Dear Linn-Mar Students, Parents, Teachers and Community Members:

Linn-Mar Community School District

Points of Pride 2003-2004

- Each board member attended at least one ABLT training/leadership class during the year.
- The Board recognized staff and actively encouraged presentations that exemplify research-based best practice.
- A majority of the Board members attended the American Board Association Fall and October and the IASB Annual Conference in November.
- The board utilized part of each monthly session to participate in learning sessions on major educational initiatives.
- The Board advocated for public education by meeting with area legislators both prior to the 2004 session and again during the session.
- The Board visited each of the Linn-Mar buildings during the year, with a majority of Board members in attendance at each meeting.
- The Board sponsored two-way dialogue sessions during the year with certified staff, classified staff and administrators.


Points of Vision 2004-2005

- The Board will strive for the IASB Better Boardmanship Award.
- At least five board members will receive ABLT recognition.
- During meetings at least thirty minutes will be devoted to learning about and discussing emerging trends that affect the District’s strategic direction.
- The Board will recognize staff, staff teams and their supervisor(s) for exemplary performance and/or extra effort to enhance student learning.
- The Board will support school-wide character initiatives, which will enhance civility and positive relationships encountered by students, staff, parents and partners who interact with the District.
- The Board will enter into an understanding with Rockwell Collins to partner on mutually beneficial efforts improving student learning, staff development and community improvement.
- Twenty percent of the Linn-Mar policy manual will be reviewed and updated as identified.
- The Board will help facilitate regular dialogue with legislators and other resident elected officials to provide enhanced communication on issues and to affect efficiency of funding to better serve Linn-Mar students and patrons.
- The Board will adopt a specific direction for building and facilities requirements for the next three years.

Strategic Plan 2004-2010

VISON

Striving for Educational Excellence

MISSION

We are a learning community

To confidently meet life’s challenges.

BELIEFS

1. The entire community, working together, creates the conditions for successful learning.
2. A changing world demands that all people be lifelong learners.
3. Learners must be ready and prepared with skills to handle and anticipate change.
4. Application of knowledge and skills is critical to success in the real world.
5. Learning occurs best in a safe and secure environment.
6. Individuals are unique and learn at different rates and in different ways.
7. There is value in diversity.
8. All people have equal worth and deserve equal opportunity.
9. Quality schools measure what they do, clearly define expectations, and act upon results.
10. Responsible decision making requires a knowledge of the past, an understanding of the needs of the present, and a vision of the future.
11. All individuals have the right to privacy of beliefs and values.
12. An educated population, capable of thinking independently and working together is critical for success.

EDUCATION GOALS

As productive, responsible, lifelong learners it is essential that Linn-Mar students be:

Competent in Core Skills – Who are proficient in reading comprehension, mathematical reasoning and technology skills.

Users of Core Skills and Knowledge – Who can use cultural, artistic, historical, scientific, and technological applications to explain, assess, and anticipate change as well as construct knowledge, as needed.

Strategic Goal 1

Student Achievement: Every student will achieve a higher achievement to his/her highest potential.

Strategic Goal 2

Learning Environments: Linn-Mar will upgrade, maintain, and expand facilities to support the district mission and to provide a safe environment for students, faculty, and community.

Strategic Goal 3

Career Development: Linn-Mar will obtain and retain quality staff.

Strategic Goal 4

Programs: Linn-Mar programs will provide educational and extra-curricular opportunities tailored to the needs of individual students.

Character Development at all levels, e.g., PRIDE.

Strategic Goal 5

Resources: In recognition of the importance of establishing a world class educational environment, Linn-Mar will develop a seamless continuation of existing funding options and aggressively pursue new funding mechanisms, including advocacy for more equitable and effective state allocation of financial resources for public education.

Linn-Mar Community School District

Front Row (from left): Helen Romanick, Jim Green, President; Bob Crawford, Vice President; Lorna Richards, Ann Stark, Erik Miss, David Mayer.

Back Row (from left): Erik Miles, David Meyer.

Points of Vision:

- The Linn-Mar Community School District provides equal education and employment opportunities and will not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, religion, gender, age, national origin, marital status, sexual orientation, or disability. LMCSD shall take affirmative action in recruitment, appointment, assignment, and promotion of women and men, minorities and disabled. Inquiries regarding compliance with equal educational or employment opportunities and/or affirmative action shall be directed to Equal Opportunity Coordinator, Linn-Mar Community School District, 3333 North Tenth Street, Marion, IA, 52302. Inquiries may also be directed, in writing, to the Director, Illinois Civil Rights Commission in Des Moines; the Director of the Region VII office of the United States Equal Employment Opportunities Commission, or the Director of the Region VII Office of Civil Rights, United States Department of Education, Kansas City, Missouri.

Linn-Mar Community School District Board of Education

Minutes of each meeting are available at the Educational Services Center.

A brief summary of each board meeting is also on the Linn-Mar website at www.linnmar.k12.ia.us on the Friday following the Board meeting.

Erik Miles, David Meyer.

The certified enrollment for the 2003-2004 school year was 5,444. This was an increase of 152.7 students from the 2002-2003 school year.

The Linn-Mar Community School District annually prepares an Annual Report to provide a review of the district’s efforts to meet the needs of its students, staff, parents, and community. The report is prepared in accordance with the Iowa Community School District Financial Reporting Annual Accountability System (ARS) and state and federal guidelines.

The ARC prepares the Annual Report to include information that will accurately reflect the district’s accomplishments and financial results.

Enrollment by Grade Level

Linn-Mar has 99 students in Kindergarten.

First Grade:

349 students.

Second Grade:

308 students.

Third Grade:

308 students.

Fourth Grade:

369 students.

Fifth Grade:

393 students.

Sixth Grade:

419 students.

Seventh Grade:

377 students.

Eighth Grade:

458 students.

Ninth Grade:

347 students.

Tenth Grade:

308 students.

Eleventh Grade:

308 students.

Twelfth Grade:

528 students.

Attendance Rate: 97.2%

Drop-out Rate: 8%

Graduation Rate: 96.0%
The performance of Linn-Mar students continued to exceed that of their peers in other districts on state assessments in reading, math, and science, and on college entrance exams. Continued academic excellence is also reflected in the results of standardized achievement tests such as the Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS) and the Iowa Test of Educational Development (ITED). American College Testing (ACT) Linn-Mar’s composite score for 2003-2004 was 23.1, which compares to the Iowa average of 22 and the National average of 20.9. A score of 20 or higher on the 36 point scale for the test indicates probable success in college.

Grade Point Average Grade point average is an indicator of student academic achievement. The academic achievement is recorded by grade level to track trends in student performance.

Postsecondary Enrollment Juniors and seniors may enroll in college level course work under the Post Secondary Enrollment Options Act (PSEO) at area colleges. Freshmen and sophomores may enroll in college course work through the gifted education program. The number of students that participate in the PSEO program represents the Linn-Mar commitment to higher learning opportunities.

AP Exams The Advanced Placement program (AP) provides challenging course work that may receive college credit from area post secondary institutions upon successful completion of the course exam. AP courses offered at Linn-Mar span the academic areas of History, Biology, Chemistry, Literature, Calculus, Psychology, Composition, Government and Spanish. AP exams are scored on a 1-5 scale, with 5 being the highest score.

FINANCIALS

The District’s administrative team and Board of Education approved a $46.5 million budget for the 2003-04 school year. Everyone involved in the budget planning process was mindful of the state budget cuts and the funds necessary to maintain high-quality educational programs for students.

INSTRUCTION Allocations for instruction make up the majority of the budget. This category accounts for 54% of the total budget and includes, but is not limited to, the following:

✓ Salary and benefits of all instructors and educational associates.
✓ Teaching materials including textbooks, workbooks and other supplies.
✓ Open enrollment and special education tuition for students attending other school districts.

STUDENT & STAFF SUPPORT The student and staff support portion of the budget includes guidance, media center, technology and curriculum support necessary to operate the district. Student and staff support represents approximately eight percent of the total budget.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES Administrative services include all the administrative, financial and personnel services necessary to operate the district. Administrative services represent approximately seven percent of the overall budget.

PLANT OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE/FACILITIES

ACQUISITION & CONSTRUCTION Plant operations and maintenance provide the necessary custodial and maintenance personnel, supplies, contracted services and utilities to maintain the district’s 10 facilities. This budget is also used to acquire land for the purchase and building of new facilities to support student growth. During the 2003-2004 school year, operations and maintenance comprised roughly 14% of the district’s overall budget.

TRANSPORTATION The District’s transportation budget provides all the bus drivers, mechanics, parts, contracted services, fuel, equipment and management support necessary to transport students safely to school. The District is required to provide transportation for all PK-8 students who live two or more miles away from their attendance center and all High School students who live more than three miles from their attendance center. The District is also required to provide transportation for all special needs students. Transportation expenditures comprised about three percent of the District’s overall budget.

NON-INSTRUCTIONAL The non-instructional portion of the budget is the part of the budget that is used to provide nutritious breakfast and lunch to students. The non-instructional portion of the budget was approximately three percent of the District’s overall proposed budget.

DEBT SERVICE All bonds, interest and long-term debt obligations from construction in the District are found in the Debt Service portion of the budget. For the 2003-2004 school year, the Debt Service portion of the budget is approximately eight percent of the overall proposed budget.

AEA SUPPORT For all Iowa schools a portion of each school district’s budget is turned over to it’s Local Area Education Association (AEA). The AEA’s provide the district with services in three areas: special education, media and education. The AEA support from the District for the 2003-2004 school year was three percent of the District’s proposed budget.


**SCHOOL NUTRITION**

**Director:** Susan Knight  
319-447-3302  
sknight@linnmar.k12.ia.us

**Average number breakfasts served daily:** 300

**Student Prices:**  
Grades K-12 $0.65

**Average cost to produce:** $1.41

**Average lunches served daily:** 3,160

**Student Prices:**  
Elementary $1.60  
Middle School $1.65  
High School $1.70

**Average cost to produce:** $1.82

Staff members provide breakfast and lunch at all eight school buildings.

**Points of Pride 2003-2004:**  
- All Linn-Mar kitchen managers are ServSafe certified. The ServSafe program has become the industry standard in food safety training and is endorsed by the National Restaurant Association.

- Participation in a commodity purchase program through USDA has allowed the department to offer students a large variety of fresh fruits and vegetables on a regular basis.

- SIDS, a computerized meal program, continues to provide families with up-to-the-minute information regarding student meal accounts.

- Nutrient-based menu planning at the elementary level ensures that students are offered healthy, nutritional meals based on USDA standards.

- The District will provide students with nutrition support necessary to promote good health, so they may receive maximum benefit from their educational program. Nutrient analysis will be expanded to the secondary level.

- The department will continue to improve the quality and variety of meals served with special attention to reducing fat.

- The department will seek to increase student and teacher participation in the school nutrition program.

**TRANSPORTATION**

**Director:**  
Denny Schreckengast  
319-447-3030  
dschreckengast@linnmar.k12.ia.us

**Number of buses in fleet:** 41

**Number of other vehicles:** 8 vans

**Average daily number of miles traveled:** 1,800

**Average daily number of students transported:** 3,800

**Equipment purchases:** One 84 passenger bus and one large lift bus.

**Panned equipment purchases for 2004-05 school year:**  
Two 84 passenger buses

**BUILDINGS & GROUNDS**

**Director:** Arden Kasner  
319-447-3021  
akasner@linnmar.k12.ia.us

**Facilities**  
The Building and Grounds Department maintains Linn-Mar facilities and grounds.

**Points of Pride 2003-2004:**  
- Skim the surfaces of the Excelsior baseball and softball fields.  
- Continue parking lot repairs across the District.  
- Resurface Indian Creek playground.

**Points of Vision 2004-2005:**  
- The District will move to a K-12 web-based, integrated student database system that will include student demographic information, teacher web pages, classroom assignments, attendance-taking, scheduling, grade reporting, calendar features and more.

- A 25-station wireless laptop cart for the High School will be set up.

**HUMAN RESOURCES**

**Executive Director:** Karla Christian, PHR  
319-447-3036  
krchristian@linnmar.k12.ia.us

Quality teachers have a direct correlation with how well students learn. By Linn-Mar Community School District Board Policy, every teacher must be licensed to teach in the state of Iowa and have an endorsement in the teaching assignment area as appropriate. Nearly fifty percent of Linn-Mar faculty have advanced degrees.

**School District Personnel**

- Administrators 17  
- Certified Faculty 367  
- Support Staff 175  
- Food Service 57  
- Transportation 49  
- Buildings and Grounds 55  
- TOTAL EMPLOYEES 724

**COMMUNITY RELATIONS**

**Coordinator:** Laura Mallicoat  
319-447-3005  
lmallicoat@linnmar.k12.ia.us

- Points of Pride 2003-2004:  
  - More than 1,000 volunteers donated 20,058 curriculum-based hours at a savings of $164,275.
  - 55 volunteers gave more than 100 hours to the District during the school year.

- Points of Vision 2004-2005:  
  - Continue to increase the involvement level of volunteers district-wide.
  - Continue to promote a positive school environment through community and school-wide volunteer involvement.
Our Schools

LINN-MAR HIGH SCHOOL

CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Activities are an integral part of the District. Research indicates that students who are involved in activities have fewer discipline problems, earn better grades, have better attendance and have a higher completion rate.

Seventy-two percent of Linn-Mar students in grades 6-8 participate in co-curricular activities. Activities include the following:

- Basketball boys/girls
- Football
- Volleyball
- Soccer boys/girls
- Tennis boys/girls
- Track boys/girls
- Wrestling
- Orchestra
- Show Choir
- Band

Nearly eighty percent of Linn-Mar High School students are involved in a co-curricular activity. Options include:

- Baseball
- Basketball boys/girls
- Cheerleading
- Cross Country boys/girls
- Football
- Golf boys/girls
- Soccer boys/girls
- Softball
- Swimming boys/girls
- Tennis boys/girls
- Track boys/girls
- Volleyball
- Wrestling
- Drama club
- Band
- Jazz Band
- Orchestra
- Vocal Music
- Show Choir
- Speech
- Thespians
- Poms
- Future Farmers of America
- Future Business Leaders of America
- Health Occupations
- Students of America
- Family, Career and Community Leaders of America
- National Honor Society
- Students Of World
- Drugs and Alcohol
- Teens Reaching Youth
- Students International
- Model United Nations
- Circle of Friends
- Model United Nations
- Jr. Beta
- Key Club
- CORDS
- Robotics Team
- Wrestling
- Peer Facilitators
- Intramural Activities
- Student Ambassadors
- Yearbook
- Voice
- Math Team
- Student Council
- Linn-Mar TV

Points of Vision 2004-2005:

- Linn-Mar High School will continue efforts to expand the number of Advanced Placement course offerings available to students.
- Linn-Mar High School will continue efforts to increase the percentage of eleventh grade students who are proficient in math, reading, and science as determined by standardized tests and the Iowa Department of Education.
- An individual intervention plan will be implemented for ninth grade students who are not proficient in math, reading, or science as determined by the Iowa Tests of Educational Development.
- An athletic "Wall of Fame" will be implemented.
- Plans for the relocation of Armstrong Field athletic facilities will be developed.
- Faculty will collaborate to consolidate curriculum maps for multiple section classes.

Points of Vision 2004-2005:

- An exploration of differentiated instruction as a means to enhance student achievement will begin.
- A new, year-long eighth grade reading course and new Title I Math program in the seventh grade will allow the District to more effectively reach students with specific needs in reading and math.
- A new, year-long eighth grade reading course and new Title I math program in seventh grade will enhance student achievement.
- Implement sixth grade TAG Class with science emphasis.
- "A High School Prep" exploratory course for eighth graders will help students prepare and more effectively organize their time and learning habits.

Our Schools

EXCELSIOR MIDDLE SCHOOL

EXCELSIOR MIDDLE SCHOOL

EXCELSIOR MIDDLE SCHOOL

Points of Pride 2003-2004:

- 300 students from Linn-Mar Middle School moved to the new Oak Ridge School. The move created more "elbow room" and allowed for more appropriate use of building space.
- Groundwork was laid for "Homebase" initiatives, a unique advisory program, comprehensive anti-bullying effort and the purchase of the "GO" Agenda for sixth grade.
- Exploratory offerings moved from trimester courses to quarter courses to align with state standards.

Points of Vision 2004-2005:

- Expand the Oak Ridge intramural program.
- Implement the Teenscreen program.
- Implement sixth grade TAG Class with science emphasis.
- Implement eighth grade reading support course.

OAK RIDGE SCHOOL

4901 Albertus Road
Marion, IA 52302
319-447-3410 • Fax: 319-373-4930

Grades Served / Number of sections
K – 2 sections
1 – 2 sections
2 – 1 sections
3 – 2 sections
4 – 2 sections
5 – 2 sections

Average Class Size 19 - 28
Co-curricular Opportunities
Fifth grade band
Fifth grade orchestra

Additional Academic Support
LEO
3 reading support teachers
Additional opportunities
Before and After School
Homework Club
Office Runners
Recycling Program
Buddy Groups
Cafeteria Helpers
Bus Helpers
Leadership Program (grades 6-8)
Our Schools

BOWMAN WOODS ELEMENTARY

2900 Indian Creek Road
Marion, IA 52302
319-447-3270 • Fax: 319-373-9233
Principal: Tina Monroe
Enrollment: 406
Grades Served / Number of sections
K – 3 sections
1 – 3 sections
2 – 4 sections
3 – 3 sections
4 – 3 sections
5 – 3 sections
Average Class Size 20-23
Co-curricular Opportunities
Fifth grade band
Fifth grade orchestra
Encore! fourth / fifth grade vocal music
Additional opportunities
LEO
2.5 reading support teachers
Part-time math support teacher
Additional opportunities
Student Jobs Program
Student Council (grades 2-5)
After School Homework Club
Intramurals for fourth and fifth grade
"Dribbler" Performance
Basketball (grades 1 – 5)
Art Club
Lego League
Mentor Program

INDIAN CREEK ELEMENTARY

2999 North Tenth Street
Marion, IA 52302
319-447-3300 • Fax: 319-373-9144
Principal: Joe North
Enrollment: 370
Grades Served / Number of sections
K – 3 sections
1 – 3 sections
2 – 3 sections
3 – 3 sections
4 – 2 sections
5 – 3 sections
Average Class Size 20-23
Co-curricular Opportunities
Fifth grade band
Fifth grade orchestra
Encore! fourth / fifth grade vocal music
Additional opportunities
LEO
3 reading support teachers
.5 math support teacher
Additional opportunities
Student Jobs Program
Student Council (grades 2-5)
After School Homework Club
Intramurals for fourth and fifth grade
"Dribbler" Performance
Basketball (grades 1 – 5)
Art Club
Lego League
Mentor Program

NOVAK ELEMENTARY

901 East Main Street
Robins, IA 52328
319-447-3350 • Fax: 319-832-1581
Principal: Jeff Schneekloth
Enrollment: 457
Grades Served / Number of sections
AK – 2 sections
K – 3 sections
1 – 3 sections
2 – 3 sections
3 – 3 sections
4 – 2 sections
5 – 2 sections
Average Class Size 20-27
Co-curricular Opportunities
Fifth grade band
Fifth grade orchestra
Novak Notes (vocal music group for fourth / fifth graders)
Additional Academic Support
LEO
2.5 reading support teachers
.5 math support teacher
Additional opportunities
Student Jobs Program
Student Council (grades 2-5)
After School Homework Club
Intramurals for fourth and fifth grade
"Dribbler" Performance
Basketball (grades 1 – 5)
Art Club
Lego League
Mentor Program

Our Schools

WESTFIELD ELEMENTARY

12127 22nd Street
Marion, IA 52302
319-447-3380 • Fax: 319-373-9995
Principal: Jeff Schneekloth
Enrollment: 457
Grades Served / Number of sections
AK – 2 sections
K – 3 sections
1 – 3 sections
2 – 3 sections
3 – 3 sections
4 – 2 sections
5 – 2 sections
Average Class Size 19 - 25
Co-curricular Opportunities
(band, orchestra, vocal music)
fifth grade band
fifth grade orchestra
Vocal Music Group for fourth / fifth graders
Additional Academic Support
LEO
3.0 reading support teachers
Math support – Ed. Assistants
Read Naturally Lab
Additional opportunities
Mentoring Program
After School Homework Club
Lego League

WILKINS ELEMENTARY

151 Boyson Road NE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402
319-447-3240 • Fax: 319-373-2592
Principal: Shannon Bisgard
Enrollment: 514
Grades Served / Number of sections
K – 4 sections
1 – 4 sections
2 – 3 sections
3 – 3 sections
4 – 4 sections
5 – 4 sections
Average Class Size 20-23
Co-curricular Opportunities
Fifth grade band
Fifth grade orchestra
Additional opportunities
LEO
3 reading support teachers
Part-time math support teacher
Additional opportunities
After School Study Hall
Mentoring Program
School-to-Work Jobs
Intramurals
Student Council

Additional opportunities
Mentor Program
After School Homework Club
Recycling Project – fifth grade
Student Helping Hands Project
Cars for Kids – fifth grade
Feed the Families Project
Lego League
Oak Ridge School
4901 Alburnett Road
Marion, IA 52302
319-447-3410

- Square footage: 95,000 sq. ft.
- Classrooms: 49
- Capacity: 700
- Opening Day: 8-27-03
- Dedication: 2-29-04