



Marion
Independent School
Foundation
& Alumni Association

Spring 2026

Grants Awarded to School Projects



Students enjoy outdoor table space made possible through a 2025 grant.

Each year, the Marion Foundation Grant Program provides teachers and staff an opportunity to receive funding for projects that benefit students in the Marion Independent School District.

Grants are made possible because of generous contributions the Foundation receives throughout the year from both businesses and individuals as well as a number of educational funds that are invested with the Foundation for long-term benefit.

For more information about grants or educational funds, please contact Laura Farmer, Marion Foundation Executive Director.

Read more about approved 2026 grants on page 3.



Class of '77 enjoys their time together!

Class Reunions!

If you graduated in a year ending in 1 or 6, it may be time for your class reunion!

There are already several MHS classes that will be getting together during the summer and fall and have contacted the Foundation to discuss their plans. Some activities that are popular during reunions are school and stadium tours, participating in the Foundation Golf Classic, or being recognized at home football games.

>> An up-to-date list of reunion details and contacts for each event can be found at Marion-Foundation.org/Class-Reunions.

>> To help reunion coordinators, please be sure to update your contact information at Marion-Foundation.org/Alumni

Available Reunion Info

'01-25 year 6/20
'91 - 35 year 8/8
'86 - 40 year 9/18 & 9/19
'76 - 50 year 7/25

2026 Home Football Games

Aug 21
Aug 28
Sep 18
Oct 2
Oct 9
Oct 23



Supporting Education for the benefit of Marion Independent School District students, schools and the greater community.

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Foundation Staff

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Natalie Steggall, Administrative
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Get more online!

www.marion-foundation.org

 @MarionSchoolFoundation

Foundation Welcomes New Staff

Laura Farmer joined the Marion Independent School Foundation & Alumni association as Executive Director this past fall.

Before coming to the Foundation, Laura worked for seventeen years as the Dungy Writing Studio Director and Director of Fellowships and Scholarships at Cornell College. In her time away from work, she loves to write - her novel, *Catch and Release*, won an Independent Publisher Book Award (silver) for best regional fiction in the plains. She also loves tending to her messy garden and fixing up her old house.

Laura has lived in Marion since 2008. She looks forward to helping create an even stronger Marion community through collaborations with local businesses, school district staff, and Marion's vast network of loyal alumni.

You can contact Laura by emailing her at lfarmer@marion-isd.org or by calling the Foundation office at (319) 377-4691 x 1110.

Natalie Steggall joined the Marion Independent School Foundation & Alumni Association in April as the new Administrative Assistant. Natalie brings plenty of office experience, having managed a church office for just shy of two years now. She is very excited to be a part of the Marion District.

Natalie lives in Cedar Rapids with her husband, Tyler (a MHS Grad); her two daughters Adelaide and Nora (both of whom will be joining the MISD in the fall); and her dog, Luna. In her spare time, she is a fan of crocheting and is an avid reader.

You can contact Natalie by emailing her at nsteggall@marion-isd.org or by calling the Foundation office at (319) 377-4691 x 1181.



Laura Farmer



From left to right:
Adelaide, Tyler, Nora,
Natalie



("Grants" continued from page 1)

CPR Mannequin Replacement

Marion High School

Replace the CPR mannequins that are used by the Health and Wellness classes as well as the district's staff Emergency Response Team.

MHS Books 2026

Marion High School

Add current, high quality Young Adult (YA) reading materials to the library.

College for Kids

Vernon Middle School

Provide \$50 scholarships for 35 students to attend College For Kids this summer.

Empowering Multilingual Learners for Future Success

All Buildings

Update and modernize the district's ELL instructional curriculum and resources.

Kindergartners Play to Learn

Longfellow Elementary

Establish play-based learning centers in three kindergarten classrooms which will include dramatic play, sensory exploration, block construction, and creative arts.

Moving Marion Forward

All Buildings

Bring new strategies, units and assessment tools back to the physical education department by allowing two staff members to attend the SHAPE America National Convention.

We Can't See, We Need A TV, Part 2

Longfellow Elementary

Introduce 40 inch TV screens and stands to each second grade classroom to assist with small group learning projects.

Light Display

Marion High School

Obtain three LED light displays that the Girls Who Code club will design and display in local businesses.

Songwriting AI Fusion

Longfellow Elementary

Implement software that allows staff to utilize AI in order to generate personalized songs for school recognition and activities.

Student Art Display Panel Boards & Storage Cart

Marion High School

Introduce portable display panels, allowing Visual Arts and Design students the opportunity to share their artistic voice, creativity, and identity by exhibiting their creations.

Building Belonging

Parkview Elementary

Longfellow Elementary

Add "Embracing Neurodiversity and Caring Communities Book Kits" to help enhance the strong social-emotional foundation already in place.

Robotics Room Renovation

Marion High School

Allow new organizational materials and tools for the Robotics Room.



Students in Ms. Cahlahan's 4th grade classroom enjoy new reading materials for small group reading instruction thanks to a 2025 grant.



**Friday, September 25
Gardner Golf Course
10 a.m. Shotgun Start**

**Registration Open
Now!**

[marion-foundation.org/
golf-classic](http://marion-foundation.org/golf-classic)

-or call-

(319) 377-4691 x 1110

\$1250 - Foursome & Prize Sponsor

\$1000 - Cart Sponsor

\$800 - Foursome & Hole Sponsor

\$500 - Foursome Registration

\$500 - Beverage Sponsor

\$500 - Putting Green Sponsor

\$350 - Hole Sponsor

\$125 - Individual Golfer



Registration Includes:

- Early access to the driving range
- 18 holes of best-shot golf with cart
- Breakfast starting at 9 a.m.
- Box lunch and drink tickets
- Prizes for winning teams
- Fun hole events
- Lots of good fun with friends, neighbors, and fellow Marion alum





2026 Marion Graduates Recieve \$192,400 in Scholarship Awards

At the annual Senior Honors Night on May 13, the Marion Foundation awarded scholarships totaling \$192,400 to graduating students. Each scholarship has unique requirements and eligibility as designated by the fund donors. Students submit an application for consideration in the winter and a committee works to match applicants to the awards. In addition to the new awards, 37 graduates from the past few years who received renewable scholarships will be submitting their applications for renewal. In total, the Foundation will distribute nearly \$295,000 in educational assistance.

Cahlahan Memorial Scholarship

Ellie Cox

Darrell & Dorothy (Merritt) Fisher Scholarship

Vincent Even
Lucy Hangartner
Alliance Luzindya
Alyana Rose Quintanilla

Dennis "Barney" Trout Scholarship

Ryan Ferentchak

Denny Burgess Memorial Scholarship

Dallas Bayler

Dr. Robert Turness Memorial Scholarship

Andrew Ahmann

Duane Ockenfels Memorial Scholarship

Silas Riehl

George, Gladys and Ruth Drips Endowed Scholarship

Alivayn Brashaw
Tyler Cole
Ada Dietzenbach
Vincent Even
Paige Greene
Brandon Hatfield
Natalie Hedlund
Devin Hendricks
Lilah Hernandez
Andrew Kapler
Bryker Langfald
Jack Lantz
Rilie Little
Eden Losch
Azaylea Miller
Sam Norton
Kailey Olson
Kylie Olson
Addison Parker
Savanah Pope
Xavier Riedell
Jackson Rinderknecht
Gloriah Rinkenberger
Amara Schlueter
Anna Shelton
Delaney Shindelar

Lucas Stearns
Evan Strader
Taylor Theriault
Landon Tilkes
Davin Tuuri
Nathan Usher
Maggie Utsinger
Haiden West
Braelin Wieseler
Elly Wolfe
Elliott Zrudsky

Henry "Harry" Carson Endowed Scholarship

Kolton Holub
Kaylin Kinney

Jason "Jay" White Memorial Scholarship

Elly Wolfe

Jeff Rehnstrom Memorial Scholarship

Katelynn Hill

Joseph William Bigger Scholarship

Jack Lantz

John Scarborough Miller Memorial Scholarship

Lana Dyrland
Kaelynne Blood
Jamon Buhr
Rylee Cook
Ellie Cox
Addison Dabroski
Matthew Danninger
Patrick Flanagan
Carson Fommelt
Madi Hankins
Cohen Johnson
Andrew Kapler
Evan Kinney
Jack Lantz
Alex Morrow
Hayley Potter
Anna Shelton
Kate Steger
Landon Tilkes
Calvin Andresen
Davin Tuuri
Jozie Vaughn
Cat Whitaker
Mercedes Woode
Kaylin Kinney

**John Schlotterback Business Scholarship**

Bryker Langfald

James Steffen Leadership Award

Brandon Hatfield

Jose Kaleka

Justin Turner Memorial Scholarship

Kaelynne Blood

Tyler Cole

Matthew Danninger

Kylie Olson

Anna Shelton

Kate Steger

Kelly Grishaber Memorial Scholarship

Braelyn Toomer

Lowell Morgan Family Leadership & Heart Scholarship

Savanah Pope

Marion Firefighters Association Scholarship

Haiden West

Marion Future Leaders Scholarship

Lilah Hernandez

Cassidy Reasor

Michelle Fluckiger Niles Memorial Scholarship

Benie Luzindya

Mike McGrew Memorial Scholarship

Teygan Lusk

Morris F. Neighbor Memorial Scholarship

Addison Dabroski

Samuel Proctor

Maggie Utsinger

Ratliff/Ames Scholarship

Lillian Toomer

Rebecca Paulson Memorial Scholarship

Kailey Olson

Ruth S. Henderson Memorial Scholarship

Asher Castenson

Soccer Officiating Scholarship

Noah Fischer

Davin Tuuri

Todd Little Memorial Scholarship

Addison Dabroski

Veda Pollock Moore Scholarship

Elijah Gaston

Kylie Olson

West Family Scholarship

Gabriella Marshall

Jameson Turner

Does your employer have a Matching Gift Program?

Employee match programs are a benefit that many companies offer to encourage and reward giving among their staff. Think of this as free money that you are able to direct to your favorite non-profit organization.

We hope you will consider making a donation to the Marion Independent School Foundation, and if you do, please check with your Human Resources department to find out if your company will match your gift. It's the easiest way to double your investment in Marion Schools!

YES! I want to support Marion Schools!

Please make checks payable to the Marion Independent School Foundation.



Gift Amount: ☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$500 ☐ Other \$ _____

Name

Address

City

State

Zip

Email

Phone

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