



Marian Central Catholic
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Marian Connection



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Marian Students Excel on Tests!

ACT Results

Recently the *Northwest Herald* newspaper published a story and a listing of the Class of 2014 composite ACT scores for each of the high school's in McHenry County. Marian's Class of 2014 was once again the highest of the schools in the county. The mean composite score for the members of the Class of 2014 was 24.8 compared to the state average of 20.7 and the national average of 21.0. The ACT includes four separate exams in English, Reading, Mathematics and Science. In English, Marian students scored 25.5 compared to 20.3 and 20.3 state and national averages, respectively. In Mathematics, Marian students scored 23.3 compared to 20.7 and 20.9 state and national averages. In Reading, Marian students scored 25.3 compared to 20.8 and 21.3, and in Science, Marian students scored 24.4 compared to 20.5 and 20.8 state and national averages. We will be posting all of the area high school ACT scores on our web site after October 31st.

National Merit & National Achievement Competition

Each year the juniors take the PSAT test during the month of October. The results from this test determine those students who qualify for recognition in the National Merit Scholarship competition. Marian senior Nicole Blase has been named a semi-finalist and senior Michael Morphew has been named a commended student in this competition. The pool of



semifinalists represents less than one percent of seniors throughout the nation. To qualify for commended student recognition, students must have scored among the nation's top 5 percent of high school seniors. Semifinalists have an opportunity to continue in the competition for approximately 8,200 achievement scholarship awards worth more than \$36 million. Congratulations to these seniors on their achievements in this most prestigious competition!



Family Directory

You should have recently received your 2014-15 Family Directory. In addition to family contact information, it contains the telephone extensions and email addresses of our staff members to assist you in communicating with us. The directory also contains the names and contact information of our various parent support group officers.

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Monday and Tuesday, November 3rd and 4th, are the dates on which Parent/Teacher conferences will be held. On Monday the 3rd, conference times will be 12:00 until 4:00 PM and from 5:00 until 8:00 PM. On Tuesday the 4th, conference times are 3:00 until 7:00 PM. There are no classes scheduled on these two days. You will schedule the day and the time you will meet with teachers you have selected for conferences online using a link on our school web site. Instructions about how and when parents do this online scheduling were recently sent to parents.

8th Grade Visit Day, Open House & Placement Test

On Friday, November 21st, we will bus all 8th graders from the county Catholic schools to Marian for the annual 8th grade visit day. **Eighth graders who currently attend other schools can participate on this day as well.** We ask parents of students who attend public and other private schools to call the school prior to the visit day so that we can plan for these students to be in attendance as well. The annual Open House for all prospective students and their parents is scheduled on Sunday, November 23rd from 1:00 to 3:00 PM. The placement test for 8th graders who plan to attend Marian as freshmen in the fall of 2015 will be administered on Saturday, January 10th, 2015 at 8:15 AM. If you are aware of junior high students who are interested in the possibility of attending Marian or their parents and who want to find out more about our school, please encourage them to attend these events. Parents are among the best ambassadors the school has in encouraging other families to become a part of the Marian family.

1st Quarter Exams

First quarter exams will be administered on Thursday and Friday, October 23rd and 24th. Students will take exams for classes scheduled during periods 1, 3, 7, & 9 on Thursday and periods 2, 4-6, & 8 on Friday. On Thursday, October 23rd all classes will meet and school will be dismissed at the regular dismissal time of 2:30 PM. On Friday, October 24th there is an early dismissal at 10:40 AM following the last exam.



United in Faith Distribution



Marian recently received a check in the amount of \$25,055.18 as its share of the distribution from the Rockford Diocesan United in Faith Catholic Schools Endowment. This endowment provides funds to each of the Catholic schools in the diocese from investment earnings. The endowment was established several years ago as a part of a diocesan wide campaign.

Emergency Closings

While it is still October and the weather is fall like, we are preparing for winter and the possibility of having to close school due to inclement weather. Should such a day(s) occur this upcoming winter, you will be notified by phone and email through our Emergency Notification System. Therefore, on any school day that you have not received such a notification, you can assume school is in session. Any closings will also be announced on the "Emergency Closing Center" web site which can be accessed from the "parents" page on our school web site. As winter weather arrives, we ask students and parents to plan ahead, leave home earlier and assume additional driving time to get to school in the mornings so that students will arrive at school before 8:00 AM.

Early Dismissal and School Vacation Days

Families are reminded of the following early dismissal and school vacation days: October – Monday, the 13th is Columbus Day – there will be no school; Tuesday, the 14th is a faculty institute day – no classes will be held on this day; Wednesday, the 15th we will be administering the ASPIRE and PSAT standardized tests to the freshmen, sophomores, and juniors with an early dismissal following the conclusion of the tests at 11:45 AM; seniors will not be in attendance on this day as it has been designated as a college visit day for them; Friday, the 24th, is the end of the first quarter with dismissal after the last exam at 10:40 AM. November – Monday and Tuesday, the 3rd and 4th, we have parent/teacher conferences scheduled – no classes on these days; Friday, the 21st is the 8th grade visit day and institute, thus no classes; Wednesday, the 26th school will be dismissed one hour early – 1:30 PM; Thursday & Friday, the 27th and 28th there will be no school and the office will be closed for Thanksgiving vacation. December – Friday, the 19th school will be dismissed for Christmas vacation at 12:00 PM; there is no school on Monday, the 22nd through Friday, January 2nd. January – school resumes on Monday, the 5th; semester exams are scheduled on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, the 14th, 15th and 16th; school will be dismissed at 10:35 AM on the 14th and 16th and at 11:50 AM on the 15th; Monday, the 19th there is no school on Martin Luther King Day. Durham buses depart 10 minutes after dismissal time on all early dismissal days. PACE bus transportation is only available at 2:40 PM including early dismissal days.



Family Vacation Policy

With quarter exam week scheduled later this month, please note the following statement from page 19 of the Student Handbook relative to missing school for vacations and other trips. *“Regular daily attendance is important at Marian Central Catholic High School. Interruptions to the educational process are detrimental to a student's academic progress. Marian Central does not advocate students missing school. However, a student who anticipates being absent for a vacation, trip or for family/personal purposes must present notification of that intent to the Director of Activities/Dean of Students. Such parent-written notice must be presented a minimum of one week in advance of the planned vacation/trip or family/personal purpose stating the days he/she will be missing school. The student bears the responsibility for all work missed during the time of his/her absence. All students are expected to be in attendance the weeks of quarter and semester exams. The school will excuse absences during these weeks for the following reasons only:*

- Illness on the part of the student
- Serious illness or death in the immediate family
- A major family event such as a wedding, graduation or some similar major event
- A request for absence approved by the Director of Activities/Dean of Students

In the event a student is excused from school the day(s) of quarter or semester exams, in no case will the student be allowed to take his/her exams prior to the scheduled administration of those exams.”



School Pictures

DeWane Studios will be here at Marian on Thursday, October 16th to take pictures of all underclassmen. These are the pictures that will appear in the yearbook and families can also purchase copies. Picture order forms were included in the recent mailing.

I-CAN Catholic Advocacy Network

You have a voice – we encourage all families to become involved in advocating for or against state and federal legislation that affects Catholic schools and the Catholic church. The Catholic Conference of Illinois has established a grass roots advocacy email network for families to stay updated on legislative matters affecting the Church. The I-CAN Network also provides suggested letters regarding these matters that families who belong to the network can forward to their local legislators urging them to support or defeat identified pieces of legislation. We urge all Marian parents to become involved in expressing your opinions regarding Church related legislation. See the following link regarding how to get involved in this “You Have A Voice” program.

[Click here to find out how to get involved in this “You Have A Voice” program.](#)



Asbestos Management

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency oversees federal law regulating asbestos containing building materials in schools. The Diocese of Rockford provides directives to its schools regarding the management of asbestos as it pertains to this law. Marian Central complies with Diocesan requirements by maintaining an asbestos management plan. See the following link regarding the plan:

[Click this link to view the letter](#)

Safe Environment

Marian Central strives to maintain a safe environment – for students and for staff. We lock our exterior doors each school day and have a buzzer and camera system to allow controlled access to visitors. We have security cameras monitoring entrances and hallways. Staff members supervise during class periods, passing periods, and lunch periods. We strive to have minimal distractions so that we can focus on our primary purpose – teaching and learning. We have contracted with Interquest Detection Canines of Chicagoland to provide detection services again this year for our school. This program involves having a trained dog periodically and randomly come to our school during the academic day to conduct facility and grounds searches. Searches include hallways, lockers, the parking lot, etc. Our goal is to keep narcotics/drugs, alcohol, and other contraband out of our building and off of our grounds. The searches will also detect prescriptions and over-the-counter medications which can be used illegally and/or inappropriately. This program is conducted in such a way that it is not disruptive to the normal activities of the school day. It is done as a part of our effort to provide a safe environment for our students and staff.

Development / Fundraising Efforts

Marian's Council of Administration has specified that the school conducts only four major fund raising activities so that parents and other supporters of the school are not continuously badgered with financial appeals. The four approved activities include: a) the annual fund appeal; b) the dinner auction; c) the golf outing benefit; and d) the Fathers Club bingo program. Contributions to these efforts are tax deductible and help us keep our tuition and fee charges at reasonable levels. Families should have recently received the school's Annual Report of operations for the 2013-14 fiscal year. In that report, we identified the results of last year's operations as well as the results of the four fund raising efforts. In addition, we identified where the proceeds from the fund raisers are being used in this year's operating budget and the importance of those efforts in supporting our programs. While we conduct these fund raisers each year, our practice has been to use the proceeds the following fiscal year so that we do not depend on fund raising for current year operations. The following information pertains to the first two of this year's efforts:

Annual Fund Appeal

The 2014-15 Annual Fund appeal is currently well underway. This effort includes both a mail and a phone solicitation conducted by our Development Office. We thank all of the Steering Committee members, volunteers and donors who have participated thus far with this effort especially John & Cathy Tinkham and Matt & Becky Walker who are this year's Co-General Chairpersons. Our goal for the Annual Fund is twofold: 1) to strive to achieve 100% participation by all Marian families; and 2) to reach our goal of \$120,000 by June 30, 2015. If you have not yet made a pledge to this appeal, we encourage you to do so soon. The phonathon portion of the effort is taking place in the next two weeks. If you receive a call, please be receptive to our phone volunteers and as generous as your situation allows in your support of Marian. Any size gift is greatly appreciated. If you have already made your pledge and/or payment you will not be called, and we thank you for your gift.

The Annual Dinner Dance & Auction

This year's dinner auction will take place on **Saturday, March 14, 2015**. It is a casual event that will take place at the school. We hope to have 450 or more people in attendance at this fun-filled event. Our goal this year is to once again provide a very fun evening attended by as many of our parents and other friends as possible. The committee asks that you "**save the date**" and plan to attend. We thank our volunteers who are steering the effort this year. The Honorary Chairpersons are Jeff & Julie Rhodes and Tony & Helen Wember. The General Chairpersons are Nick & Kellie Bucci and Bob & Jen Seegers. Within the next few weeks you will receive information regarding how your family can get involved. If you would like to get to know some of the other Marian parents and have some fun while working on this event, please contact the Development Office by email – mamartinez@marian.com or by phone at (815) 338-4220 X 125.

**Join us
Saturday,
October 18**

for

**Father's Club
All Night
Bingo**

**Early Session
begins at 7:30
PM. Late ses-
sion begins at
midnight.
Doors open at
5:00 PM!**

**\$35 for 36
sheet set!**



SAVE THE DATE -- MARCH 14, 2015!!!

MARIAN CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL ANNUAL DINNER AUCTION

We hope you'll join us for a casual evening at the school
like 425 guests did last year.

Dinner, cash bar, live and silent auctions and other activities.

***Bring your friends!!
Invites will be mailed in January***

Individuals or businesses may participate in sponsorship opportunities,
underwriting, or donating auction items.

Check out these details:

**ONLY \$30 PER PERSON
\$40 for reserved seating (tables of 10)**

Auction Donation – Deadline February 6 to be included in program book.

Silent Items – themed basket ideas may include: spa, pasta, cooking, pets, coffee, reading, games, teen shopping gift cards, Irish, Easter, sports, dinners, or services. Don't worry about wrapping or presentation. We have a creative committee to pretty everything up.

Live Items – value at least \$700. Options include: sports packages, Chicago weekend, Lake Geneva weekend, vacation homes, dinner parties, etc.

Program Sponsorship – Deadline February 6 (prices the same as last year)

Gold Page - \$400 Full Page - \$300 ½ Page - \$200 ¼ Page - \$100

Other Sponsorship at: \$1,000 \$500 \$250 \$100

Volunteer – Contact the Development Office at ext. 125

Baskets/Containers – Think Green! Recycle empty containers and baskets.
Drop them off in the main office or the Annex.

QUESTIONS?

Contact Mary Ann, Tracy, or Lori

815-338-4220 ext. 125

E-mail: mamartinez@marian.com

Fall Sports Awards Nights

The fall sports awards night for golf, tennis, cross country and soccer is scheduled on Wednesday, November 12th, at 7:00 PM in the auditorium. The fall sports awards night for football and volleyball will take place on Monday, November 17th at 7:00 PM in the auditorium. These are dress up occasions; jeans and shorts are not allowed. Athletes are required to attend



Winter Sports Practices

In accord with Illinois High School Association rules, the starting dates for the winter sports are as follows – girls basketball practice begins on Monday, November 3rd; boys basketball and wrestling practices begin on Monday, November 10th. Coaches will be informing the athletes of the times for their initial practices and the schedule of practice times will be posted on our athletic calendar. The Winter Sports Parent/Athlete meeting with the Athletic Director and the coaches is scheduled on Monday, October 27th at 7:00 PM in the main gymnasium. Athletes who are not currently participating in a fall sport are reminded that if they have not already done so, they must bring to the meeting the completed physical form, emergency form, insurance waiver/handbook agreement form, the IHSA steroid/drug testing consent form, and the IHSA concussion information form as these must be turned in to the Athletic Director before they will be allowed to participate in their team's practices.

This year's FALL PLAY is...

Twelfth Night

show times are:

Friday, November 7 @ 7:00 p.m. &

Sunday, November 9 @ 2:00 p.m.

in the Auditorium.

Come out and support our student thespians and enjoy the show!

Ticket prices are:

\$8.00 for adults / \$4.00 for seniors & students

and can be purchased at the door.



FROM THE GUIDANCE OFFICE . .



The Guidance Office would like to welcome back our students and their families for the 2014-2015 school year!

The Guidance Office would like to welcome back our students and their families for the 2014-2015 school year. The Guidance Department staff includes:

Rebecca Reed, Guidance Director, senior counselor; Kelly Hilton, Counselor, who works with the sophomores with last names beginning M through Z and the juniors; Tom Kruse, Counselor, who works with the freshmen and sophomores with last names beginning A through L; Chris Taylor who works with the Academic Resource Program; and Julie Diamond, Administrative Assistant. Feel free to phone us anytime or to email us with any questions or concerns that you may have. Our contact information can be found on the Guidance web page (click on the *Student Life* tab) on Marian's web site --- www.marian.com. Please encourage your students to set up an appointment to meet with their counselor if they have any questions or concerns.

The Guidance web pages of Marian's web site contain a variety of useful information. Among the resources listed include the following: Career Cruising (www.careercruising.com) - This web site provides a program to match students' interests with possible careers, a career exploration area, and a college search section which includes financial aid and scholarship information. You will need to provide Marian's Username and Password, which can be obtained from Guidance and What's Next Illinois (<https://secure.whatsnextillinois.org>) - This web site is sponsored by the Illinois Student Assistance Commission, an official agency of the State of Illinois. It provides information for both high school students and their parents regarding the college process. All of these programs and many others listed on the Guidance web page, contain information that is beneficial to all grade levels in high school. There is also scholarship information and a job file available to students in the Guidance Office.

Seniors should send out their applications as soon as possible. Application Processing Forms, which give us permission to send out their official transcripts, can be obtained in Guidance or on the Guidance web site. Students need to allow **at least ten school days** for sufficient processing time. Students should pay particular attention to schools' application and scholarship deadlines. For example these schools have established priority application deadlines:

Illinois State University	11/15/14
Northern Illinois University	11/15/14
Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville	12/01/14
University of Illinois-Chicago	11/01/14
University of Illinois-Urbana/Champaign	11/01/14
Marquette University	12/01/14
Loyola University Chicago	12/01/14



Did you know? College reps visit Marian throughout the school year.

College reps visit Marian throughout the school year. During the first semester, seniors may make appointments to see the reps through Mrs. Diamond. Second semester, both juniors and seniors are allowed to visit with the reps. Passes should be obtained at least a day ahead of time. These visits are a good way to obtain information about a school and to find out information specific to a particular student in a small group setting. Visits are posted on the Guidance web site, in the Daily Bulletin, and on a board in the Guidance Office.

Freshman

Freshmen are busy adjusting to their new lives in high school and how best to coordinate their studies for the greatest academic success. We would encourage your student to get involved in at least one extracurricular activity. There are a wide variety of activities available to them. This is a great way for them to get to know other students and can be beneficial to them later when they are applying for college admission. The freshmen will be taking the ASPIRE Test on Wednesday, October 15th. The ASPIRE Test is the precursor to the ACT Test, which is used for college admissions. Please encourage your student to get a good night's sleep before the test and to relax and do their best on it. Freshmen will need two sharpened #2 pencils for the test.

Sophomores



Sophomores should be continuing to focus on their grades, striving to do the best that they can, and continuing their involvement in extracurricular activities. They will be taking the ASPIRE Test on October 15th. The ASPIRE Test serves as preparation for the ACT Test. Sophomores will need to bring two sharpened #2 pencils and their calculator for the test.

Juniors



Juniors really need to be focusing on their grades this year!

Their cumulative GPA's and class rank at the end of their junior year are what is used for applying to colleges next fall. Showing an upward trend in grades, especially if they have not done as well as they may have wished up until now, may be very beneficial to them when they apply to colleges. They also should be beginning to think about what they plan to do after graduation. Many colleges offer visit programs for juniors in the spring. Juniors will be taking the PSAT Test on October 15th. The PSAT Test helps students to prepare for the SAT Test and is a gateway to the National Merit Scholarship Corporation competitions. Juniors will need to bring two #2 sharpened pencils (mechanical pencils may not score correctly), their calculator and their student ID for the test.

Seniors



Seniors need to be continuing their focus on their grades throughout the school year.

All offers of college admission are subject to a review of a student's final senior transcript. Applications are currently being processed in Guidance. Some seniors have already received offers of admission for next year. Students need to be aware of both application and scholarship deadlines.



Calendar of Events

MARIAN CENTRAL CATHOLIC H.S.

1001 McHenry Ave
Woodstock, IL 60098

Phone:

815-338-4220

Fax:

815-338-4220

www.marian.com

**A full calendar can be found
on the school website.**

Oct	13	Mon	Columbus Day; No School; Office Closed
	14	Tue	Teacher Institute; No Classes
	15	Wed	PSAT & Aspire Testing; Dismissal at 11:45 AM Seniors – College Visit Day
	16	Thu	Underclassmen Pictures
	17	Fri	All School Mass; 8:55 AM; Grandparents Invited
	18	Sat	All Night Bingo
	21	Tue	Annual Fund Phonathon through the 23 rd
	23	Thu	Q1 Exams in Periods 1, 3, 7, & 9; Full day of school
	24	Fri	Q1 Exams in Periods 2, 4-6, & 8; 10:40 AM Dismissal
	27	Mon	Winter Sports Parent/Athlete Meeting; 7:00 PM Fine Arts Booster Meeting; 3:30 PM
	28	Tue	Annual Fund Phonathon through the 29 th
	29	Wed	Kairos Junior Retreat through Fri., Oct. 31 st at Bishop Lane Retreat House
Nov	03	Mon	Girls Basketball Practice Begins Parent/Teacher Conferences 12:00 – 4:00 PM & 5:00 – 8:00 PM – No Classes
	04	Tue	Parent/Teacher Conferences 3:00 – 7:00 PM – No Classes Parents Association Meeting; 7:00 PM
	07	Fri	Fall Play; “ <i>Twelfth Night</i> ”, 7:00 PM
	09	Sun	Fall Play; “ <i>Twelfth Night</i> ”, 2:00 PM
	10	Mon	Wrestling & Boys Basketball Practices Begin
	11	Tue	Academic Breakfast; 7:15 AM
	12	Wed	Fall Sports Awards (soccer, cross country, tennis, golf) – Auditorium; 7:00 PM
	13	Thu	Tri-M Inductions; 7:00 PM
	14	Fri	All School Mass 8:55 AM
	17	Mon	Fall Sports Awards (volleyball, football) – Auditorium; 7:00 PM
	18	Tue	Senior Overnight Retreat through Wed., Nov. 19 th at Bishop Lane Sophomore Girls Retreat at Holy Apostles
	19	Wed	Sophomore Boys Retreat at Holy Apostles
	21	Fri	8 th Grade Visit & Half Day Faculty Institute – No Classes
	23	Sun	Open House; 1:00 – 3:00 PM
	25	Tue	All School Mass; 8:55 AM
	26	Wed	Early Dismissal at 1:30 PM
	27	Thu	Thanksgiving Day – No School; Office Closed
	28	Fri	Thanksgiving Vacation – No School; Office Closed
Dec	01	Mon	Fine Arts Booster Meeting; 3:30 PM
	02	Tue	Mid-Term Grades Posted Parents Association Meeting; 7:00 PM
	03	Wed	Senior Retreat at St. Mary, Huntley Junior Retreat at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
	08	Mon	All School Mass – 8:55 AM
	17	Wed	Instrumental Music Christmas Concert – Auditorium – 7:00 PM
	18	Thu	Choral Music Christmas Concert – Auditorium – 7:00 PM
	20	Fri	Dismissal for Christmas Vacation – 12:00 PM
	22	Mon	Christmas Vacation through Friday, January 2 nd
Jan	05	Mon	School Resumes Musical Parent/Participant Meeting; 7:00 PM Fine Arts Booster Meeting; 7:30 PM
	09	Fri	All School Mass; 8:55 AM
	10	Sat	Placement Test for Incoming Freshmen – 8:15 AM
	13	Tue	Alumni Board Meeting; 6:00 PM
	14	Wed	Semester Exams Periods 8 & 9 – 10:35 AM Dismissal
	15	Thu	Semester Exams Periods 3, 4-6, & 7 – 11:50 AM Dismissal
	16	Fri	Semester Exams Periods 1 & 2 – 10:35 AM Dismissal
	19	Mon	Martin Luther King Day – No School

From the



Marian Central Parents Association

The Parent Association is looking for a few good volunteers. Come to the November meeting to sign up. Our schedule for the remainder of the year is as follows: November 4th, December 2nd, February 2nd, April 7th, May 5th. We meet in the Annex at 7:00 p.m. Our meetings usually last less than one hour. The time commitment is minimal, we look forward to meeting you!

