

Marion School District Newsletter

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Season's Greetings,

Improving existing programming while simultaneously identifying new learning opportunities for our students to grow and thrive in a safe and nurturing environment remains the primary focus of our School District.

With the help of a great number of extremely dedicated and talented faculty and staff- and more than a few blessings from above- we have, by most measures, accomplished quite a bit in a short period of time. But there is much left to do- including the process of creating three new exciting Magnet Elementary Schools for roll out in the fall of 2018.

Immediately after the holidays you will be hearing much more about our Magnet School implementation plans. I am firmly convinced that the more you learn about the transformational potential that these new Magnet Schools represent for our students and our community- the more enthusiastic your support will become.

We look forward to sharing the plans with you and watching you smile!

Happy Holidays,

GFF

www.msd3.org

Leading the Way in Technology



Cybersecurity

Marion School District recently received a \$100,000 grant to implement a cyber-security program beginning next fall. Students enrolled in the course will acquire digital data problem-solving skills, working knowledge of ethical and social cyber responsibility, and will have the opportunity to receive certifications necessary to enter the cybersecurity workforce.

Marion High School to Offer Non-Traditional Route to Graduation

The HUB

Marion School District is partnering with ARCH Ford Educational Cooperative to bring The HUB Process to Marion High School. It's an exciting way for students to explore alternative routes to graduation and become college and workforce ready.

[READ MORE ON The HUB WEBSITE](#)



A Better Way to Learn

Peer Power Foundation Partners with Patriots

Peer Power Foundation: Marion School District will partner with the Peer Power Foundation which employs over 100 college tutors to work as teaching assistants in public high school classrooms. A \$30,000 one-time grant will be used for the pilot program slated to begin in the spring. More information can be found here: www.peerpowerfoundation.org.



School Based Health Clinic: Marion School District will partner with East Arkansas Family

Health Center (EAFHC) to provide primary, preventative, and medical services as well as mental health (MH) services through our School-Based Health Center (SBHC) The SBHC will be located on the Marion High School campus and will feature three exam rooms, a reception/waiting area, an administration space, provider's space, and a lab area.



Patriots knock it out the park with new facility

New Spring Sports Facility: The "Spring Sports Facility" is an enclosed, turfed area that houses four softball and baseball batting cages. There will be an office and dressing rooms on each end for softball and baseball use. The plans, specs and all of the necessary forms have been submitted and approved by the Facilities Division of the Department of Education. Subcontractors will begin submitting bids Thursday, December 21, 2017. Construction should start soon thereafter.



Let there be Light

Building Signage Drivers along Interstate 55 will soon see glaring improvements to our campus aesthetic. The upper west wall of the intermediate school gym, which is 70' long by 18'-6" tall, will feature a modern Patriot design. The motif will be powered using State-of-the-art Solar Powered Signage Lighting.

Making the Grade

College Board's 8th Annual AP Honor Roll

Marion School District is one of five districts in Arkansas recently named to the College Board's 8th Annual AP Honor Roll. To be included on the AP Honor Roll, districts have to increase the number of students participating in AP while also increasing or maintaining the percentage of students earning AP Exam scores of 3 or higher over the last three years. "Reaching these goals shows your district is successfully identifying motivated, academically prepared students who are ready for AP. Your district's commitment to expanding access to Advanced Placement® coursework—while also improving student performance—has earned you this national recognition. I am proud of you and celebrate

your effort and success," said Mary Kathryn Stein, Arkansas Department of Education. Read the entire press release here:

<https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/pdf/ap-district-honor-roll-8th-annual.pdf>

Putting Patriots to Work

Memphis Works Model Marion School District has partnered with Memphis Works to begin a pilot project in the spring. The innovative and technologically-rich program assists students with identifying career paths suitable to their interests and academic strengths. More information can be found [here](#):



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www.msds3.org
#ONEpatriotONEcommunity