A Message from Dr. Mike Shreffler:

I want to begin by thanking everyone for welcoming me with open arms into the Marlington Local School District this year. It has been a joy getting to know everyone – from staff, students and teachers to families and community members – I am thankful to be with you! It has been a great six months despite many challenges, and we have made a lot of progress as a district in many areas.

I see so many great things to come in the future. I greatly appreciate everyone’s patience as we persevere through any issues and work around COVID-19.

I want to give a special “thank you” to all of the staff at Marlington, as you have been so fantastic to work with and have truly gone above and beyond the call of duty to ensure that our education stays strong, our kids continue learning, and our district continues moving forward.

I am wishing everyone at Marlington a safe, healthy and blessed holiday season.

Dr. Michael Shreffler
Marlington Superintendent
The Marlington Education Innovation Fund offers the staff of the Marlington Local School District the opportunity to submit a grant proposal to receive support for innovative programs and initiatives that directly impact the academic performance and educational environment of Marlington Local students.

In order to support the Marlington Local School District and its initiatives, grant submissions for the 2021-2022 school year must support one or more of the following strategic plan areas:

- STEM Education
- 21st Century Learning skills
- Common Core State Standards
- 1-to-1 technology integration
- Professional development for teachers
- Community Engagement

For more information or to donate, visit www.marlingtoneducationfund.com.
Curriculum/Technology Update

As 2020 is coming to a close, I want to wish everyone health and happiness for the new year and all that 2021 has to bring!

Perseverance is the one word I would use to summarize the year. In the face of all the challenges this year; COVID-19, statewide school closures, statewide shutdown, leadership changes, remodeling a school, reopening a school, all while expanding digital education. Our Marlington community, staff and students continued to push on.

Our teachers have demonstrated a growth mindset this school year with overcoming the challenges of educating in a socially distanced setting, maintaining and enforcing COVID-19 protocols, adjusting schedules, changing routines and utilizing resources in a new way. Since the start of the school year, our professional learning focus has been on mastering technology tools that will engage our students when we transition into a full remote setting for a short or long period of time. Before the school year even started, our teachers spent three full days of intense, self-selected professional learning to ensure they are prepared for any scenario that is thrown their way.

Our commitment to students is to offer a 21st century education, with technology at the center of all curriculum. We have accelerated our Master Technology Plan to offer 1:1 iPads to students in grades K-12 this fall (which is 24 months ahead of schedule), by shifting and using funds from the COVID CARES Act and Broadband Grant from the state of Ohio. Additionally, we used Broadband Grant funds to expand our district Wi-Fi to outdoor learning areas; playgrounds, stadium, pavilions, parking lots, grass lawn areas and playing fields surrounding our school buildings. This allows flexibility for social distancing (weather permitting), and if the need arises for remote learning, families can use these areas for free Wi-Fi access.

This year, the district implemented our COVID-19 Restart Plan, which included expansion of our Dukes Digital Academy. Enrollment in September was nearly 500 students, but now is averaging 350. Through the Dukes Digital Academy, tutors and teachers were re-assigned to facilitate student learning using digital content. Although digital learning isn’t an equal substitute for face-to-face instruction with Marlington teachers, the district continues its commitment to ensuring that all students and families feel safe for students to return back into the school buildings this school year.

For the 2020-21 school year, the district hired an additional elementary school counselor to assist with social-emotional support in the district. The additional social-emotional supports offered in the district include:

- Family Support Specialist
- Clinical Counseling
- School Counseling
- PBIS
- School Psychologist
- School Therapists
- Resource Officers.

Treasurer Update Dr. Patty Main

My name is Dr. Patty Main and I am the Interim Treasurer for Marlington Local Schools for the 2020-2021 school year. I have over 20 years of educational experience, including serving as a teacher, principal, superintendent, curriculum director, treasurer and Director of Federal Programs. I am so excited to have been given the opportunity to be a part of the team at Marlington Local Schools. A lot has happened this year with keeping the district moving forward, and although we have faced many challenges, we have seen much success in many areas of finance for the district.

Current Treasurer News:

- The Marlington Local Schools 5-year forecast can be found on the Marlington – Treasurer Department website at marlingtonlocal.org/Treasurer.aspx; This 5-year forecast was Board approved in November 2020.
- Annual Financial reports are completed and submitted for review to the Ohio Auditor’s Office.

Current Grants:

Multiple COVID-19 related grants have been applied to the district and include the Corona Relief Grant, Broadband Ohio Connectivity Grant, and the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Grant. These grants have been used in the following ways:

- To equip our district with additional nursing staff.
- Assist with one-to-one ability, providing additional computers for students.
- Provide additional hardware for technology infrastructure to expand access points for internet capabilities.
- Provide additional online curriculum for increased students in the Dukes Digital Academy
- Provide additional sanitizing, cleaning supplies and PPE.
- Provide additional COVID-19-related funding through partnerships with Washington, Lexington and Marlboro township trustees.
- Provide sanitizing sprayers.
Strouble’s Honor Agricultural Heritage
New Award Benefits Horticulture and Agriculture Endeavors

The Marlington Alumni Association is pleased to partner with the Strouble Family to establish the Howard and Berdine Strouble Scholarship. Loyal Dukes and active members of the district’s farming and 4-H community, this scholarship will support students pursuing two or four-year post-secondary programs in horticulture, agriculture or any related field including veterinary medicine, agri-business and farming.

Howard and Berdine married in 1955, moving into the 124 year old family farmhouse. Howard ran the grain and dairy farm, milking until he was 76 years old. Berdine managed more than 300 chickens, and for years delivered 40 dozen eggs a week, selling them to local businesses and families for fifty cents a dozen. To supplement their income, Berdine was a school bus driver, first for Lake Local Schools, then for Marlington, retiring at age 70. Her fun-loving but no-nonsense personality made her one of Marlington’s favorite drivers.

Each of the five Strouble children and many of their 14 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren are Marlington graduates. Loyal followers of Duke football, they can boast that for more than ten years there was a Strouble playing varsity football.

The Marlinton Alumni Association is grateful for the Strouble family and appreciates the rich, Marlington legacy of Howard, Berdine, Barbara (Strouble) McCarty (’74), Joanne (Strumble) Upperman (’77), Linda (Strouble) Thorpe (’78), Carl Strouble (’81) and Carolyn (Strouble) McDonald (’83) and their families.

Please accept my donation

In honor/memory of ____________________________________________ or

in recognition of (person/occasion) ____________________________________________ or ____________________________________________ no notification is necessary.

Please notify ____________________________________________ or ____________________________________________ no notification is necessary.

Address ____________________________________________ or ____________________________________________ or ____________________________________________ no notification is necessary.

City __________________________ State __________ Zip __________

This donation is from ____________________________________________ or ____________________________________________ no notification is necessary.

Address ____________________________________________ or ____________________________________________ no notification is necessary.

City __________________________ State __________ Zip __________

Phone ____________________________________________ Year of graduation ____________________________

Email ____________________________________________

Please designate this gift to the ____________________________________________ Scholarship Fund.

For more information or to make your gift securely online, please visit marlingtonalumniassociation.org.

Please make checks payable to: Marlington Alumni Association, PO Box 6001• Alliance, OH 44601

www.marlingtonalumni.org
Gold Duke
(Gifts of $5,000 or more)

Silver Duke
(Gifts of $2,500 - $4,999)

Duke
(Gifts of $1,000 - $2,499)

Duchess
(Gifts of $500 - $999)

Knight
(Gifts of $100 - $499)

Lady
(Gifts of $50 - $99)

Earl
(Gifts of $25 - $49)

Herald
(Gifts of less than $25)

The MAA is pleased to partner with generous alumni and friends to provide academic assistance to deserving Marlington seniors. Each scholarship focuses on specific interests and academic pursuits. (For specific information about scholarship criteria go to www.marlingtonalumni.org/scholarships)

Academics
• Gerald P. Burke Scholarship
• Class of 1968 Scholarship
• Class of 1990 Scholarship
• Thomas Hazen Memorial Scholarship
• Marlington Alumni Association Scholarship
• Marlington Alumni Association Duke Scholarship
• Wayne and Bertha McAlister Family Scholarship
• Pete Moulin Scholarship
• Rita Moulin Memorial Scholarship
• William E. and Robert E. Patton Scholarship
• Melvin J. Snode Memorial Scholarship
• Frank J. & Anna Carozzi Memorial Scholarship

Agriculture/Horticulture
• Lee and Carolyn Gabric Scholarship
• James Krabill Memorial Scholarship
• Howard and Berdine Strouble Scholarship*

Business/Sports
• Scott and Cheryl Robertson Scholarship

Education
• Elizabeth Albright Education Scholarship
• Mary Louise Bixler Education Scholarship
• McIntosh Family Scholarship
• Thomas Family Scholarship*

Foreign Language
• Ramser Scholarship

Military Service
• Class of '66 Military Scholarship

Music/Art/Fine Arts
• Louise Bingham Memorial Scholarship
• Barbara (Yoder) Hall Memorial Scholarship
• Kim Koleski Memorial Scholarship
• Harold (Hal) and Ruth Switzer Scholarship

Science/Medicine/Engineering
• Ford C. Davis Scholarship
• Mary Elizabeth (Betty) and Harold (Bud) Devies Memorial Scholarship
• Howard and Ruthann Dickerhoof Memorial Scholarship
• Hastings Scholarship
• Donald Moore Memorial Scholarship
• Carol Teutsch Memorial Scholarship

Sports/Academics
• General John Churchill Academic Warrior Award
• Howard & Trudy Kitzmiller Student Athlete Scholarship

Student Athlete Scholarship
• Franklin L. (Butch) Muniz Baseball Scholarship

Tech/Trade/Associates Programs
• Battershell Family Scholarship
• Richard W. and Annabelle Bohaychyk Memorial Scholarship
• Coastal Pet- Stout Family Scholarship
• Lexington Twp. Vol. Firefighter Scholarship in Memory of Berkley Barker

The MAA Scholarship Committee evaluates applications, submitted anonymously, and makes awards based on various criteria unique to each scholarship. Awards are given to deserving students who meet or exceed criteria. Participants can access the application online at marlingtonalumni.org or from the Marlington High School Guidance office. Students are encouraged to apply on or before the February 1 deadline.

Your Legacy, Their Future
One of the Marlington Alumni Associations greatest sources of hope for future Dukes are legacy gifts from alumni and friends like you! Legacy donors are individuals who have included the MAA in their estate plans, who come from all walks of life - some from modest means and some from wealth. The common ground is their passion for future Dukes and their willingness to invest in something that will outlive them.

Would you like to include the MAA in your estate plans? Here are some commonly used methods you might consider. Most can easily be accomplished without the assistance of an attorney:

Gifts by Will or Living Trust
Your will or Revocable Living Trust allows you to provide for the people and causes you love most. A charitable bequest to the MAA can easily be written into your plans or added to an existing will or trust using language such as this: “I give and bequeath to the Marlington Alumni Association (MAA), tax Identification Number 34- 1670638, PO Box 6001, Alliance, OH 44601 (Insert specific amount, asset or percentage of your estate).” If needed, your attorney will provide further assistance.

Insurance Beneficiary Designation
You may name one or more charities as the beneficiaries of part/all of the death benefit from an insurance policy. As with POD/TOD options, your beneficiary designation might give a portion to charity and provide for the balance to be divided as you designate. You can make a beneficiary change on your own or with the assistance of your insurance agent.

IRA or Qualified Retirement Plan Beneficiaries
Generally, assets held in an IRA or retirement plan are subject to both income tax and estate taxes. To limit taxes you may choose to name one or more charities as beneficiary of all or a portion of your qualified plan or IRA. Upon your death, funds would transfer, free of income or estate tax. You may consult with your financial institution or investment advisor to update your designations.

Donation of Appreciated Securities
To avoid paying capital gains tax, consider a gift of your appreciated stocks, now or in the future. You can support the program of your choice and deduct the full value of the security. Your bank or investment advisor can conveniently administer the transaction. For a confidential conversation about the ways your gift can be used to support the Marlington Alumni Association, feel welcome to contact MAA Board member, Vondea Sheaffer, at (330) 697-4036 or marlingtonalumni@yahoo.com.
Marlington Athletic Booster Club Sponsored Event:

MARLINGTON ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

ONLINE AUCTION

An online event hosted by Kiko Auctioneers!

Please stay tuned for website details to come.

The Online Auction will begin in early March 2021.

Final date TBA.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Athletic Department does not have the same income as in the past. The Online Auction will serve as a fundraiser to raise money for Marlington Local Schools Athletics.

If anyone would like to donate an item to be sold at the Online Auction, please call or email Athletic Director, Steve Miller, at 330-821-4209 or s_miller@marlingtonlocal.org.
Marlington High School

A Message From Mr. Spondyl

I hope everyone is doing well and had a great holiday season. I know this year has been turbulent at times with many uncertainties. I want to commend our staff, students, and parents with how they have handled the school year to this point. I believe we have done as well as possible navigating these unchartered waters together. While there has been a great deal of change in our protocols, and school currently does not look like what we are used to, I think we can be proud of our success so far. Thank you to the entire Marlington community for your hard work and support and I know we are all looking forward to returning to normal life in the near future. Have a great New Year!

Dukes of the Month

Positive Behavior Rewards

We are continuing our PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports) this year. Students who are caught exhibiting good behavior are given written recognition of their behavior and are entered into a drawing to receive gift cards to various businesses. Receiving gift cards so far this year for positive behavior are Alex Ritchie, Eva Fey, Maddie Hammel, Tyler Fincher, Whinnie Hudson, Cody Cook, Devon Jones, Joel Sweitzer, Destiny Hall, Levi Fortune, Christio’n Hicks, Jayden Mitchell, Kylie Girdharry and Michaela Nolf. We are proud of our Dukes for doing the right thing!

Remembering Front Line Workers

The members of SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions), Link Crew and Character Counts worked together with the students and staff at the high school to collect snacks and goodies, along with messages of support and Christmas cards, for the nurses and doctors at area hospital Intensive Care Units. The leaders of these groups wanted to show support for these heroes during the holidays. The students donated their time to make cards and uplifting notes to pass out and hang on the walls and doors of the hospitals. The response from the staff and students was amazing!

COLLEGE CREDIT PLUS
FOR 2021

We will conduct a CCP Q&A Night on January 25, 2021. A Google link will be sent via an email on January 11. This will be informal Google Meet where you can join at any time during the two-hour window to ask us your questions about the CCP process. We suggest that you look over all of the information on our website first to familiarize yourself with the process.

ACCUPLACER TEST

If your student has not taken the ACT/SAT yet, then they need to take the Accuplacer test to be able to qualify for CCP. Each class has a different score that is required to join that class. It is suggested that your student take all three parts of the Accuplacer: reading, math and writing. A sign-up sheet will be located on our website and that link will also be sent out in the January 11 email. If you cannot test on the two dates that are offered at Marlington, you will be required to go to Stark State or Kent State to test.

DEADLINE FOR CCP

The deadline for CCP is May 1!
The following forms must be completed:

• Intent Form
• MHS CCP Application
• Accuplacer/ACT scores must be received by Mr. Trenger and Mrs. Joyce
• Applications to the colleges must be completed
  • (Example: If you wish to take College Writing I & II at Marlington, then you need to apply to Kent State. If you wish to take college Algebra & Trigonometry (Precalculus), then you need to apply to Stark State. You may be applying to multiple colleges to take the courses you desire at Marlington).

www.marlingtonlocal.org
Marlington Middle School
We care and we believe that all students can learn and be successful!

From the Desk of Mr. Evanich

Marlington Middle School would like to wish everyone a happy and healthy new year! Our students and staff have done a tremendous job of navigating this most unusual year and we are very proud of their efforts and successes. Through all of these challenges, our students’ behavior and work ethic at school has been awesome! Even in the midst of a pandemic, our students, led by the student council, rose to the occasion in supporting our community through our annual food drive for the Alliance Food Pantry. We are also grateful for the donations from our staff, local churches, organizations, and private individuals that enabled Kathy Weibush, our Family Support Specialist, to coordinate holiday assistance for over 40 students and families from MMS. Our staff and students continue to demonstrate the greatness that is Marlington!

Gamers Club

Gamer Club is in its sixth year at the middle school. We are still a growing club but have had to adapt to our new normal. The club meets weekly, Wednesdays, and provides the kids an opportunity to shine in the gaming world. The students are enjoying new and exciting gaming as well as some old school game such as Dungeon and Dragons. Gamer Club offers an opportunity for students to socialize with common interests and show off his/her gaming skills. The club is currently open to seventh and eighth-graders. In the spring, sixth-grade students will be invited to join. If you are interested, please have your student pick up a permission slip from the office or Mrs. D’Eramo. Mrs. D’Eramo, Deputy Bogunovich, and Deputy Collins would like to thank the community and the Marlington Administration for their incredible support of the club and the students involved.

ROX

In ROX, girls build skills such as developing confidence, learning how to positively handle conflicts, discussing how to navigate real life situations and learning leadership skills. ROX empowers girls to become advocates for themselves and others, while giving them encouragement and motivation to pursue their goals.

Life Skills

All middle school students take a semester-long course each year called Life Skills. This class is designed to help adolescents learn skills for everyday life. Students receive three days a week of physical education while also receiving instruction in topics such as communication, interpersonal skills, cooperation, decision making, financial literacy, information technology, and digital citizenship.
Marlboro Elementary School
We care and we believe that all students can learn and be successful!

From the Desk of Mrs. Mort:

Our Marlboro family wishes everyone a very happy and healthy New Year! We are grateful to our families for their flexibility during the beginning of remote learning and all of our new protocols for this unprecedented school year. We value our home to school relationship. I also have to give a huge THANK YOU to our school staff for their adjustment to remote learning! Our folks have embraced this new process like stars and overcame obstacles to better service our students. I am humbled to work alongside these professionals. Our young Dukes have been AMAZING as well through these changes! Every student has risen to the challenges of this new way of learning while modeling their excellent Duke Pride behaviors! In the New Year we will continue to build on our academic achievements and character-building successes. Lastly, we are grateful to our amazing PTO that always supports the needs of our students and staff. We encourage our families to stay connected to our teachers via Class Dojo messages. We value your support and love teaching your children.

Thanksgiving Food Drive
Our student council led the charge in organizing, promoting and collecting many items for our Holiday Food Drive. The Marlboro families donated 2,658 items! All of these items help support numerous local families through the Marlboro Christian Church food pantry. It is a true pleasure to foster this relationship with Marlboro Christian Church and help those in need.

First Nine Weeks Duke Pride Assembly Winners
We recognize our students for displaying good character traits during the first grading period. Students received awards for the following categories: Friend Helper, Teacher Helper, Outstanding Student, and Duke Pride.

Marlboro Student Council
Marlboro Elementary Student Council continues to impress us with their hard work to help our school and community. Our 2020-21 Student Council Members: Gylian Bogunovich, Caden Steer, Andrew Bargerstock, Marra Powers, Marisa Casto, Isabella Davis, Michael Long, and Caitlin Imhoff. Throughout the year, our student council has many responsibilities; those include, organizing and maintaining our Holiday Food Drive, helping at student assemblies, delivering student brag tags, creating posters for the building, delivering reminders to student groups and many other tasks. The students are embracing their responsibilities. What a great group of young DUKES.
Lexington Elementary School

Happy Holidays to our Lexington School Family!

Our dedicated Lexington Elementary staff is looking forward to the continuation of a great year of learning. We are working on building leaders within our school and promoting our Duke Pride Expectations. Our students truly make Lexington a wonderful place to be. It takes a team of committed people to make a school successful, and we value the commitment we have from our students, parents, staff, and community members. The Lexington staff wishes you and your loved ones a prosperous, healthy, and HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Warmest wishes,
Renee Kaley
Principal

First Nine Weeks Success Assembly

Lexington Elementary held Success Assemblies to celebrate all of the student successes from the first nine weeks. Grade levels came down one at a time to be recognized by Mrs. Kaley and receive their certificates. Congratulations to all of our award winners! We are so proud of you.

Metro Swat Unit

The Metro Swat Unit dropped by to show the students their various vehicles and their drone. What an awesome afternoon with our first responders!

Lexington Annual Food Drive

Thank you to all who donated food for our annual Student Council Food Drive. We collected over 1,100 items that were donated to Marlboro Christian Church food pantry to support families in our community.
Washington Elementary School

A Message from Mr. Tausch, Principal

All of us at Washington would like to wish everyone and their loved ones a very Happy New Year! We look forward to turning the page from 2020 and making 2021 the best year yet. With all the unique challenges that our students, staff, and families faced this past year, we all have become a stronger, more resilient, and closer family.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our teachers and staff. Words can’t express how appreciative I am for the commitment and passion they have for our students at Washington. We are truly blessed to have them. Thank you also to our PTO for their support of our students and staff throughout the school year. Their contributions and support have helped make this year very special. In addition, I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our Washington families. Without you and your constant support, we could never do what we do. Your help makes Washington truly great. Last but certainly not least, I must commend our students at Washington for constantly working on and demonstrating their Duke Pride. We have high expectations for our students, and they never stop impressing us with their outstanding character and hard work. From organizing and collecting food for our food drive to collecting toys for the children at Akron Children’s Hospital, our students are amazing, and our future is definitely bright!

STEAM Club

STEAM Club is off to a great start with 100 students participating weekly in the club. The students look forward to STEAM Club every week and all students do not want to leave. The second, third, fourth and fifth graders come in every week with the freedom to create, build or program anything they want. The students can use the invention corner that contains donated materials and recyclables to create and build their prototypes. They can also use Legos or K’Nex to create and build their creations. The students have also started creating their inventions on the 3D printer through 3D Design on the computer. The students also have access to a vinyl cutter to design stickers and a button machine to create pins. The students have the opportunity to work with one of five different kinds of robots to learn how to build and program them. We also have had the opportunity to explore circuitry through Snap Circuits and Little Bits. Students are encouraged to let their imaginations run wild. We can’t wait to see where they are by the end of the year.

Student Council Holds Food Drive

Washington Elementary student council led the charge in organizing, promoting and collecting over 1600 items for our annual food drive. Each classroom participated in donating non-perishable items. Fourth grade brought in the most items and received donuts and cider for all their hard work. The items were donated to local families and the Salvation Army. We thank our families for their continued support of this project to give back to our community!

Perfect Attendance (First 9 weeks)

Congratulations to these awesome students. They stepped up and showed everyone that it is possible to have perfect attendance even in a Pandemic, whether in the classroom or virtual. Congratulations!!

Employment Opportunities – We Need You!

We are looking for individuals who would like to substitute in the following areas:

- Bus Driver
- Secretary
- Cafeteria Worker
- Student Aide/Monitor
- Custodian

If you are interested in substituting in any of these positions, please contact the Superintendent’s Office at 330-821-4016 for further information on how you can become a substitute. For more information on Bus Driver positions, please feel free to contact the Transportation Director at 330-829-1990.

**Qualifications for All Positions:**

1. Be at least eighteen (18) years of age.
2. Pass a state and federal criminal background records check.
3. Complete an online application.
4. Be of good moral character.
5. Obtain an Educational Aide Permit (student aide/monitor positions only).

**Additional Qualifications for Bus Driving Positions:**

1. Present a negative drug and alcohol test.
2. Present physical capability to safety and appropriately lift preschool and special needs students.
3. Pass a physical.
4. Have a minimum of two (2) years driving experience.
5. Present a satisfactory driving record.