

On Monday, February 9th, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. during the February Board Meeting we will be honoring our local board members for their commitment to Marion County and its children.

This year's theme, "Local Leadership Lasting Impact," highlights the impact our school boards have on our students and community. School board members champion student success, advocate for strong schools, and govern with the needs of their communities at heart. As elected or leaders, they serve as the local voice in public education, helping guide the direction and long-term vision of our schools. "It takes strong leaders to build a strong community, and our board members devote countless hours to ensuring our schools help every child learn and achieve at higher levels," said Dr. Mark Griffith. "The school board's primary goal is to support student success," Griffith added. To fulfill that mission, the board focuses on key priorities, including:

- Establishing a clear vision for the district and placing student achievement at the forefront;
- Setting strategic direction to help all students reach their highest potential;
- Monitoring progress to ensure goals are met and learning expectations are achieved;
- Fostering a safe, healthy, and positive environment for students and staff;
- Building partnerships throughout the community to address shared challenges; and
- Committing to continuous improvement through reflection, evaluation, and refinement of practices that impact student success.

"While we are making a special effort to honor our board members during the last week of January, we appreciate that their dedication extends throughout the entire year," Griffith said. Our district is proudly served by the following board members:

District 1 – Donna Blansett

District 2 – Nathan Billingsley

District 3 – Ryan Phillips

District 4 – Brian (Bo) Nunley

District 5 – Linda Hooper