



Marian Central Catholic
High School
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Marian Connection



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Welcome to 2014-15...

The administration, faculty, and staff extend our welcome to all students and parents as we begin the 2014-15 school year. In addition to all returning students, we extend a special welcome to transfer students and to the students who make up Marian Central's Class of 2018 and their parents. This edition of the *Marian Connection* parent newsletter is the first of four that will be published during the school year. The other editions will be published in October, January, and April. All editions will be posted on the school's web site. We will send notifications to you to inform you when new editions are posted on our site. The purpose of our newsletter is to keep you informed about what is going on at the school so that you can take an active role in our many programs. We also send letters and other email messages to parents when special announcements warrant it and post major events on our web site. We encourage parents to participate not only through attendance at the various student activities but also to get involved in the numerous parent activities that will take place. The next communication to all parents will be sent by snail mail late in the week of August 4th and will contain students' schedules for the 2014-15 school year.

During the summer we have been busy with physical plant preparations for the upcoming school year. In addition to the annual cleaning and floor waxing that takes place in the classrooms and hallways, this summer we have remodeled the cafeteria from floor to ceiling, removed the bleachers in the auxiliary gymnasium, had new bleachers which meet today's safety code installed, and we replaced the parking lot and exterior building lighting with energy efficient LED fixtures. We have added new servers and an additional internet service provider which will allow for student access to technology driven information using school provided and personal devices, added iPads in the library/learning center as well as replacing and adding new technology equipment in several of the academic department classrooms. With the original portion of the building being over fifty years old, we continuously install upgrades and replacements as a part of the general maintenance of our buildings. In addition, with our campus comprised of over fifty acres, the athletic fields as well as lawns and shrubbery require regular attention in order to continue to provide the environmental qualities of a first-class Catholic high school. These facility and equipment upgrades and additions are a result of the implementation of the recommendations that were contained in the *Transitioning to the 20's* strategic long-range plan that was developed in 2013-14 and approved by the school's Council of Administration in April, 2013. You can find a link to the report of all of the recommendations contained in that report on the [Parents page](#) of our web site. Many other physical plant replacements and upgrades as well as program modifications and additions will be forthcoming in the next few years as the school continues implementing these recommendations.

Staffing Additions & Changes for 2014-15

We anticipate overall enrollment increase to over 720 students in the 2014-15 school year. This increase coupled with the strategic planning that has taken place will result in some personnel adjustments in the new year. Administratively, Mrs. Barbara Villont will be the Director of Academics & Personnel and Mr. Charles Rakers will be the Director of Activities/Dean of Students. Mrs. Casey Veitch will teach one-half time in the English Department and will also serve as the instructional technology facilitator. We have hired a new teacher in the English Department, Ms. Kasey Gallagher. Other new teachers include Mrs. Elaine Krause who will be teaching Spanish, Ms. Elyse Slezak who will teach French and Spanish and Mr. Brad Williams who will be teaching in the Social Sciences Department.

Handbooks & School Calendars

The 2014-15 *Student Handbook* and *Athletic Handbook* are posted on the school web site. You can access them by clicking on *Forms and Handbooks* on the front page. These handbooks contain Marian's rules, regulations and student as well as parent expectations and obligations. A *Student Planner* and date book will be distributed to all students during the first week of the school year. The 2014-15 abbreviated calendar which shows all of the early dismissals and school holidays can also be accessed from the front page of our website. Our calendar of non-athletic activities – co-curricular, academic, spiritual, etc. – that take place each day is accessible by clicking on the [calendar](#) on the front page of the website. The athletic calendar of contests, practices, etc. can be accessed from the *Athletics* page of our website. We remind you and your students that regular daily attendance is important as interruptions to the educational process are detrimental to academic progress. We encourage you to review the revised Council of Administration policy pertaining to missing school for family vacations, trips, and non-school sponsored student activities. This policy can be found on page 19 of the *Student Handbook*. We draw your attention in particular to the section pertaining to missing school the weeks of quarter and semester exams. We strongly encourage families who are planning any family vacations or other trips during the school year to schedule them during regular school breaks.



Pace and School Bus Transportation

There will be Pace bus service within McHenry County (Route 808 between Harvard and Woodstock and between Crystal Lake and Woodstock; and 807 between McHenry and Woodstock) available again this year. Information about Pace bus schedules, maps and costs are available at www.pacebus.com. Once there, search by Landmarks and then select Marian Central Catholic. This bus service will begin on Wednesday, August 20th.

Marian has once again contracted with Durham School Bus Service to operate four buses to and three from school each day. The cost options are the same as last year and are as follows: Annual pass – \$650; and Single Ride – one-way - \$3.00. The Single Ride pass is available on a 20-ride, \$60 ticket. Passes are available for purchase from the bookkeeper. Students must have an annual bus-ride pass which they will show to the driver or a 20 bus-ride ticket that the driver will punch out each ride. Information regarding routes, pick-up points, and time schedules is available by clicking on Transportation on the front page of our website. Durham Bus Company will be servicing Marian from its Harvard office. Should you need to contact them, their telephone number is (815) 943-7060.

School bus service to and from Marian is also available to families living within Woodstock School District 200. For information regarding this service contact the District Transportation Office at (815) 338-4777.

Freshman Orientation

Freshman Orientation will be held on Wednesday, August 20th. Buses will operate on this day. Freshmen are reminded to dress according to the August uniform/dress code. The orientation day will begin at 8:00 AM and conclude at 2:30 PM. Further information about this day will be included in a mailing that will be sent to freshman families in the next few days.

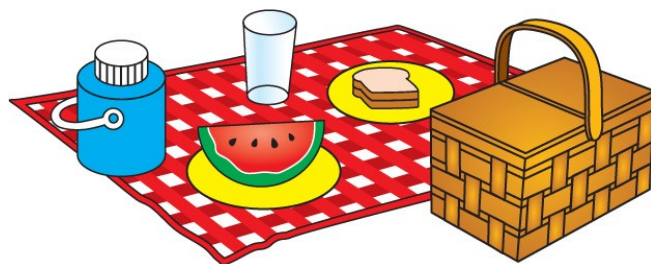
Forget those first day jitters! You will feel a part of Marian from the very first day with our Mentor Program. The Mentor Program consists of Juniors and Seniors who are selected to assist in welcoming Freshman and transfer students to Marian. Students are assigned a Mentor to help ease the transition into high school and create positive and meaningful connections throughout the school year.

Join Us for the Annual Freshman Parent/Student Welcome Picnic

We invite all freshmen and their parents to attend the Freshman Student/Parent Welcome Picnic scheduled on Wednesday, August 20th at 6:00 PM. This picnic will take place in the school cafeteria. This complimentary event is designed to provide freshmen students and their parents an opportunity to meet and socialize with other freshmen families. During the meal, staff members will address parents and students regarding the operation of the school and provide information about parent activities. All freshmen and their parents are encouraged to attend this one hour event.

Cafeteria Service

Hot lunches as well as a-la-carte and snack bar selections are available in the cafeteria each school day. The cost of the hot lunch meal is \$3.75. A-la-carte and snack bar items are priced individually. Menus are accessible by clicking on *Cafeteria Menu* on the *Student Life* page of our website. Please be aware of the fact that students are only allowed to purchase items from the cafeteria using our debit card system. Students will use their ID cards to access their accounts for the purpose of making purchases. Information about the MealTime debit system was provided in our June mailing.



Freshman Health Examinations

The State of Illinois requires that all freshmen have a complete physical examination. Certain immunizations are also required. Marian Council of Administration policy stipulates that at the start of a given school year, no student will be allowed to begin practice for a fall sport until the official Illinois Health Examination form is turned in to the school. Freshmen participating in a fall sport may turn them in to the Athletic Director at the August parent/athlete meeting or to the school office at any time. All athletes, as well as cheerleaders, dance team, bass fishing, lacrosse and fencing team members are subject to this requirement. All other freshmen and transfer students are likewise obligated to present to the school office the official Illinois Health Examination form. This form must be completely filled out, signed, dated, and include an indication that the student is fully protected and in compliance with all required immunizations. After the end of the 1st academic quarter, any student who has not complied with this policy will be excluded from all classes and activities until s/he complies. Any student who transfers in to Marian during the school year is obligated to comply with this health examination requirement within three weeks of the date of enrollment. Failure to do so will result in exclusion from all classes and activities until the student complies. All students should have their examination forms, but, if not, the forms can be downloaded clicking on [Forms and Handbooks](#) on the front page of our website. The completed freshman health examination and immunizations form fulfills the sports physical exam requirement.

Parent Connect/ Gradebook

In an effort to assist parents in keeping track of their student's academic achievement, Marian Central provides parents and students access to grades in progress throughout each grading period. This online grade book is accessible from the front page of the school's website by clicking on View Grades. In order to access the grade book, you will need to enter your student's ID number and a password. Families of those students who were enrolled in the 2013-14 school year will use the same password that was used last year. Freshmen and transfer students will be provided with the passwords you must use initially to access this grade book. These passwords will be sent in the student schedule mailing.

Remember to keep your student's passwords in a safe place—you will access them frequently.

Parent Emergency Notification System

Marian uses a parent mass notification system (Connect Ed). This system allows us to quickly deliver information to our school families in the event of emergency closings, important information newly posted on our web site, and other significant information. The system provides for either or both telephone and email notifications. We use the phone numbers and email addresses you provided to us on the "Emergency Notification Form" you submitted at the time you made your tuition down payment.

School Books & Supplies

By now, families should have purchased their textbooks at our June used book sale night, from other Marian families, or from MBS, our online bookstore, accessed by clicking on *Bookstore* on the *Student Life* page of our website. We still have used texts available for sale in the school office. A list of available texts can be accessed on our website. Students are expected to have their texts on the first day of classes. Students are to purchase notebooks, paper, pencils, pens, etc. at stores of your choice.



ID Cards & School Pictures

The school will issue temporary ID cards to freshman and transfer students on orientation day. Pictures for permanent ID cards for these students will be taken on orientation day as well. DeWane Studio will take school yearbook pictures and package pictures for purchase in September and October. Senior portraits will be taken here at the school on September 29th & 30th or can be scheduled at DeWane Studio by calling (815) 338-1880. Pictures for freshmen, sophomores, and juniors will be taken on October 16th.



Student/Parent Directory

Our *Student/Parent Directory* will be published in early September and we plan to mail it to families in late September. We intend to include the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of all of our families in the directory. If for some reason you do not want some or all of these items included for your family, you must notify our school secretary, Mrs. Weber, of that fact by August 31st and we will honor your directive. Mrs. Weber can be reached at ext. 107 or via e-mail at lweber@marian.com. If we do not hear from you by this date, we will be including all of the aforementioned information for your family. You will be receiving a directory for each student you have enrolled.

Did you know....

Prior to October 15th and after April 15th, all students are required to wear the school uniform polo shirt. These shirts are available in red, white, and blue and have the Hurricane logo embroidered in the pocket area. For more information regarding uniforms, check out the student handbook.

Student Schedules/Course Changes

As mentioned, student schedules for the 2014-15 school year will be sent to families by regular mail late in the week of August 4th. Due to the fact that our scheduling and staff needs have been based upon the students' original registration, course changes will be made only in those cases where it is possible within the framework of the total school curriculum. If it is necessary to request a course change, Mrs. Rebecca Reed, the Director of Guidance and Counseling, will be available in the guidance office beginning August 4th to consider such requests.

Library/Media/Technology Center

The school library/media/technology center is available for student use throughout the school year under the supervision of the Librarian and her assistant. Hours are from 7:45 AM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Thursday and from 7:45 AM to 3:00 PM on Fridays. The center contains a computer lab for student and staff use. All computers are monitored with an internet filtering device. Students must first have signed the school's computer use agreement form to be eligible to use the school's computer equipment. This form is distributed in the first week of school to students new to Marian to take home for parent and student signatures.

School & P.E. Uniforms

All freshmen and any other students new to Marian should have ordered and received their school uniform attire as well as physical education shirts and shorts from Dennis Uniform Company. You can access Dennis Uniform Company by clicking on *Uniforms* on the *Parent's* page of our website. All students are obligated to dress in accord with the uniform/dress code on the first day of classes. Dennis Uniform Company is the exclusive school authorized provider of uniform apparel for our students.

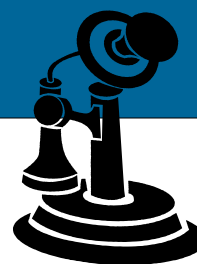
Back to School Night

The Annual "Back-to-School Night" has been scheduled on Wednesday, September 17th. The evening will begin at 7:00 PM in the main gymnasium. On that evening you will have an opportunity to go through your student's schedule on an abbreviated basis and find out what the expectations are for the courses from each of your student's teachers. There will be a social with refreshments at the end of the evening so you will have an opportunity to meet and visit with each of your student's teachers as well as other parents.



Parents:

*Please call in
student absences
to the
attendance
hotline at
(815) 338-4220
ext. 299
by 9:30 a.m.*



Mass is celebrated daily at 2:45 p.m. in the Chapel.
All students, faculty and parents are invited to attend.



**Fall Sports
Practice
begin
August
13th, 2014**

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT INFORMATION

All athletes, including cheerleading, dance, bass fishing, lacrosse and fencing members, **must turn in a completed physical form, emergency form, insurance waiver/handbook agreement form, the IHSA steroid/drug testing consent form, and the IHSA concussion information form before they will be allowed to participate in their team's practices.** Freshman physicals, which include the necessary immunizations information for enrollment, will also suffice for athletics.

Parent Athlete Meeting

Prospective athletes planning on participating in a fall sport and at least one parent/guardian must attend the athletic department meeting scheduled on Monday, August 11th at 7:00 PM. In accord with Illinois High School Association rules and regulations, the first practice date for football is Monday, August 11th and all other fall sports is Wednesday, August 13th. Practice times for the various teams will be posted on the athletic department calendar as they are finalized.

Family Athletic Passes

Family athletic passes entitling the bearer and his/her spouse and children below high school age admittance to all home regular season athletic events in the 2014-15 school year are on sale in the school office. The cost of the Family Athletic Pass is \$130. Regular game-night admission for athletic contests is \$5.00 for adults, \$3.00 for high school students and senior citizens, and \$2.00 for elementary school students.



Watch the Marian
web site for
upcoming tryouts
and
practice dates!



Did You Know....

Prior to the start of the practice season, all athletes **MUST** turn in the following four forms to the office: Physical Examination, Emergency Notification, Insurance waiver/Handbook agreement and student information, IHSA steroid/drug testing consent and IHSA concussion information. For more information check out the Marian Athletic Handbook which can be accessed by clicking on the [Athletics](#) tab on our web site.

Calendar of Events

ABBREVIATED CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Calendars of all events can be found on the school website

Aug	11	Mon	Football Practices Begin
			Fall Sports Parent/Athlete Meeting; 7:00 PM – Main Gymnasium
	13	Wed	Fall Sports Practices for all other Sports Begin
	18	Mon	Faculty Institute
	19	Tue	Faculty Institute
	20	Wed	Freshman Orientation; 8:00 AM – 2:30 PM Freshman Parent/Student Welcome Picnic; 6:00 PM
	21	Thu	First Full Day of Classes
	26	Tue	Parent Organization Executive Board Meeting; 6:30 PM; Annex Alumni Board Meeting; 7:00 PM; Annex
	29	Fri	All School Mass; 8:55 AM
Sept	1	Mon	Labor Day; No School; Office Closed
	2	Tue	Parents Association Meeting; 7:00 PM; Annex
	8	Mon	Fine Arts Boosters Meeting; 3:30 PM; Annex
	12	Fri	All School Mass; 8:55 AM
	17	Wed	12:00 PM Dismissal; PM Teacher Inservice Back To School Night; 7:00 PM
	22	Mon	Homecoming Week
	23	Tue	Mid-Term Grades Posted
	26	Fri	All School Mass; 8:55 AM Alumni Board Meeting; 6:00 PM; Annex Homecoming Football Games vs. Joliet Catholic
	27	Sat	Homecoming Dance; 7:30 - 10:30 PM
	29	Mon	Senior Girls Pictures
	30	Tue	Senior Boys Pictures
Oct	4	Sat	National Honor Society Inductions; 7:00 PM
	6	Mon	Fall Play Parent/Participant Meeting; 7:00 PM Fine Arts Boosters Meeting; 7:30 PM
	7	Tue	Sophomore Class Mass; 10:45 AM
	8	Wed	Junior Class Mass; 10:45 AM
	9	Thu	Senior Class Mass; 10:45 AM
	10	Fri	Freshman Class Retreat
	13	Mon	Columbus Day; No School; Office Closed
	14	Tue	Teacher Institute; No Classes Annual Fund Phonathon through the 16 th
	15	Wed	PSAT & Aspire Tests; 12:30 PM Dismissal College Visit Day – Seniors
	16	Thu	Underclassmen Pictures
	17	Fri	All School Mass; 8:55 AM; Grandparents Invited
	18	Sat	Fathers' Club All Night Bingo
	21	Tue	Annual Fund Phonathon through the 22 nd
	23	Thu	Quarter Exams – Periods 1, 3, 7, & 9
	24	Fri	Quarter Exams – Periods 2, 4-6 & 8; 10:40 AM Dismissal

Development Efforts for 2014-15

Our parents are the foundation of our development efforts. All parents should involve themselves in one or more of the fundraising activities scheduled during the year. The school does not sponsor numerous small fundraising activities that become a nuisance to many parents. Rather, there will be four fundraising activities sponsored by Marian in 2014-15: 1) the Annual Fund appeal administered in the fall by our Development Office which is both a mail solicitation and a phonathon follow up to those families who do not participate in the mail effort; 2) the Annual Dinner Auction scheduled on Saturday, March 14th, 2015 administered by our Development Office; 3) the Thursday night and biannual all night bingo programs operated by our Fathers Club; and 4) the June golf outing which supports our athletic program and is administered by our Development Office. We have set financial goals for each of these functions – the Annual Fund goal is \$125,000; the March Dinner Auction goal will be \$70,000; the bingo program goal will be \$60,000; and the June golf outing goal will be \$27,500. Our Development Director, Mrs. Mary Ann Martinez, has put together a “Volunteer Needs List” which will be sent to parents in a separate mailing. You are encouraged to fill it out and return it to the school office. We believe based on feedback received from parents in the past, that the more you involve yourself in the many school activities, the greater the level of satisfaction you will experience with your student’s education here at Marian. In addition, the greater the level of parent participation in these four fund raising efforts, the greater the likelihood of exceeding the financial goals. In September, the Development Office will be sending out specific information about these programs to all parents as well as how the school will use the funds that are generated. Also in September we will be sending out our 2013-14 *Annual Report* which will contain the names of all constituents who contributed to the success of last year’s fund raising efforts. As in the past, any fund raising effort sponsored by the school is to be accompanied by an explanation by a school official. If there is no such letter, cover sheet, etc., it isn’t authorized. The only advertising solicitations for athletics would be for any IHSA state tournament series events in which Marian teams will be taking part. In such a case, a letter must accompany any solicitation from our Athletic Director authorizing the solicitation and explaining the event.



THE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE NEEDS YOU!!

There are many ways to help!

ANNUAL FUND PHONATHON CALLER

Proceeds fund tuition assistance for qualifying families

Please circle a date you can help

Calling Nights October 21, 22, 23, 28, 29

Calling is done in the Annex Building from 6:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Very easy, no homework, training provided

DINNER AUCTION 3/14/15

Like last year, the casual event will be held at the school to benefit tuition assistance. The night will include lots of fun and food at an affordable ticket price.

Please check your area of interest

- ☐ **Office Tasks** – stuffing, filing, labeling, name tags, etc. (Feb.-Mar.)
- ☐ **Invites** - assemble at home (Dec-Jan)
- ☐ **Invites** - addressing at school (late Jan.)
- ☐ **Decorations** – prep work (Feb-Mar) set up 3/13-3/14
- ☐ **Silent Auction Items** – merchandise, services, wine, gift cards
- ☐ **Live Auction Items** – trips, unique parties/dinners, sports items
- ☐ **Basket Prep** – assemble and wrap the donations (Jan.-Mar. as needed)
- ☐ **Set Up** on 3/13, 9 – 1 p.m.
- ☐ **Set Up** on 3/14, 9 – 1 p.m.
- ☐ **Work Event** – need 50 people working 5 – 11 p.m. on 3/14
- ☐ **Bar Assistant** – sell drink tickets, assist bartender, restock runner, on 3/14
- ☐ **Take Down** on 3/14, after 10 p.m.
- ☐ **Where ever you need me**

Turn in to the main office,
call the Development Office at 815-338-4220 ext.125,
or e-mail: mamartinez@marian.com

Name _____
Email _____
Phone/Cell Phone _____

From the Marian Central Parents Association

A new school year will soon be upon us. We hope you have been enjoying the summer. We look forward to working with returning families and meeting new families. Your help is always needed and valued for the many events during the school year.

The MCPA is an organization chartered by the school and its mission is to provide hands-on support to the school administration for the various activities throughout the school year. All of the Marian parents are members of the MCPA and we encourage everyone to get involved. The MCPA officers for the 2014-2015 school year are:

President	Patty Corn
Vice President	Amber Nicholson
Secretary	Donna Ridenour
Treasurer	Linda Snell

For the returning families, we look forward to and appreciate your assistance. For all of the new families, please consider joining us this year to learn how you can help make the school activities successful for our children. The activities for this school year are as follows:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| - Back to School Night | - Homecoming Events |
| - Faculty Luncheon | - Open House |
| - St. Nicholas Day | - Catholic Schools Week |
| - Freshman/8th Grade Activity Night | - Post Prom |
| - Senior Breakfast | - Baccalaureate Mass & Graduation |

The MCPA meetings are scheduled for September 2, 2014, November 4, 2014, December 2, 2014, February 2, 2015, April 7, 2015, and May 5, 2015. All meetings are at 7:00 P.M. in the Annex Building. We encourage you to attend to meet new people and to lend a hand in helping with the events.

Find out more information about the MCPA when you attend the Freshman Picnic on Wednesday, August 20, 2014. We will have a table available for you to meet our organization's members.

If you have any questions, please contact any of the officers. We look forward to a terrific 2014-2015 school year.

Marian Central Fine Arts Boosters



Welcome to Marian Central Catholic High School Fine Arts Boosters. We would like to invite you to attend our meetings, learn about our organization and have fun. This organization provides a wonderful and easy way to get involved in your child(ren)'s school and allows you the opportunity to meet other parents at the same time! We are happy to welcome new and returning parents to the Fine Arts Boosters.

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

During the year, we are involved in a variety of activities such as:

TRI-M Inductions (NOV.): Parent volunteers needed to help serve refreshments in the auditorium commons.

Fall Play (NOV.): Parent volunteers needed to organize the cast/crew dinner at school, sell flowers and serve refreshments at the performances and put together a photo board of the cast and crew. Other activities include helping with costumes, makeup, set building, and providing snacks during tech week.

Christmas Band & Choral Concerts (DEC.): Parents needed to serve refreshments at the concerts. Other activities include helping size the uniforms for the kids. (This is usually done in October).

Spring Musical (FEB.): The activities for this are the same as the Fall Play, but a lot more help is needed for this event because it has many more student participants and takes place over two weekends.

Variety Show (APR): Parents needed to organize the cast/crew dinner at school & serve refreshments at the performance, and providing snacks for tech week. Other activities may include helping the teacher coordinator with rehearsals & backstage chaperone.

Fine Arts Awards & Thespian Honor Induction (MAY): Parents needed to serve refreshments.

Spring Band & Choral Concerts and Awards (MAY): The activities for this are the same as the Christmas concerts. The re-sizing of the uniforms (if needed) will be in March.

To learn more about our organization & the services we provide, please attend the meetings and/or call: Marie Ellen Hull @ 847-658-5652. The first meeting is September 8 at 3:30 PM in the Annex. If you are unable to attend and you want to be kept informed, you can give us your e-mail address and we can e-mail you the meeting minutes.

Thank you for your support!