra, Geometry, English 2, Biology, American History and American Government. Also, on March 12th, all juniors will be taking the ACT during the morning hours.

Go Flyers!

Tim Goodwin

Reminder to NOT renew your NFHSnetwork subscription as we will be changing to HUDL TV next year for our Streaming services. This will be for the 2024-25 school year.





MARION LOCAL SCHOOLS  
7956 ST. RTE. 119  
MARIA STEIN, OH 45860

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# SPELLING BEE WINNERS



Jordan Langenkamp, Haylee Schwieterman and Honor Fledderjohann