



# Marion City Schools

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March 1, 2023

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## MARION CITY SCHOOLS ESTABLISH THREAT ASSESSMENT TEAM

(Marion, OH) Marion City Schools has established its district-wide Threat Assessment Team composed of administrators, school support staff, community officials and school resource officers to name a few.

House Bill (HB) 123 (Ohio), the Safety and Violence Education Students (SAVE Students) Act, was enacted on March 24, 2021. HB 123 calls for a comprehensive approach to school safety involving the Ohio departments of Education, Public Safety, Mental Health and Addiction Services, and Attorney General's Office. Section 3313.669 (A) requires each local, city, exempted village, and joint vocational school district to create a threat assessment team for each school building in the district serving grades six through 12. It also requires each member of the threat assessment team to complete an approved threat assessment training program, from the list maintained by the Ohio School Safety Center, upon appointment and once every three years thereafter.

"Keeping public spaces safe from any form of violence or harmful activities, especially in our schools, is of the utmost importance to me and our officers," said Lt. Ed Brown of the Marion Police Department. "My hope is that these threat assessment teams will help students, families and school employees feel safe as they all work together each day."

In Ohio schools, behavioral threat assessment teams function to conduct assessments and interventions for individuals whose behavior indicates they may pose a risk of harm to the school community and/or themselves. On top of the newly formed district-wide group, each building, including our elementary schools, has its own threat assessment team to directly handle individual issues.

"Our new district assessment team will be able to expand on the model we have in each of our buildings and provide guidance and support for those teams while also handling issues facing the entire district," said Assistant Superintendent Olympia Della Flora. "Our top priority is the safety and wellbeing of our students, and while this bill requires this model for grades 6-12, we have decided to put it into practice at all of our buildings in an effort to train all staff to manage these types of situations as well as being prepared to deal with any of these threats that may appear at the elementary level"

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## **About Marion City Schools**

At Marion City Schools, we want to inspire a community of achievement. We offer innovative experiences, educational options and learning programs not available in surrounding school districts. We search for ways to prepare students for not only academic success but success in college and careers as well. Our Four Pillars follow four distinct themes including Leadership, Learning, Literacy and Legacy. We want our students to leave high school with not only their diploma, but also acceptance into a two or four-year college, an adult training program, the military, or a high-paying, in-demand job.