



# Marion Local Schools

Wisdom \* Integrity \* Service

**OCTOBER 2023**

**Superintendent's Message...**

**Michael L. Pohlman**

## **PROPOSED INCOME TAX AND BOND ISSUE**

On November 7<sup>th</sup> voters living in the Marion Local school district will have the opportunity to vote for a 30 year **combination** property and income tax levy. The levy consists of a 5.3 mill property tax that will generate \$12,315,000 and a 0.5% (half percent) income tax that will generate \$9,000,000. The "Capital Improvement Fund (a fund that the Board of Education has set aside money over a period of time from the general fund) will pay approx. \$1,998,800 towards this project.) The entire project is \$23,313,800. This newsletter article just highlights some facts about the proposed project but I encourage everyone to visit our website [www.marionlocal.org](http://www.marionlocal.org) and please review the "Frequently Asked Questions" in order for you to have a greater understanding of the project. Below is what voters will see on the ballot.

### **A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage**

Shall the Marion Local School District be authorized to do both of the following:

1. Impose an annual income tax of 0.5 percent on the earned income of individuals residing in the school district, for 30 years, beginning January 01, 2024 in order to raise \$570,000 annually for current expenses, including without limitation, making lease-purchase payments in connection with the construction and acquisition of school facilities and equipment?
2. Issue bonds for the purpose of new construction, improvements, renovations and additions to school facilities, together with equipment, furnishings, technology, site improvements and all necessary appurtenances thereto, in the principal amount of \$12,315,000, to be repaid annually over a maximum period of 30 years, and levy a property tax outside the ten-mill limitation estimated by the county auditor to average over the bond repayment period 5.3 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$186 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor's appraised value, to pay the annual debt charges on the bonds, and to pay debt charges on any notes issued in anticipation of those bonds?

**FOR THE INCOME TAX AND BOND ISSUE**

**AGAINST THE INCOME TAX AND BOND ISSUE**

The proposed facility includes 9 academic and special education classrooms, Agricultural Education complex suite (including two additional classrooms) and greenhouse, 2-court high school competition gymnasium (approx.. 2,000 seats), K-8 cafeteria and commons, 4 locker rooms (2 of which would be large enough to serve the football programs as well), and an administrative office suite.

I encourage any community member with questions to contact me by phone at 419-925-4294 or by email at [pohlmann@marionlocal.org](mailto:pohlmann@marionlocal.org).

## Achievement Highlight

The Marion Local School District recently received their results from the state report card. The performance index score is calculated by taking the students results (advanced, accelerated, proficient, basic, limited, or test not taken) on the state assessment and assigning an overall performance index number to your district. Marion Local students ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> out of 608 in the state. On a five scale rating we received an overall 5. We are very proud of our students, staff, and community for their hard work and efforts in achieving at a very high level.

# Overall Rating



Significantly exceeds state standards

## Elementary Principal Report

It's incredible to think that we're already a quarter of the way through the 2023-2024 school year! We're off to a fantastic start, and we're eagerly anticipating the opportunity to meet with many parents during conferences to celebrate each child's unique talents, hard work, and progress.

The first quarter has been brimming with invaluable learning experiences, growth, and a sense of pride in being a Flyer! Students have had the privilege of extending their knowledge beyond the classroom through a series of enriching field trips. Our 1st graders witnessed firsthand the growth of apples and pumpkins, while also gaining insight into the crucial role played by bees and other insects. The 4th graders explored the Piqua Historical Area, gaining a deeper understanding of Ohio's history, particularly the significance of canals, canal boats, and farming. Meanwhile, our 7th graders visited three local manufacturing businesses, offering a real-world perspective on how our regional workforce aligns with our STEM curriculum, emphasizing the integration of science, math, and technology. Lastly, our 8th graders toured Tri-Star, receiving first hand insights from Tri-Star students about the opportunities it provides and how it aids in charting career paths as they transition to high school.

Our Fall Junior High sports teams have wrapped up their seasons with great pride! From the cross country runners to the football and volleyball teams, and not forgetting our spirited cheerleaders, all of our student-athletes made strides in honing their skills and contributing to their teams. Junior high sports not only introduce students to a sport but also underscore the importance of individual contributions towards a common goal. A heartfelt thank you goes out to our coaches for their unwavering support of our student-athletes!

The music department has also provided opportunities for our students to showcase their talents. The kindergarten - 2nd grade students performed for a gymnasium full of grandparents, 7th & 8th grade band and choir held their quarterly performance, and our junior high students who contribute to the marching band by either playing or assisting with set up. We're thrilled to announce that the Marion Local School District has received the esteemed recognition of being a 5-Star school district on the Ohio report card! This achievement is a testament to the dedication and effort put forth by our parents, staff, and students towards the cause of education.

#### Upcoming Dates:

Monday, December 11: Grades 3 & 4 Christmas program (9:30 & 7:00 performances)

Tuesday, December 19: Band & Choir Concert at 7:00

Monday, January 22: Washington DC meeting for current 7th grade students at 6:30

Monday, January 22: Freshmen orientation for current 8th grade students at 7:00

Go Flyers,  
Kelli Thobe

### High School Principal's Report:

It is hard to believe that the first quarter of school is over already. The students appear to be ready to continue the tradition of excellence in and out of the classroom. Communication between parents and teachers is a vital part of the educational process. All of the staff contact information is on the high school page on the website. Please contact your child's teacher if you see a problem or a potential issue. Another way to communicate is by attending a conference with your child's teachers. These can be requested at any time by appointment or by attending the scheduled parent-teacher conference events. Parent-teacher conferences are scheduled in the high school for Tuesday, October 31st from 5:30-8:30 pm and Thursday, November 2nd from 3:30 to 6:30 pm. Registration for conferences can be done electronically this year by clicking on the link on the homepage. You can also register for a conference by calling the high school office at 419.925.4597.

Fall is always a busy time with many of our students involved with extra-curricular and co-curricular activities. Congratulations to the Soil Judging Team, composed of Kelsey Bergman, Aaron Albers, Ryan Schwieterman, and Alan Wendel, who placed in the top 25% at the district contest. The boys' cross country team has done very well and has a good chance at advancing as a team in the tournament. In boys golf, Marcus Rethman became the second athlete in MLHS history to advance to the state golf tournament. The girls cross country and golf teams had a good season in terms of participation and improvement. The volleyball team has been competitive in most contests with a very young team. The football team is undefeated at writing and looks to compete well in the playoffs. The marching band, under the direction of director Brad Spettel, is having a successful contest season as well and is hopeful of qualifying for the state contest. The varsity academic scholastic bowl team is undefeated at this writing. The Student Council, led by Advisor Alexa Sutton, put on a very successful homecoming celebration. Congratulations to Nora Eckstein for being this year's queen, Max Speelman for being King and to the entire Homecoming Court.



Photo By: Alexa Sutton

Once again we are doing our best to keep the online calendar up-to-date. Please refer to the homepage at [marionlocal.org](http://marionlocal.org) for the happenings at MLHS.

On a tragic note, we recently lost a beloved member of our school community, Mr. Ashbaugh. Todd was a very unique individual, always quick to help, quirky, fun-loving, and dedicated to Marion Local. Todd was a fixture at school events and knew no stranger. Most of all, Todd loved and respected EVERY student who walked the halls of MLHS. One never heard Todd say a negative word about any student. The picture on the back from last spring's prom in the 2022 yearbook encapsulates Mr. Ashbaugh, he loved being around students and the students appreciated and respected Mr. Ashbaugh.



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There is a scholarship fund account set up through the Marion Community Foundation if anyone would like to donate to help keep Todd's legacy of giving and love for learning alive.



As always, we thank the community for your great support of our students and school.

Go FLYERS!

Tim Goodwin

**Basketball Season Tickets will be sold in the HS Library on the following dates:**

Boys

Reserved seats are \$70 - Students \$35  
 JH Season tickets are \$25.

Girls

Season ticket \$60  
 JH Season Ticket \$25

**At the High School (Library):**

Saturday, November 11<sup>th</sup> 8:00 – 11:00AM (Band Pizza Sales)  
 Tuesday, November 14<sup>th</sup> 7 - 8:30 PM  
 Saturday, November 18<sup>th</sup> 8:00 – 10:00AM  
 Monday, November 20<sup>th</sup> 7 - 8:30 PM