



Grants Provide Assistance In Classroom & Beyond

The Foundation is proud to continue the Marion Grant program, providing funding to MISD teachers, staff, and coaches. The grants have been a cornerstone of the Foundation since 2000 and are made possible by generous donations received throughout the year from both individuals and businesses. The projects listed were brought to a committee in the spring for consideration, and funding was approved for the summer and 2019 school year.



MHS Family & Consumer Science teacher Micaela Combs takes a break from Scone Day to accept a grant for new classroom stools, creating additional work space for more than 260 students participating in foods classes each year.

Nicole Harmer – Longfellow Elementary

The preschool program adopted a new math curriculum and received funding for items that focus on interactive learning including bug counters, building blocks, memory cards and more.

Heath Mueller – Vernon Middle School

Students will learn a new 21st century skill using tool kits to take computers apart, replace hardware components, and put them back together.

Jen Thilges – Marion High School

A new classroom set of iPad Pros and Apple pencils will help prepare students for college-level art courses. They will gain experience using the same technology professionals in the design, marketing and journalism world use regularly.

Annette Maier – Starry Elementary

Jennifer Fairbanks – Francis Marion Intermediate

Yoga and meditation are lifelong skills with both mental and physical health benefits. A kids' yoga expert will continue to visit Starry classrooms and the program is expanding to include FMI.

Jonathan Dyrland – Marion High School

A new Yamaha Clavinova was added to the choir practice room at MHS for students to use during individual and group lessons.

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Welcoming New District Leadership

MISD is entering this school year with a few new leaders but all have familiar faces. **Dr. Janelle Brouwer** has been in the district for the past three years as Assistant Superintendent and in July started her new role as Superintendent. She began her career in education as an elementary teacher, then moved to teaching elementary and middle school special education before becoming a Special Education Coordinator at Central Rivers Area Education Agency. Preceding her move to MISD she was a building principal in the Western Dubuque County Community School District.

Brouwer is proud of her Iowa roots as a "true Iowa farm girl." Her father was a farmer and mother was a school teacher. They taught her to work hard and have passion about education and community.

When Brouwer is not working or attending MISD activities she can be found with her family in Cascade, exercising by biking and running, or otherwise enjoying nature.

Brouwer's plans include connecting the district with the community more. She explains that "they are important partners in the successful outcome of our kids. The teachers, staff, and students are working hard under increasing expectations and demands with limited resources and yet they continue to achieve positive outcomes. The community plays a huge role in that success. Every kid deserves a champion, and for MISD, that champion is the community."

Christie VanWey returns to MISD as Business Manager. She is responsible for all budgetary and financial aspects of the district, has oversight of the Food Service



New Superintendent Janelle Brouwer with her husband Kyle and their two children.

Program and Transportation/Maintenance teams, and will serve as Board of Education Secretary.

A graduate of MISD, VanWey worked in accounting for eight years then took some time to raise a family. She returned to work as a paraeducator at Vernon Middle School before becoming guidance secretary at the high school. She then moved back to accounting, working for Linn-Mar before becoming Business Manager at Alburnett

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The Mission of the Foundation is to maintain, develop, increase, and extend the facilities of the Marion Independent School District, and to provide broader educational service opportunities to its students, staff, faculty, and the residents of the geographical area which it serves.

Welcome New Board Members



Adam Determann – Adam and his family relocated from Clinton to Marion in April 2017 when he accepted a position as First VP and Treasury Management Specialist at Hills Bank. In his free time Adam likes to watch sports, play golf and spend time with his wife Kayla and their four children. He has one student at MHS, two at Longfellow and a two-year-old. Adam was interested in joining the Foundation Board to make an impact in the community and specifically within MISD. "I'm excited to help make a difference for both the kids and the teachers!"



Beth Combs – Beth is re-joining the Foundation Board. She and her late husband Mike, have been active volunteers in the district for more than 20 years. Beth is a Senior IT Project Manager at Verizon. After moving to Marion in 1996, Beth quickly became involved in school parent groups, coaching and managing youth athletic teams, and supporting high school teams and coaches. Beth says she is looking forward to re-engaging with the Foundation as a volunteer.



Colton Storla – A 2012 MHS alum, Colton is a Risk Advisor at North Risk Partners. While in high school Colton was an active athlete and continued playing football at Coe College. Colton has served on the Golf Committee the past two years and

is looking forward to getting more involved with the Foundation and the various events and programs that help support the schools, students, and teachers.

Dave Messerli – Dave taught social studies for more than 40 years at Marion High School. In retirement, he has continued to stay involved as a coach. Dave is a 1968 MHS graduate. He and his wife Jill have three sons who also graduated from MHS: Matt (2000), Pete (2003), and Ben (2006). Dave is "looking forward to supporting the mission of the Foundation as it seeks to broaden opportunities for students and staff"

Danielle Rauser – A 1994 MHS alum, Danielle and her husband Dan have two children in the district. She is the Director of Development at St. Luke's Foundation. Danielle is most excited about "helping to make an impact on the schools where my children (and niece and nephews) attend. I want our community to have the best available educational experiences and I'm hopeful I can play a role in this."

The Foundation wishes to extend our deepest gratitude to retiring board members Patty Webster (six years), Steve Willette (six years), and Brady Quinn (three years). All three plan to remain active in the community through other projects.



MHS Class of 1954 marks 65-years since graduation

Class Reunions

The graduating classes of 2014, 1999, 1994, 1989, 1984, 1979, and 1954 gathered at various times over the summer to celebrate their 5-65 year reunions. There are still a few reunions planned for this year and more already scheduled for next year.

For reunion photos or details on next year's events, visit www.marion-foundation/class-reunions. Also be sure to contact the Foundation Office for help with class lists, invitation printing, address labels, building tours, and more when planning your class reunion event!

Marion Foundation Golf Classic

Register and
pay by
September 10
and receive a
special gift!

Friday, September 27
Gardner Golf Course
10 a.m. Shotgun



Registration Includes:

- Early access to the driving range at no cost
- 18 holes of golf with cart
- Golfer gift bags
- Breakfast, lunch and drink tickets
- Multiple raffles
- Prizes for experienced & amateur golfers

Hole Sponsor & Foursome Combo (\$650)

Team Registration (\$400)

Hole Sponsor (\$300)

Individual Golfer (\$100)

10 Mulligans Per Foursome (\$30)

Return form to Marion School Foundation
777 South 15th Street
Marion, Iowa 52302

You may also register online at
www.marion-foundation.org/golf-classic
or by calling the Foundation office at
(319) 377-4691 x1110

Also check our website for a list of
our valued sponsors!

TEAM NAME _____

Player #1 _____

Email: _____ Phone _____

Mailing Address: _____

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Mailing Address: _____

Player #3 _____

Email: _____ Phone _____

Mailing Address: _____

Player #4 _____

Email: _____ Phone _____

Mailing Address: _____

Please add this team to the **Senior Flight** for ages 55+

Check enclosed, payable to
Marion School Foundation

Send an invoice

Unable to attend this year,
but sending my donation to
support Marion students!

Credit card payment for \$ _____

Name on Card _____

Card No. _____

Expiration Date _____

Security Code (on back of card) _____

Spear-It of Influence

2018-19 Honor Roll

Annually the Foundation recognizes donors through the *Spear-It of Influence Honor Roll* based on gifts received during the previous school year. With these donations, the Foundation can fund projects that support students, teachers, alumni and the greater MISD community. **We thank you for your continued support and for making a difference!**

\$10,000 and Above

In memory of Mike Combs
GreenState Credit Union

\$5,000-\$9,999

Farmers State Bank
Rosie '65 & Donald Shepard
Iowa Department of Natural Resources

\$2,500-\$4,999

ACT
Alliant Energy Foundation
Anonymous
Hupp Electric Motors
Pearson

\$1,000-\$2,499

Aegon Transamerica Matching Gift Program
Linda Boone '77
Dupaco RW Hoefer Foundation
Dennis '63 & Elizabeth Haines
Terry '82 & William Henry
Hills Bank
International Paper Foundation
Melody '68 & Thomas Kelter
Chip '68 & Cathy '69 Kensingler
Vaughn '81 & Lori Klopfenstein
Mark '75 & Sheryl '75 Morgan
Rathje Construction
Jim '77 & Debby '78 Roth
Norma Schmitt '61
The Freeze
Dick '55 & Marilyn Todd
Greg '77 & Pam Van Gorp
Verizon Matching Gift Program
Walmart Foundation
Wells Fargo
Tom '67 & Diana Zrudsky

\$500-\$999

Dan & Celeste Barkley
Mark '71 & Julie '71 Barnd
Country Kitchen
Culver's Butterburgers
Doris French
Marion '40 & VoAnne '43 Hansen
Greg & Nancy Hapgood
Jesse '00 & Brooke '99 Kensingler
David & Jill Law
Linn Animal Hospital
Carolyn & Larry Munson
Murdoch Funeral Homes
Bonnie & James Raasch
Dana Ramundt
Duane & Sara Tack
Carol Thurness
Larry & Joleen Twachtmann
Charles '75 & Mary Sue Vernon
Jane Vernon

\$250-\$499

Scott & Deanna Arebaugh
Robert & Candice Bowsby
Scott '87 & Tammy Bradley
Carlos O'Kelly's
Cedar Rapids Bank & Trust
Class of 1958
Climate Engineers
Dairy Queen
Sean & Megan Eaton
The ESCO Group
Fosters Heating & Air Conditioning
Freund-Vector Corporation
Jean Hammill
Fran Hansen
Stephani Harms
ImOn Communications
Rodger '57 & Elizabeth '59 Keleher
Kathy King '68
Jeff & Sam Kost
James Kropa
Jordan Kruger '07
Jack Larson '53
Miller Family EyeCare
Moe's Southwest Grill
MTG Fasteners
Katie Mulholland '10
Mike & Peggy Murphy
Network Computer Solutions
Brad '73 & Michelle '74 Nielson
Noodles & Company
Langdon Olson
Ron '56 & Monica Prescott
Ed '56 & Susan '60 Reed
Collins Aerospace Matching Gift Program
Greg Terrasa
Toyota4Good Employee Matching
Gift Program
Trey Electric
David & Eileen Van Gorp
Waldo Morris & Nancy Mowry Properties
Zio Johno's
Chad '97 & Whitney Zrudsky

\$100-\$249

Brad Albaugh '79
Nancy & Jeff Alderdyce
Diane Allen '49
Marilyn Andersen
Mike & Karen Barnotes
John & Cindy Bender
David '65 & Chris Bennett
Greg Bjornsen
Dan '82 & Dawn Bliss
Gary & Melva Sue Brinkmeyer
Larry '56 & Dottie Brooks
Marty '87 & Kelly Brown
Cindy Brown
Carol Brown

Scot & Julie Brown
Bob '56 & Jeri Bunting
Denny '66 & Michelle '66 Burgess
Fred Burke
Mike '84 & Stacy '88 Cannoy
Chick-Fil-a
Mike '58 & Laura Cira
James & Marcia Clary
Class of 1966
Bernie '60 & Barbara '62 Cooper
Dan & Connie Cranny
Julie & Tom Day
Day Mechanical Systems
Gene Dooley
Bill Dougherty '56
Cathy '80 & Robert Farinelli
Gary '75 & Diane '75 Fickel
Shari & Joe Funck
Joshua Gerber
Tim & Margene Grady
Greg '70 & Nancy Grant
Tim & Sheri Hagarty
Nicole & Adam Harmer
Bob Harriman '78
Greg Hebert '79
Eric '58 & Julie Hender
Bill Herron
Bob & Karen Hoyt
Hubbell's Auto Repair
Harold & Linda Hulleman
Jimmy John's
David & Barbara Kalkwarf
Sandra & Thomas Kaloupek
Chuck '54 & Diane '56 Kent
Helen '51 & Thomas Kerf
Vic & Pat Klopfenstein
Augie '58 & Barb Kray
Dean & Paulette Krehlik
Corinne & Stephen Krzywicki
Bill & Jan Kubo
La Cantina
Lee '78 & Michele Larson
Joe Latta
Lindsay Brown, DDS
Joe & Jessica Link
Kurt '66 & Linda '67 Livingston
Cale & Micaela Loewen
Lombard Junior Women's Club
Longfellow Elementary School Staff
Louie's Scoreboard
Dave Lussen
Sean Lyness
David Lyons '48
Martin Gardner Architecture
Katherine & Edward Mathews
Mark & Inez Matkce
Mike McAreavy '81
Ivan & Lyn McBride
Shane '05 & Grace '10 McCallister
Mike '57 & Patricia McKenna
Joan & Scott McVay
April Mead
MEDCO
Dave '68 & Jill Messerli
Ben '06 & Jessica Messerli
Microsoft Matching Gift Program
Darrell & Marcia Miller
Amy Moenk
Sean Mooney '78
Veda Moore '50
Phil & Darlene Morris
Leigh '78 & Craig Murdoch
Bob '55 & Sharon '55 Murray
Bill '58 & Susan Nash

Kent & Kay Neighbor
Doug & Marva Neighbor
Gary Netolicky
John '58 & Louise '68 Nieland
Martha Norton
Donna Novoy '74
Brian '81 & Robin '82 Odean
James Owens
Brad Parsons
Donald '60 & Janet Patschke
Carol Paul
Brad Perkins '84
Jim Plummer '78
Casey Prince
Pat & Vivian Quinn
Joe Raeside '08
Ramsey's Wine Bistro
Jordan Rausch '11
David '73 & Lorna Reinecke
Keith & Ruth Remy
Candace & William Rieken
Rinderknecht
Alex Rinehart '12
Bertha Rodriguez
Jerry & Martha Roling
Charles & Mary Sue Rozek
Salow Mechanical Insulation
Jim & Irene Sauer
Rich Schlueter '58
Dennis '70 & Ellen '73 Schmuecker
Matthew Schnieders '11
Carl '70 & Dawn '71 Schuettpepel
Scooter's Coffee
Kenver & Diane Scott
Sheets Forrest Draper Insurance
Jeri Smith '55
Tiffany & Michael Smith
Starry Elementary School Staff
Erin & James Steffen
Steven & Cheri Stonebrook
Colton Storla '12
Raymond & Joyce Stow
Susan Streit
Mary Stuelke
Timothy & Dawn Stultz
Warren & Beverly Stultz
Mary Jo & Robert Tranter
Ester Travis
Jessica Trout '66
Larry Trout '68
United Fire Group
John '84 & Pam '84 Van Gorp
Doug Van Metre
Celia Van Metre
Brent '93 & Christie '93 VanWey
Villa's Patio
Jon '74 & Denise '74 Ward
Fred '57 & Judy Weber
Steve Wells '70
Steve & Nancy Williams
Dave '73 & Anne Williams
Nancy '92 & Scott Wittstruck
John & Harriet Yeisley
David '78 & Denise Zier
Zoey's Pizzeria
Doreen '82 & Jack Zumwalt

In spite of our best efforts, errors and omissions may occur. Please contact the Foundation office regarding any inaccuracies.

Foundation Scholarship Recipients

The Foundation was proud to distribute over \$26,000 in scholarships this past May for 2019 graduating seniors to continue their education.

Marion Foundation Hall of Fame Scholarship

Marshall Boche (University of Iowa)
Sierra Cochran (University of Iowa)

Clayton Schnoebelen Memorial Female Student-Athlete Scholarship

Leah Van Weelden (Baker University)

Darrell & Dorothy (Merritt) Fisher Scholarship

Carter Lantermans (Kirkwood Community College)
Alexis Woode (Kirkwood Community College)

Dr. Robert L. Thurness Memorial Scholarship

Sydney Nielsen (Minnesota State University)

Gerald A. Senninger/Trojan Lodge #548 Scholarship

Maddie Knapp (University of Iowa)

James & Teresa Conklin Soccer Scholarship

Grace Byers (Mt. Mercy University)
Riece Frericks (University of Northern Iowa)

Jason White Memorial Scholarship

Trevor Paulsen (Winona State University)

Jeff Rehnstrom Memorial Scholarship

Brandon Hamilton (Kirkwood Community College)

John Schlotterback Memorial Business Scholarship

Chloe Trca (University of Iowa)

Justin Turner Memorial Scholarship

Matthew Brase (Iowa State University)

Kelly Grishaber Memorial Scholarship

Maddy Redmond (University of Northern Iowa)

Lowell Morgan Service & Character Scholarship

Noah Jordan (Kirkwood Community College)



Scholarship contributor Carol Thurness visits with 2019 graduate Sydney Nielsen after Senior Awards Night.

Michael McGrew Memorial Scholarship

Anya Schobert (Coe College)

Michelle Fluckiger Niles Memorial Scholarship

Madigan Crowley (University of Iowa)
Lauren Fruehling (University of Northern Iowa)

Ratliff-Ames Memorial Scholarship

Brevin Hahn (Cornell College)
Garrett Hansen (Kirkwood Community College)
Grace Byers (Mt. Mercy University)
Mason Rahe (University of Iowa)
Chloe Ngo (University of Northern Iowa)

Rebecca Paulson Memorial Scholarship

Rachel Wilkey (University of Northern Iowa)

Todd Little Memorial Scholarship

Mason Rahe (University of Iowa)

Veda Pollock Moore Scholarship

Nolan Freymark (Central College)
Mackenzie Redmond (Mt. Mercy University)

Funding the Future

The families of Ron Thomason and Mike Combs worked with the Foundation to establish memorial funds that will make a difference in the MISD community for many years to come.



Mike could often be found helping with the high school football, track, and girls basketball teams, or coaching a youth team in the community. In 2017, he was recognized at the Iowa Girls State Basketball

Tournament as a model of sportsmanship and decorum for Marion High School and its community. When Mike suddenly passed in December 2018, the Combs family established the Mike Combs Memorial Fund to support education and athletics. The first allocation was made in the spring to fund a classroom grant at the high school.



Ron served as a school counselor at Mentzer, Emerson and Starry Elementary. Thomason unexpectedly passed away in February 2019. The Ron Thomason Memorial Fund,

established by his family, will help pay for student lunches for families who are experiencing an unexpected hardship (but do not qualify for lunch programs) and have demonstrated a good-faith effort in keeping current with their payments. School administrators, counselors, and nurses are able to recommend families to receive this support.

(District Leadership... continued from page 1)

and Center Point-Urbana Community Schools. She has been in her current role at MISD since May. In her first year, VanWeey plans to review the district's 5-year facilities plan to make sure it is on track and has implemented a program that will make day-to-day purchasing simpler



Christie and Brent VanWeey with their family.

and allow the district to take advantage of government spending program reward rebates. Christie is married to her high school sweetheart, Brent. They enjoy boating, vacations with family, and attending her children's activities at Marion.

Gretchen Kriegel has returned to MISD as Assistant Superintendent. She formerly taught special education at Vernon Middle School and most recently served as Curriculum and Special Education Director at Monticello Community School District.

Kriegel will lead the MISD curriculum, special education and ELL programs. She is also responsible for interpretation and implementation of the results from the annual Iowa Assessments. Her goals for this school year include adoption of a new

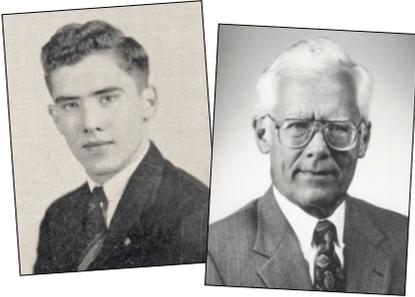


Gretchen and Scott Kriegel with their three daughters.

PK-6 math curriculum and fine-tuning the district's behavioral services.

Outside of work Kriegel loves the outdoors, kayaking, reading, attending her children's events, and traveling. Kriegel is excited to be back and looks forward to her year. "This district is set up for many great things. There is a lot of community support for the students, staff, and district."

John Vernon



Businessman, attorney, bank president, and active church member are just a few words that can be used to describe John Vernon. Most notably within the Marion community John is known for his leadership and community spirit,

having served on the city's planning and zoning commission, Library Foundation Board and Parks & Recreation Board. He was President of the Marion Chamber of Commerce, MEDCO and the MISD School Board, as well as a founding member of the Kirkwood Community College Foundation and Marion Independent School Foundation & Alumni Association.

John lent his guidance and expertise to a number of groups and Marion thrived in many ways through his contributions. John got his sense of community servitude from his father C.B. Vernon who was long-time Superintendent of Marion Independent School District.

John helped with the legal work to get the Foundation established in 1989 and continued as an integral board member

until 2015 when he was given the prestigious status of Emeritus Trustee. During his tenure on the Foundation Board, John was vital in the success of Project CONNECT and in establishing the Marion Grant program. To recognize his efforts, he was part of the first group of inductees into the Marion Independent School Foundation Hall of Fame in 1996.

John Vernon passed away in March 2019. To continue his lifelong mission and family tradition of support for education and community, his family is directing memorials to the Foundation. You can make your own donation by visiting www.marion-foundation.org/vernon-memorial or using the donor form provided in this newsletter. John's legacy of service and his connection to Marion schools will long be remembered.



(Grants... continued from page 1)

Becky Knudson – Vernon Middle School

A mobile lab demonstration table for 5th grade science allows a full class to see hands-on experiments.

Peggy Murphy – Marion Independent School District

Schoology, a new learning management system, is being used district-wide and Peggy Murphy, District Technology and Learning Coordinator, attended an additional pre-conference session to learn more about its features.

Scott Fruehling – Marion High School

A new tarp on the softball field minimizes rain delays and game cancellations and also keeps the field in good condition for the safety of the players.

Liz Pearson – Francis Marion Intermediate

To help students with their reading proficiency, the library at FMI has expanded their collection of books to include titles that are aimed at assisting struggling readers. Other books will also be added to the 3rd and 4th grade collections.

Matt Thornton – Starry Elementary

A new Maker Space will allow K-2 students an opportunity to build, create and innovate using high-tech tools, art supplies, construction tools and more.

Madi Ramaekers – Marion High School

Motion detectors and speed buggies will create new lab opportunities for Physics and Motions classes this year.

Becky Gustafson shares her grant award news with her FMI students. They received a variety of seating options for the classroom. As student Allison put it, "Some people need to be able to move around in their chair so they can concentrate easier. You can have fun in your chair while learning and paying attention."

Phil Cochran – Vernon Middle School

Scholarships were provided for students to attend the Jacobsen Institute's Summer CEO Camp to learn about and experience what it means to be an entrepreneur and CEO of a company.

Kristina Simmons & Dixie Recker – Starry Elementary

Outfitting a sensory room gives students of all abilities access to tools that can teach them to self-regulate their emotions.

Apra Loomis-Mainardi – Marion High School

Over 40 different titles were added to the high school's e-book collection allowing students to electronically check them out and read from any smart device.

Peggy Murphy – Marion Independent School District

Hotspots allowed internet connection for some high school and ELL students to continue with recovery courses and language learning during the summer months.

Logan Vander Wiel – Marion High School

The high school band program has a new sousaphone to help with the needs of a growing marching band and pep band.

Greg Wilkinson & Laura Worden – Vernon Middle School

The 6th grade literacy team is expanding their classroom collection of books to include a new non-fiction piece. They added over 60 copies of *Woodsong* by Gary Paulsen.

Nancy Alderdyce – Marion High School

MHS students experienced the dangers of driving under the influence of alcohol, THC, and texting when the Arrive Alive driving simulator was brought to the high school in May.

Some of the projects shared here were funded thanks to the John Nelson Fund, C.B. & Lula Vernon Fund, Rathbun Fund and Mike Combs Memorial Fund. For additional photos and information on grants visit www.marion-foundation.org/marion-grants.



Superintendent's Report

It is both an honor and a pleasure to begin serving in the role of Superintendent for the Marion Independent School District. The MISD Mission states:

"The MISD in partnership with parents and the community will create a safe environment where each learner is nurtured to become successful." There are many great things happening at MISD that are focused on this mission.

The school year ended with celebrations for the senior class of 2019. Of particular note for the graduating class from Marion High School, they collectively accumulated a total of 12,986 volunteer hours and earned 1,100 college credits during high school. The Marion Home School Assistance Program also culminated the year with a new record for the largest number of students, 90 in total, completing their K-12 education!

Summer renovation projects will be wrapping up soon with major projects to include re-roofing a section of Marion High School as well as HVAC projects at both Starry and Francis Marion that will update the system and allow students and staff to return to air conditioned buildings. Additionally, the capital campaign, a joint endeavor of the Marion School Foundation, the Marion Board of Education, and the Athletic Booster Club, led to significant upgrades in the high school auditorium and the Les Hipple Athletic Complex which were enjoyed throughout the spring and summer athletic seasons.

As teachers and students return for the 2019-2020 school year, the District will continue a focus on student engagement with ongoing professional development for staff, and integrating technology and blended learning principles into the classroom. Teachers are eager to implement a new math curriculum

at the PK-6 grade levels (Everyday Math 4) and a new social-emotional learning curriculum in PK-8 (Second Step). Marion High School continues to expand the opportunities for career and technical education, including a nursing certification program offered on-site in partnership with Kirkwood, with a total of 6 students who passed the CNA certification during the 2018-19 school year. Additionally, Hupp Electric provided a certified welder to offer training for MHS students toward a welding certification, which will continue into the 2019-20 school year. The District is grateful for these learning opportunities for MISD students made possible through the tremendous support from these and other partners in education.

Partnering In Education,
Janelle Brouwer

MISD Leader Awards

MISD Leader Awards are presented annually by the Foundation to recognize District staff who go above and beyond for their students, colleagues, and the community. Staff are nominated and voted for by their peers to receive this award. This year's recipients are not only current district staff, but also Marion alum! The award recipients were surprised during a high school pep assembly in May.

Brenda Caraway

FMI teacher Melissa Cannon wrote in her nomination of MISD Food Service Director Brenda Caraway – "Brenda is a wonderful leader in the Marion Independent School District. She is responsible for providing a meal to the many students at Marion, some of which school is the only place they eat. She takes the time to learn all the high school students' names... She does the same thing at the other buildings when substituting in their lunchrooms. She also helps for the entire weekend during the Marion Masquerade, putting in countless hours. Finally, she supports Marion's students at many athletic and performing arts events. She is truly a wonderful leader!"



Brenda Caraway poses with the MHS Food Service staff after receiving the 2019 MISD Leader Award.

Chad Zrudsky

Erik Trilk and fellow high school teacher Madi Ramaekers nominated Chad Zrudsky. Madi wrote, "As Associate Principal, Chad provides leadership to the building constantly. Since I began teaching I have felt very supported but also given the freedom to grow as a teacher.

I believe he always has students' best interests in mind as he makes decisions for the building." Erik shared in his nomination, "Chad is a role model of what the entire Marion Independent School District should represent. I'm not sure if employees fully understand the difficulties of the job he has... While his position is difficult, Chad never allows it to impact the relationship that he has established with his coworkers. He is a positive and professional staff member who is essential to the high school and deserves this award many times over!"

The Foundation was able to make these surprise announcements with families, students and staff present thanks to the collaboration of MHS Principal Greg Semler and the help of other district staff.



MHS Associate Principal Chad Zrudsky was joined by his family when he received the 2019 MISD Leader Award.

Start School Right

With support from a committee of school counselors, staff, and community members, as well as several volunteers, Start School Right assisted a record-number of students.



Rotary Club volunteers serve up dinner donated by Hy-Vee to Start School Right attendees.

The early August event was attended by 154 families with more than 350 students receiving school supplies, hygiene items, clothing and food. In addition, free dental, vision and hearing screenings were available as well as haircuts and dinner. Thanks to the generosity of sponsors *Wells Fargo*, *Dupaco* and *Walmart*, this year's event not only met the basic needs of MISD students but also provided a forum for families to connect with 15 community organizations who sent representatives so event attendees could learn about a number of services available year-round.



Marion Independent School Foundation & Alumni Association

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Marion, IA 52302

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Thanks for Your Support!

Name _____ MHS Grad Year _____

Company/Organization _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Credit Card Number _____ Expiration _____ Security Code _____

Enclosed is my donation to the Marion Foundation:

- General Donation
- Mike Combs Educational Fund
- Ron Thomason Lunch Fund
- Dennis Trout Scholarship
- John Vernon Memorial
- In Honor/Memory of _____
- Other (list school, program, etc.) _____
- My donation will be matched by my employer

Total contribution \$ _____ **Thank You!**

Marion School Foundation, 777 S. 15th Street, Marion, IA 52302
(319) 377-4691 x1110 or marionfoundation@marion-isd.org



Mark your calendars for this cooperative fundraiser organized by the Marion Independent School Foundation and Linn-Mar School Foundation. Proceeds from the event support a number of programs for each Foundation.

Dine out at participating restaurants on Thursday, September 12 and a portion (10 to 20%) of your total bill will be donated to the school foundations by each restaurant. Participating locations include Bistro 3 Nineteen, Chick-fil-a Lindale, Dairy Queen Uptown Marion, Country Kitchen, Culver's Marion, Hy-Vee Marion, Jimmy John's Marion, Kettel House Bakery, La Cantina Marion, Moe's Southwest Grill, Noodles & Company, Perkins Collins Rd, Ramsey's Wine Bistro, Scooter's Coffee Marion Blvd & C Ave, and Zio John's Marion. Be sure to check www.marion-foundation.org/dine-out for a complete list of participating restaurants.