



MARION COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #2

Becky Moss, Superintendent

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Superintendent Summary
Board of Education Regular Meeting
April 15, 2025

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Patty Bundren was not present.

Example of Educational Excellence

Mrs. Watts, Assistant Superintendent, introduced Longfellow K-2 teachers and students, who presented their involvement in Read Across America Week and their celebrations of Dr. Suess. Kindergarten teachers, Mrs. Childers and Mrs. Haseker, and their students (Allison Corzine, Devin Holder, Zoey Mausey, Thomas Moss, Beau Powell, Cason Brown, Jossiebella Herrea, Bailee MacNeille, Ryker Masterson and Emma McCuan) discussed the life lessons learned and how to make green eggs and ham based on Dr. Seuss's books. First Grade teachers, Mrs. Brave and Miss. Kadela, and their students (Orrin Elston, Paycen Absher, Owen Peebles and Sophie McCuan) shared how they include a social studies unit during the week to find out who Dr. Suess was. Second Grade Teachers, Mrs. Hill and Mrs. Sullivan, along with their students (Austin Wilson, Isla Griffith, Camden Mitchell, James Herrera Garcia, Karis Moss and Cannon MacNeille) explained to the board how they incorporate a social studies unit over the book "Oh, the Places You'll Go."

Audience to Visitors

Public comments were given by Jenna Griffith, the MHS Librarian, regarding MHS hosting author Sharon Cameron on April 24, 2025, 9:00-10:00 a.m. in the MHS Auditorium. Public comments were also given by Elijah Henry, a senior at MHS, about allowing a student other than the top students of the graduating class to deliver a speech with administrative approval during graduation.

Marion Education Association

No comment was offered.

Consent Agenda

The board voted 6-0 to approve the consent agenda as presented.

a. Minutes - the minutes from the March 18, 2025 regular meeting and closed meeting as presented.

b. Bills – the March supplementary bills and the April bills for payment as presented.

c. Donations

i. In Memory of Mary Landes to MHS for Nursing Program Needs - valued at \$50.00

Consent Agenda (con't)

- ii. The Bob & Maxine Hancock Family to the Unit 2 Foundation for Wildcat Way Fund - valued at \$20,000.00

d. Participation in 2025-2026 Programs

Personnel Recommendations

The board voted 6-0 to approve the following personnel recommendations as presented:

EMPLOYMENT:

Certified

Kelly Fear, 1st Grade Teacher assigned to Longfellow, effective for the 2025-2026 school year.

Debra Ratliff, Science Teacher assigned to MHS, effective for the 2025-2026 school year.

Cole Schnaudigel, Art Teacher assigned to MHS, effective for the 2025-2026 school year.

Kaley Grinnell, RN, Part-time Intro to Health Careers Teacher/School Nurse assigned to MHS, effective for the 2025-2026 school year.

Holly Dunderdale, Science Department Chair assigned to MHS, effective for the 2025-2026 school year.

MJHS Summer School Teachers:

Melissa Chance, Jaycee Giles, Michael Kraus, Tiffany Sulser, Cody Maze, Adam Disney, and Alana Adkins

Recognize Board Member - Marc Henshaw

Board President Joe Bleyer recognized Marc Henshaw for his years on the School Board and thanked Mr. Henshaw for his service to Marion CUSD 2.

Introduction of New Faculty Members

REASSIGNMENTS

Christian Wrolson, reassigned from MHS Part-time Custodian to 2nd Shift Custodian at Jefferson, effective April 21, 2025.

Sierra Murphy, RN, reassigned from MHS School Nurse to Lincoln School Nurse, effective for the 2025-2026 school year.

Judy Mills, RN, reassigned from Lincoln School Nurse to District Float Nurse, effective for the 2025-2026 school year.

RESIGNATIONS

Misty Bradley, Head Cook assigned to MJHS, effective April 21, 2025.

Personnel Recommendations (con't)

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Alexandria Shadowens, 1st Grade Teacher assigned to Lincoln, a maternity leave of absence beginning approximately May 12, 2025 through the end of the 2024-2025 school year using accumulated sick leave.

Kimberly Frankel, 4th Grade Teacher assigned to Lincoln, a maternity leave of absence beginning approximately May 12, 2025 with a tentative return date of October 6, 2025 using accumulated sick leave.

RETIREMENTS

James Russell, Custodian assigned to Washington, effective May 27, 2025.

Building Trades

The board voted 6-0 to approve building trades home sales contract as presented and authorize Superintendent and CFO to represent Unit #2 at the closing.

Board Note: Home is located at 12766 Harvest Ln. Sale price is \$303,000.

Depository Banks

The board voted 5-0-1 to authorize the following banks as depositories for the 2025-2026 school year (this action is taken on a yearly basis):

Peoples National Bank
U.S. Bank
Banterra Bank
Regions Bank

Fifth Third Bank
Farmers Bank
Bank of Herrin
First Mid-Illinois Bank & Trust

Southern Trust
Legence Bank
First Southern Bank
IL Liquid Asset Fund

South 7 Conference

The board voted 6-0 to approve Highland to be part of the South 7 conference beginning 2026-2027 school year.

Settlement Agreement

The board voted 6-0 to approve the settlement agreement as presented.

New Copier Lease Proposal

The board voted 6-0 to approve the new copier lease proposal with Tri-State Business Equipment as presented.

Technology Report

Summary of activities:

- Completed all E-rate applications for FY25
- Assisting in the new design and structure of the new district website.
- Continue to work on District AI Policies along with the new Technology Committee.
- Working with the Foundation to acquire new wireless document cameras for classrooms.
- Attended ROE 21 & 30 Roundtable – ***Understanding the Business Impacts of a Ransomware Attack in a School District.***
- Successful Kindergarten Registration for the 25-26 SY

Maintenance Report

Maintenance Report (con't)

Washington Elementary School: A new HVAC control system was just installed a few weeks ago. With this upgrade the maintenance department will be able to better regulate the temperatures in the building. This upgrade will also help with energy consumption allowing a cost savings for the district over time. The Maintenance and Custodial departments continuously work on building preventative maintenance, work orders and general housekeeping items.

Lincoln Elementary School: Nothing new. The Maintenance and Custodial departments continuously work on building preventative maintenance, work orders and general housekeeping items.

High School: The high school is scheduled to receive a new upgrade on the HVAC control system. With this upgrade the maintenance department will be able to better regulate the temperatures in the building. This upgrade will also help with energy consumption allowing a cost savings for the district over time. This upgrade once started should be completed by the middle of May. The Maintenance and Custodial departments continuously work on building preventative maintenance, work orders and general housekeeping items.

Jr. High: Nothing new. The Maintenance and Custodial departments continuously work on building preventative maintenance, work orders and general housekeeping items.

Jefferson Elementary School: Nothing new. The Maintenance and Custodial departments continuously work on building preventative maintenance, work orders and general housekeeping items.

Adams: A new HVAC control system was installed in the last few weeks. With this upgrade the maintenance department will be able to better regulate the temperatures in the building. This upgrade will also help with energy consumption allowing a cost savings for the district over time. The Maintenance and Custodial departments continuously work on building preventative maintenance, work orders and general housekeeping items.

Longfellow: Nothing new. The Maintenance and Custodial departments continuously work on building preventative maintenance, work orders and general housekeeping items.

Custodial Teams: The custodial team continues to do an outstanding job in helping keep over 605,000 square feet of building space clean throughout the district. That's equivalent to cleaning and maintaining over 302 homes that are 2,000 square feet every day.

Maintenance Team: The Maintenance team has been focusing on spring sports and spring yard maintenance. They also continue to focus on work orders, roofing, HVAC, door locks, preventive maintenance, organizing, planning, and painting.

Superintendent Report: Mrs. Moss informed the board that the AI Committee will meet again on April 30, 2025 to continue discussion of AI policies for teachers. Mrs. Moss also invited the board to the Marion Unit #2 Foundation Banquet on April 24, 2025 at The Pavilion. Social Hour and Silent auction at 6:00 p.m. Dinner at 6:45 p.m. followed by a live auction, grant recognition and scholarship presentation.

Assistant Superintendent Report:

The following students were recognized at the annual Illinois Principals Association Student Recognition Dinner: Adams: Quinn Hart & Danielle Griffith, Jefferson: Emma Marlow & Liam Works, Lincoln: Brody Wilson & Evelyn Sexton, Longfellow: Luke Corzine & Maximus Chapman, Washington: Cooper Young & Lauren Walker, MJHS: Mazie Disney & Vance Burford, MHS: Kyra Graham & Parker Bradshaw.



Academics

Adams School

Band - Congratulations to Adams Band for receiving Division 1 Superior ratings at the State IGSMa Band Contest.

Band - Congratulations to Adams Band for receiving 1st place at the St. Louis Music in the Parks Band Competition.

Academics

Marion Junior High School

Choir - Congratulations to MJHS 6th Grade Choir and MJHS Mixed Choir for receiving Division 1 Superior ratings at the State IGSMa District 3 Organization Contest.



Band - Congratulations to MJHS Symphonic Band for receiving Division 1 Excellent rating at the State IGSMa District 3 Organization Contest.



Robotics - Congratulations to MJHS Robotics Team for taking home 1st place and 2nd place at the Sumobot Tournament.

1st Place - Benny Perkins



2nd Place - Brian Chen and Luka Jacobsen



Academics

Marion High School

Latin - Congratulations to MHS Latin first year students who scored above the national average on the National Latin Exam and received awards.

Awards: 1 - Summa Cum Laude award
4 - Maxima Cum Laude awards
4 - Magna Cum Laude awards
6 - Cum Laude awards

Also, congratulations to the upper level MHS Latin students who scored above the national average on the National Latin Exam (**3 - Latin 2 students, 1 - Latin 3 student, and 1 - Latin 4 student**).

CAD - Fourteen MHS CAD students attended the SIU Drafting Competition. Of the 14 students, 12 students placed, and 9 of those will advance to the state competition at ISU in Bloomington, IL.

- 1st Place - RJ McCaffrey in 3D CAD Modeling
- 1st Place - Rylan Williamson in Assembly Modeling
- 1st Place - Eli Rafe in Architectural CAD 3D
- 1st Place - Hailey Muldrew in Architectural CAD 2D
- 2nd Place - Tyler Graves in Introductory CAD
- 2nd Place - Ehren Neikes in 3D CAD Modeling
- 2nd Place - Brody Smoot in Assembly Modeling
- 2nd Place - Carter Sprague in Machine CAD 3D
- 2nd Place - Collin Merkel in Architectural CAD 3D
- 3rd Place - Shamyia Buchanan in Introductory CAD
- 3rd Place - Gabe Address in Machine CAD 2D
- 3rd Place - Cass Miller in Machine CAD 3D



Choir - Congratulations to MHS Choir for receiving a superior rating with their perfect score at the IHSA Organizational Contest.



Art - MHS Art students, Athena Palmer and Allie Parks, completed two murals at the Marion Police Station for part of their community service for National Art Honor Society.



Academics

Marion High School

Art - Congratulations to Cara Glass and David Williams on their award-winning art pieces selected by the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers.

Silver Key Winners

Cara Glass - "Do My Eyes Deceive Me?"

David Williams - "Yesterday Always Knows"



Art - Congratulations to the three MHS Art students who were accepted into the National Art Honor Digital Art Show. **(Students: Allie Parks, Emma Sprague, and Athena Palmer)**

Scholarships - Congratulations to Ethan Rice and Grayson Sanders for being named as John A. Logan Student Ambassadors. They received Full Tuition scholarships for 2 years, valued at \$9,280.00 each.



Murray State University - Congratulations to Junior, Aubree Oates, on being selected for the Murray State University Commonwealth Honor Academy. Selected students will live on the Murray campus for 3 weeks this summer and take a 3 credit hour course. If Aubree ends up attending Murray State as her college of choice, she will receive Full Tuition for 4 years.

Academics

Marion High School

SIU Carbondale - Below are MHS students pictured with Chancellor Austin Lane, Wendell Williams and representatives from SIUC to recognize MHS seniors that will be attending SIU in the fall. The Saluki hat was a gift from SIUC to show appreciation for their commitment to "Staying Home."



John A Logan - Pictured below are MHS seniors who are planning on attending John A. Logan College next fall. They attended New Student Orientation Day. Congratulations to Sebastian Goff on being selected for a \$500 scholarship from John A. Logan.



MHS - Six MHS students were recognized for their excellence in academics, community service and leadership at the Southern Illinois Society for High School Achievement Banquet. (**Students:** Parker Bradshaw, Kyra Graham, Ryan Harris, Jobi McCann, McKenna Walters, Lea Wong)



Sports

Marion High School

Girls Basketball - Congratulations to Libbie Garrett and Khamari Jackson for being named SICA All South in Girls Basketball for the 2024-2025 season.

2024-2025 GIRLS BASKETBALL		
ALL-SOUTH: CLASS 3A		
KAMAREE POLLARD	SR	MT. VERNON
MELAINA ZEDALIS	SR	MT. VERNON
JOSIE SHIRLEY	SR	MT. VERNON
AUTUMN RUDD	SR	MT. VERNON
JASAIYAH WALLACE	SR	CENTRALIA
LIBBIE GARRETT	JR	MARION
KHAMARI JACKSON	JR	MARION
GRACYN MORRIS	JR	CARBONDALE
DALIA ROMAN	SR	CARBONDALE
3A COACH OF THE YEAR: JEFF LONNON, MT. VERNON		

Girls Basketball - Congratulations to Coach Erik Griffin on being named Illinois Basketball Coaches Association 3A Girls Basketball Coach of the Year.



Boys Basketball - Boys Basketball's Kaden Rogowski was named the MVP of the boys game at the 46th Annual Benton Lions Club All-Star Classic.



Girls Track & Field - Congratulations to the Lady Wildcat Track & Field Team for winning the 2025 Marion Outdoor Invite.



Girls Track & Field - Lady Wildcat Track & Field's Emma Skeate, Isa Greer, Brenna Stearns, Linlee Beck and Emmerson Mann medaled at the Annual IPTT Indoor State event .

- 3rd Place - Emma Skeate in Shot
- 4th Place - Brenna Stearns in 60 M Hurdles
- 9th Place - Brenna Stearns, Linlee Beck, Emmerson Mann and Isa Greer in 4x200
- 10th Place - Isa Greer in Long Jump

Sports

Marion High School

Girls Track & Field - Lady Wildcat Track & Field's 4x400m relay set a new school record at the Gene Armer Meet with a time of 2:17.60.

4x400 Members: Linlee Beck, Lydia Rogowski, Sloane Thompson and Brenna Stearns



Boys Track & Field - Haydan Little set a new O'Fallon Relays Blue Division Meet record in the 300 Hurdles with a time of 39.82.



Boys Track & Field - Haydan Little broke a 34 year old school record in the 300 hurdles with a time of 39.15.

Boys Tennis - Boys Tennis' Cooper Whiting and Hunter Knutzen placed 2nd in #2 Doubles at the Herrin Tiger Tuneup.



Bass Team - Congratulations to Landon Gabby and Kolby Baker on winning the 2025 Bassmaster High School Classic. They were 1 of 9 teams selected from across the nation to compete.



Sports

Marion High School

Bass Team - Congratulations to Landon Gabby and Kolby Baker on winning the Illinois Bass Nation Tournament at Lake Springfield.



MHS Student-Athletes - Pictured below are MHS Student Athletes who have already signed to compete in a sport at the collegiate level.



Marion Athletics Signing Day 2025

Class of 2025:

1. Grace Roper, Girls Golf, Union University (TN)
2. Landon Gabby, BASS, University of Northern Alabama (JR)
3. Carson Hunter, Football, Greenville College
4. Kolby Baker, BASS, Wabash Valley
5. Valerie Bergman, Girls Tennis, Kaskaskia College
6. Chase Niemeyer, Baseball, John A. Logan
7. Race Hickey, Basketball, Rend Lake College
8. Evan Dailey, XC - Track & Field, Vincennes University
9. Reece Anthony, Baseball, Marion Military Institute
10. Avery Wolfe, Volleyball, Frontier College (Will sign April 17th)
11. Kyra Graham, Girls Soccer, Trine University
12. Carter Lang, Baseball, University of Health Sciences & Pharmacy St. Louis
13. Drew Vaughn, Baseball, Marion Military Institute
14. Brenna Stearns, Track & Field, Lindenwood University
15. Olivia McDermott, Wrestling, McKendree University
16. Maecee Coleman, Softball, Southwestern Illinois College
17. Tate Miller, Wrestling, Quincy University (Will sign at a later date)
18. Ethan Simmons, Basketball, TBA (Will sign at a later date)
19. Kaden Rogowski, Basketball, TBA (Will sign at a later date)



Clubs/Extra-Curricular

Marion High School

FFA - Congratulations to MHS FFA members who placed at the Section 24 Public Speaking Contest. Reagan Phelps and Cole Warren will move on to the District Contest.

- 1st Place - Reagan Phelps in Creed Speaking
- 2nd Place - Cole Warren in Prepared
- 4th Place - Kyndall Mugge in Prepared
- 4th Place - Zander Tallman in Extemp
- 6th Place - Maddie Morse in Extemp



Clubs/Extra-Curricular
Marion High School

Student Council - Addi Lawler, Lydia Rogowski, Troy Robinson, and Kayli Cameron served on Senator Dale Fowler's Student Advisory Board in Springfield.



Student Council - MHS Student Council has been Named as a 2025 National Gold Council of Excellence by the National Association of Student Councils for its exemplary record of leadership, service, and activities that improves the school and community.



FBLA - Congratulations to MHS FBLA members who placed in the top 10 of their competitive events at the FBLA's State Leadership Conference.

- 4th Place - Taylor Ragain in Financial Statement Analysis & National Qualifier
- 5th Place - Skye Mausey and McKenna Walters in Broadcast Journalism
- 5th Place - Abigail Joyner in Job Interview
- 8th Place - Isabella Pouncil in Visual Design
- 9th Place - Roberto Comerford and Connor Stout in Sports & Entertainment Management
- 10th Place - Addi Lawler in Business Ethics

District Teacher Recognition

From Aime Chelin:

A huge shout-out to our first group of teachers who officially completed their LETRS course of study with their final training on March 25, 2025! In addition to participating in 48 hours of training and implementing new instructional practices in their classroom, these teachers have committed over 80 hours outside their school day during the past two years to participate in this professional development. Thank you to our district for providing this professional development and to all our administrators for working through sub issues to allow them to attend our unit training. Although their training is complete, I feel the impact it will have on students is just beginning. We are excited to continue to implement our new learning. I am so very proud of this group and their commitment to their students!

" Informed teachers are our best assurance against reading failure. While programs are very helpful tools, programs don't teach; teachers do." - LETRS



Treasurer's Report

The district is 66.7% of the way through the fiscal year as of March 31, 2025. The Education Fund expenditures are at 69.83% and Operations and Maintenance Fund expenditures are at 72.22%. Expenditures for all district funds are at 67.50%.

Miscellaneous and/or Discussion

*Click the [LINK](#) for a clip of the meeting regarding MEA teacher negotiations.

Adjournment

The board voted 6-0 to adjourn the meeting at 7:04 p.m.