Message from Marion CUSD #2 Superintendent Dr. Keith Oates
Friday, June 26, 2020

Dear Marion Unit #2 Family,

I hope this message finds you and your families safe and well. On June 23, 2020, the Illinois State Board of Education released guidance for schools on the 2020-21 school year.

The 60-page document has been much anticipated and will go a long way toward answering critical questions all of us share about what the 2020-21 school year will look like in terms of in-person learning, scheduling, transportation, wearing masks, social distancing and other measures intended to keep everyone safe and healthy, while also re-engaging students in the learning process.

Right now, we don't have all the answers to those questions as this document was released to school districts at the same time it was released to the public. Therefore, we kindly ask for your patience as our staff thoroughly reviews this detailed guidance and implements the suggestions into our district's own transition plan.

Marion Community Unit School District #2 is keenly aware of the urgent need to communicate to families about what to expect next school year and anticipate releasing our own transition plan by July 31st.

Summer preparation work will continue, and Return to School Teams will review the new ISBE guidance document and make recommendations for Marion CUSD #2. This guidance will accelerate those conversations, and I'm confident our district can put forth a plan that prioritizes the health and safety of our students and staff while maintaining a dynamic learning environment.

Thank you again for your patience, understanding, and flexibility as our entire district navigates a situation together that none of us could have imagined.

Please continue to check the Marion Unit #2 homepage for the most up to date information. In the meantime, stay safe and enjoy the remainder of the summer.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Dr. Keith Oates
Superintendent