



**MARCUM-ILLINOIS**  
UNION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT



# Strategic Plan

2023/24-2027/28

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## **Our Mission:**

*Our mission at Marcum-Illinois is to provide a safe and engaging learning environment that promotes academic excellence, develops student leadership, and fosters a sense of belonging for all students. We strive to create an environment where every student feels valued and respected, and where they are encouraged to take ownership of their actions and develop their individual strengths and talents.*

## **Our Vision:**

*Through a collaborative and supportive community of educational partners, including educators, families, and students, Marcum-Illinois aims to inspire lifelong learners who are equipped with the skills and knowledge to succeed in the future. We strive for academic excellence by providing a rigorous and engaging curriculum that challenges students to think critically and work hard. We also prioritize student leadership, empowering our students to take ownership of their actions and develop the skills they need to become leaders in their communities. Finally, we believe that a sense of belonging is essential to student success, and we work to create a welcoming and inclusive environment where every student feels valued and supported.*

## Forward

On March 13, 2017 at a public meeting of the Marcum-Illinois Union Elementary School District, educational partners that included parents, teaching staff, support staff and the governing Board of Trustees for Marcum-Illinois under discussion item 7 of the public meeting agenda, reviewed and agreed on the need for the District to create a 'District-Wide Strategic Plan. The information contained in this document are the result of that work. A total of 12 meetings that were open to the public were held to develop and memorialize the following:

- Developing and setting a number of 'Core Values' that will guide the district's overall efforts in supporting students, the community, staff and leadership.
- Ensuring the current Mission and Vision statement of the District were held in regard with developing the District's Strategic Plan.
- Developing focus areas that would be recognized globally as essential to ensuring and maintain the District's work to support students, staff, community and school leadership.
- Developing a 'Vision Statement' with each key focus area coupled to a series of recognized 'Goal Statements' that would create a path for accountability and capacity building for sustaining the schools critical focus areas for multiple years.

## Core Values

The following statements will be used as 'Core Values' that the Marcum-Illinois Union Elementary School District holds as guide posts for critical consideration for decision making.

***The Marcum-Illinois Union Elementary School District values the following statements and allows each to be a guide-post for decision making.***

**We value:**

- A small community (This brings familiarity of students and families)
- Academic success through the use of a high-quality curriculum.
- Public celebration of student and school successes.
- Activities that reflect community values of pride, inclusiveness, kindness, and responsibility.
- Community and parent support.
- Connection to our community and school through traditional events (Labor Day Parade, Winter Program, etc.)
- A consistency of academic and social programs.
- Quality and frequent communication among all educational partner groups.
- Maintain a safe and positive climate on campus.
- Respect for all.
- Establishing a strong work ethic and integrity among all employees.
- Honesty, dependability, and commitment to our students and community.

## Critical Areas of Focus

The following meeting dates were used to take public input from the educational partners of Marcum-Illinois Union Elementary School District :3/13/17, 5/10/17, 9/19/17, 11/6/17, 11/7/17, 3/8/18, 4/12/18, 4/26/18, & 6/18/18. The result of this work revealed six critical focus areas that educational partners agreed would serve as strategically central to meeting and serving the districts needs. In addition, a series of 'Goal Statements' were created to serve as actions that would meet each critical area of focus. Within the goal statements can also be found persons of responsibility that ensure each of these is met or reviewed. Those focus areas are the following:

- Academics
- Culture and Climate
- Facilities
- Fiscal
- Governance
- Leadership
- Inter-District Policies

## 2022-2023 Update Process

The Strategic Plan was expected to be reviewed regularly and updated at least every five years. In 2022-2023, MIUESD surveyed educational partners including staff, parents, and students and collected input to update the Strategic Plan as needed. Administration also held a Principals and Pastries meeting on January 31, 2023 and invited parents to attend to review the plan and provide input for the update. The Strategic Plan was also discussed at the February 7, 2023 School Site Council Meeting. The updated Strategic Plan was presented to the MIUESD Governing Board as an information item on April 17, 2023 and presented as an action item for approval at the May 8, 2023 meeting.

## **Academics**

**Vision:** *The Marcum-Illinois Union Elementary School District strives to maintain high academic expectations and promote academic excellence for all students through rigorous instruction in all subject areas. Marcum-Illinois Union Elementary School District values student access to a comprehensive education to develop well-rounded individuals.*

### **Goal Statements:**

- 1. Teachers provide weekly access to varied core subject areas in addition to Language Arts & Mathematics.**
- 2. Marcum-Illinois Union Elementary School District will enable staff to access professional and beneficial 'Professional Development' in a content area of their choosing at least once per year.**
- 3. The District will ensure that students are receiving consistent instruction in all subject areas by reviewing class schedules annually.**
- 4. Teaching staff will review data at least every 6 weeks. Instructional staff will ensure all students are provided appropriate learning supports both in and out of their assigned classroom to promote academic excellence.**

## Culture & Climate

**Vision:** *The Marcum-Illinois Union Elementary School District strives to create and support a school environment in which all children and adults feel welcomed, respected, trusted and made to feel as an important part of the school. Marcum-Illinois Union Elementary School District values healthy, safe, productive, respectful student-centered learning. The community at Marcum-Illinois desires to promote healthy minds and bodies by encouraging and valuing strong social norms (i.e. ROAR) and emphasizing healthy lifestyle habits including physical activity programs and nutrition education for a lifetime.*

### **Goal Statements:**

- 1. Marcum-Illinois will annually seek opportunities for healthy food partnerships including annual nutrition education in all PK-8 classrooms.**
- 2. Marcum-Illinois will promote and create programs that recognize positive student socio-emotional outcomes. (i.e. Monthly Awards, Honor Roll, Community Activities)**
- 3. The District will create opportunities for all interested parties to voice concerns and participate in discussions regarding school policies and decisions that increase positive outcomes for culture and climate.**
- 4. The District will regularly update, distribute, and discuss the schools “Expected Behavior Matrix”.**
- 5. The District and Leadership will recognize educational partner contributions which have a positive impact on our school culture at monthly MIUESD Board Meetings.**

## Facilities

**Vision:** *The Marcum-Illinois Union Elementary School District will strive to create and maintain safe, clean, and orderly facilities that promote academic and social growth.*

### Goal Statements:

1. **Basic repairs to the school are addressed in a timely manner. Large maintenance needs are prioritized with educational partner's input based on safety, need and budget availability.**
2. **Campus will be maintained daily to promote a safe and healthy learning environment.**
3. **Annually, the District will seek ways to update and improve the playgrounds and its structures to include more opportunities for cooperative and academic play.**
4. **The District will seek the ability to provide adequate fencing around the field area.**
5. **The District will seek the ability to update and continue to maintain an upgraded video camera system.**
6. **The District will seek the ability provide a track for student use.**

## Financial

**Vision:** *The Board of Education will maintain the operations and solvency of the MIUESD by assuring that fiscal plans show long range planning coupled to academics, personnel and attention to facilities that promote the well-being of all educational partners. The District will pursue and maintain financial stability while ensuring the availability and use of funds that promote the district's vision and mission for its students and staff. MIUESD will strive to be fiscally responsible as a public-school district.*

### **Goal Statements:**

- 1. The District will provide timely and accurate financial information to key educational partners 2x/yearly.**
- 2. The District will strive to keep classroom averages at 20 students, and work to keep single grade level status for all grade levels.**
- 3. Educational partners will be ensured access to monthly budget expenditures that are reviewed by the School Board.**
- 4. The Board will work diligently and responsibly to allocate funds while maintaining a healthy reserve.**
- 5. The Board of Education strives to keep a healthy reserve to plan for economic uncertainty by maintaining a reserve of 50% of the total annual budget.**



## **Governance**

**Vision:** *The District will ensure that the School Board will be knowledgeable and involved in all aspects of the oversight of the school. The MIUESD Board of Trustees will ensure “goal-oriented” leadership through oversight of all school functions.*

### **Goal Statements:**

- 1. The MIUESD Superintendent/Principal will provide weekly updates to the School Board on all aspects of the school.**
- 2. Members of the MIUESD School Board will actively work to visit the campus while school is in session and visit classrooms, functions, or facilities at least 2x/year.**
- 3. The Board of Trustees will have monthly public meetings to update the public on progress of projects, Strategic Plan focuses, LCAP goals, or other focuses that affect our campus, climate or culture.**
- 4. The Board of Trustees will govern themselves and the school district in accordance to adopted Board policies and regulations. They will seek to update and keep policies and regulations current.**

## Leadership

**Vision:** *The Board of Trustees will ensure that the “Leadership” of Marcum-Illinois Union Elementary School District is visible, accessible, and supportive of staff, students, parents and community educational partners. The MIUESD school leadership will strive to be fiscally responsible, accessible and goal-oriented for all educational partners.*

### **Goal Statements:**

- 1. The Superintendent/Principal will be available and on campus 90% of the school calendar.**
- 2. The Superintendent/Principal will ensure that Board Members visit the campus while school is in session and promote positive engagement with the overall school program.**
- 3. Daily, our school leadership will be visible, accessible, and approachable in their actions and interactions.**
- 4. Our school leadership will prioritize spending to maintain a conservative budget that promotes student success and safety.**

## **Inter-District Policies\***

**Vision:** *The District will accept Inter-District students that meet the eligibility requirements found in the District's Board Policies.*

### **Goal Statements:**

- 1. The Board and District Leadership will continue to monitor students meeting Inter-District requirements and maintaining their eligibility status throughout the school year. Updates regarding Inter-District Status will be sent to guardians at least two times per school year.**
- 2. The District will actively keep and maintain a waiting list for students and families wishing to enroll their students through the Inter-District process.**

*\*Regarding this area of critical focus, educational partners were consistent in their desire to ensure that this stood alone as an overall strategic objective. This may be subject to review and change when appropriate.*

## Future Considerations

As the Board of Trustees and Leadership of Marcum-Illinois Union School District consider the adoption of this document for guiding their strategic work, the District must fully develop and embrace the paradigm that this is a constant and changing guide as determined by the District and its' educational partners. Critical focus may change as well as the goals associated to those areas of focus. The power in 'Strategic Plans' and their outcomes is ensuring constant review of both the focus areas and goals are monitored in a consistent and timely fashion. It is highly recommended that the Board of Trustees and Leadership set a monitoring plan in place to lift and embrace the work that has been completed.