



The Graduate Support Program

Marian's educational model combines three necessary components to educate the whole child: Academics, Enrichment, and Graduate Support. **Marian's Graduate Support Program, the final component within this model, assists alumnae in achieving success during their high school and college years** by providing high school scholarships, connections to internship and career opportunities, and college entrance resources. In the last ten years, Marian has provided \$1.6 million in scholarships to its graduates.

The Graduate Support Program begins the moment students enroll in middle school. Marian creates a college-going culture, which includes small class sizes, individualized attention, daily study halls, tutors, and programs such as STAR Math and STAR Reading to ensure all students excel by the time they graduate Marian. Marian also implements sessions related to high school readiness to ensure students are exposed to their educational options and prepared for the next step. Marian's Graduate Support Officer works closely with seventh and eighth graders to help them identify schools that are a good fit and supports them through each step of the application process.

Once students graduate, Marian works with them throughout high school to connect them to extracurricular activities, internships, scholarships, college resources, and job opportunities.

Marian's two full-time staff members provide students with 12 years of academic, social, financial, and career readiness support. By engaging parents, community organizations, and local high schools together, Marian ensures students have the support many need as first generation college students.

As of the end of the last school year (ending in 2019):

1. 100% of alumnae graduated from high school, compared to 74% of students who attend local public schools.
2. 82% of Marian graduates went on to attend college, compared to 51% of students of similar background and circumstances living in the U.S.
3. 40% of Marian Girls have earned a college degree, compared to 15% of low-income, first generation students.



About Marian Middle School: Marian Middle School was founded in 1999 to provide a life-altering education to girls with limited means, but high potential. In 2000, Marian opened with 14 fifth and sixth grade students. Today, Marian supports up to 70 fifth through eighth grade girls and more than 265 alumnae. Marian is the only all-girls Catholic middle school in St. Louis serving urban adolescent students. Marian's students face significant socio-economic challenges: 91 percent qualify for the free and reduced fee meals program, a national indicator of poverty.