

Marion Intermediate School is helping all students develop the World Class Skills of the *Profile of the South Carolina Graduate* by providing a safe, nurturing, and academically challenging learning environment through the collaborative efforts of teachers, support staff, students, families, and community members. We provide this environment through the implementation of our district and school purpose of educating, preparing, and inspiring our students to be productive citizens in a changing global society.

Our school culture embodies a growth mindset where teachers work collaboratively to provide a rigorous curriculum which focuses on our district's Instructional Framework. This framework is aligned to the instructional domain of the South Carolina Teaching Standards 4.0 Rubric. Through our E3 (Empowering Educators to Excel) grant, we conduct weekly STEP (Supporting Teacher Effectiveness Project) meetings with the lead teacher and reading coach to analyze data, share best practices, and conduct professional learning opportunities. Each grade level holds weekly team meetings to identify and solve a common challenge in their classrooms to improve student outcomes. Balanced literacy is implemented with all ELA teachers utilizing the workshop model for reading and writing in a 120-minute block. Math teachers utilize 100 minutes of math workshop through the Eureka math curriculum, incorporating whole group teacher-directed instruction, guided small group instruction, and independent opportunities for students to grow academically.

At Marion Intermediate School, we also have various programs outside the academic world to focus on the development of the whole child. As a PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions and Support) school, we celebrate student successes with special incentive days. MIS supports Social Emotional Learning (SEL) activities where students and staff acquire and effectively apply the knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to understand and manage emotions, set and achieve positive goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain positive relationships.

Additional supports we have in place include a Character Coach, the mentor Check in/Check out system, a mental health counselor, one RBHS counselor, and a district clinical counselor. We have a strong guidance department that fully supports the PBIS framework by counseling the students, teaching character traits and social skills through highly engaging classroom lessons and allowing the students to lead our academic Awards Day and afternoon character education announcements.

MIS connects with the community through several different events throughout the year. We celebrate Veterans Day Programs, Black History Month, Teacher Appreciation programs. In addition, the school involves numerous community members by inviting them to read in classrooms, celebrate, and mentor students virtually.

At Marion Intermediate School, administration, teachers, staff, students and community members work together to build relationship and partnerships that enhance the development of the whole child. Through rigorous instruction, social/behavior initiatives, support systems, and community involvement, MIS continues to strive toward educating, preparing, and inspiring our students to be productive citizens in a changing global society.

Dr. Mark Bunch, Principal