

# Marion Community Schools Superintendent has message for public

By Dr. Brad Lindsay

My leadership philosophy as a superintendent is to always be promoting, communicating, publishing, marketing and celebrating significant highlights of the good that is happening in our schools and the greater community in which my family and I live and serve.

Continuing to build collaborative relationships in our community is key. Opportunity abounds. The school's success is the city's success, and vice versa. Together we can continue to make good happen for the people of Marion.

Some of our impactful partnerships include:

The CSA Arts Academy, our exclusive partnership with Marion Community School of the Arts to provide pre-professional arts training

Kinwell Academy  
Kids Hope (a partnership with several local churches, including College Wesleyan Church)  
MRCC Aviation Academy (partnership of Marion Regional Career Center, City of Marion, Marion Municipal Airport, and Indiana Wesleyan University)  
Marion High School



## Alumni Association

Grow Nurses (partnership of Marion Regional Career Center and Indiana Wesleyan University)

Credits Count (partnership between Marion Community Schools, Ivy Tech Community College, and the American Electric Power (AEP) Foundation)

As I enter my ninth year as superintendent of Marion Community Schools, we are intentionally engaged in building up and promoting our Marion brand and our story, the distinctions of excellence that make Marion Community Schools unique and special.

We are proud of the exciting learning opportunities we are providing to our students and the successes our students have experienced, despite all of the challenges.

My time as superintendent of Marion Community Schools has helped reinforce my understanding that public education has a responsibility to embrace and wisely serve all the

children of all the people.

We intend for all our students to graduate life ready, and to accomplish this we must be intentional to ensure equity and access for every student. We will continue to commit to inclusive excellence, meeting the needs and preferences of all our students and families.

We want every student to become expert at something by the time they graduate. We want our Giants to have a choice in their own future. It is our mission to provide our students the experiences to be college-, career- and life-ready.

What is good for the schools is good for the community, and what is good for the community is good for the schools. Working in collaboration to share and multiply local resources increases ownership, builds relationships and makes better happen for people. All of this makes a community an attractive place for people to live, serve and play.

We have solidified existing partnerships and engaged new partners as well. Schools are the academic and economic engine of the community, but they are also an integral part of the social events of the community. We embrace

these roles and seek to build up our entire community through our work within our schools.

We have also engaged our community by leveraging alumni connections and building a productive and profitable relationship with the Marion High School Alumni Association. We also honor notable alumni every year through the Marion High School Hall of Distinction.

During my time in Marion I have found the community is eager to be informed of results worthy of celebration. We have worked to restore community pride in our schools and to spread the word about the increasingly excellent opportunities available through Marion Community Schools.

We have prioritized open and consistent communication with our staff, families and community. We provide weekly updates on the Giant Talk radio program, and there is

always a steady stream of updates here on our website.

We consistently strive to place our students and families at the center of our efforts. We will continue to consistently champion Marion Community Schools so everyone understands the good and the compelling why of what is going on. We have seen families drawn to our schools because of this, reversing decades long steep decline in enrollment due to a declining population.

During the past year, easily the most difficult of our collective experience, we have been out front in our community, providing constantly updated and relevant information to our community regarding the pandemic, how the schools were responding, and how we were committed to maintaining learning opportunities for our students throughout.

Meeting the needs of students, staff, and fami-

lies is our priority, and we will continue to engage our community to gauge the most pressing needs and how we can leverage our resources to meet them.

I am proud of the way our school principals, district leadership, faculty and staff continuously step up to meet needs in our community.

And while these pandemic years have been extraordinary, this has been our philosophy every day: Consistent, truthful communication, focused on the team, day-in, day-out.

I consider it essential to cheer on and celebrate our students and staff and help create positive experiences and memories to last a lifetime, inspiring Marion Community Schools Giant Pride 365! believe our best is yet to come.

*Dr. Brad Lindsay is superintendent of Marion Community Schools*

## Handgun permits now free in Indiana

As of July 1, handgun permits are now free in the state of Indiana.

Here are the step-by-step instruction on how Hoosiers can apply for a handgun permit today, according to the Grant County Sheriff's Department:

Go to [www.in.gov/isp](http://www.in.gov/isp).  
Click on FIREARM LICENSING at the top of the page.  
Click on CLICK HERE TO READ MORE under where it says NEW FIREARMS LICENSE APPLICATION PROCESS.

Under step 1, click BEGIN YOUR APPLICATION ONLINE.  
Click on APPLY NOW. Fill in your information and click NEXT.

Check the box in the top left-hand corner if you have entered all information to be true to the best of your knowledge and click NEXT.

Write down the applica-



tion number the program gives you and click CONTINUE.

Continue entering your information on the next few pages, including choosing the type of permit for which you wish to apply.

Verify your email address is correct when asked.

Continue entering more personal information.

Answer all of the criminal history questions and click CONTINUE.

Review all the information you have entered to be sure it is correct.

Next, all applicants MUST make an appointment for fingerprinting. To make an appointment for fingerprinting, click

ONLINE SCHEDULING. Make sure you go through all the steps to schedule your appointment. Unless you see at the top of the page that your appointment is scheduled, you have not completed the appointment process.

If you choose to pay your fingerprint fee (\$12.95) online, continue to enter your payment information.

If you choose to pay on-site, bring a money order made payable to IDEMIA for your fingerprint fee when you come to the Grant County Sheriff's Department.

After completing your fingerprinting, you will go to your local police agency. If you live out in the county and not in any cities limits, you will go to the Grant County Sheriff's Department. If you live in the city limits of any town in Grant County, you will continue onto your cities police station.

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