

## **Designer of the Year Portfolio Statement - Madison Genoways - Omaha Marian Network**

When I turned in my application at the end of my junior year to the Marian newspaper, *The Network*, I was excited and sick with anxiety. I was ready to learn how to make designs like the ones I'd seen in previous 16-page monthly tabloid papers. Then the 2020 horror story began. COVID-19 hit, and I realized that I was on my own to learn a whole new medium.

"No big deal, how hard can this really be?" I asked myself, still foolishly believing that newspaper layout involved a few clicks and photos. That night I opened Photoshop for the first time, saw all the buttons, and almost started crying. I had no guide, no one to slap my hand when I tried dragging files directly from desktop to Adobe, and no one to tell me that a tiny 200x200 pixel file definitely would *not* fit a sprawling tabloid size InDesign page. I taught myself the basics of graphic design and newspaper layout, snatching up YouTube tutorials, tip columns, and every available second of my very busy adviser's time.

Since the summer of 2020, I've grown from an anxious teenager following each step of a PhotoShop tutorial with laser focus, to the go-to person my staff approaches for Adobe help or a last-minute graphic for their page. I've spent many a sleepless night with PhotoShop, InDesign, and Procreate, tweaking and editing photos, pages, and graphics until they're just right.

During my time working on the paper, I've been able to collaborate with my staff to publish the news we felt our school needed to know. I collected and managed concepts for the front page, creating designs I knew would catch eyes and get our point across in as few words as possible. The range was vast, from school news and events to trickier subjects of free speech and politics. For each paper, I typically contributed four to eight graphics, both illustrated and informative, for my own stories as well as those of my staff. I believe my design work on the newspaper helped us stand out as a staff that knew how to tell a news story without words.

Nothing makes me prouder of my progress than the response I get from readers of our newspaper when I mention I'm majoring in graphic design in college: "you should fit right in, after all, it's what you've been doing this whole time!"

# THE NETWORK

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**“AS SOCIAL MEDIA COMPANIES HAVE GOTTEN MORE INVOLVED IN NEWS...THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN HOW THEY PRESENT THEMSELVES AND HOW THEY ACTUALLY FUNCTION HAS BEEN REACHING A BREAKING POINT.”**

**- BECCA LEWIS**  
PHD CANDIDATE  
AT STANFORD  
UNIVERSITY

*Freshman Anna Eggermayer checks her social. Photo by Naomi Delkammer*

**Free speech on social media: where is the line?**  
*Naomi Delkammer*

For Marian girls who use social media, the decisions being made to ban certain accounts and content is concerning. Junior Sydney Schroeder said she believes that “people can say, do or post whatever they believe in as long as they respect others and do so in a peaceful manner.”

In the fallout of Twitter’s decision to ban former president Donald Trump from its platform, a national conversation has been ignited around free speech on social media.

“Free speech frequently crosses into hate speech when others begin arguing and get angry. Slur dropping and tone raising become apparent in these situations,” Schroeder said. “[However] I don’t believe anything political should be taken down unless it promotes violence, or any illegal activity.”

The decision to ban and remove content may seem strange in the context of social media, but Becca Lewis, a PhD candidate in communication at Stanford University, has been researching the process for months. “As social media companies have gotten more involved as intermediaries in news and political coverage, the difference between how they present themselves and how they actually function has been reaching a breaking point,” Lewis said. “We need to acknowledge [Twitter and Facebook] as editorializers so we can hold them accountable for what they actually do.”

Mary Catherine Ruesch, Marian’s digital media coordinator, said that people equate the right to assembly with the right to use social media as a meeting place. “[Yet] with that comes rules,” Ruesch said. “Twitter is a company, they have their own brand to promote, and company values to uphold. If they feel like someone is violating that to an extreme, it is their right to ban someone or remove them.” Ruesch has a unique perspective on the matter, as she is responsible for all of Marian’s social media accounts. “If I shared something that did not uphold Marian’s brand, the six core values, the administration would have every right to take it down.”

Ruesch sees social media as a marketplace of ideas and a platform for engagement. However, she has noticed a shift in its use, citing the resurgence of the Black Lives Matter movement in the summer of 2020. “In the wake of George Floyd’s murder, people were stepping up and being vocal. People were no longer afraid to expose the injustices they felt,” Ruesch said. “People have realized that their voice matters.”

Courtney McGann is the head of the social media management team at KreativeElement, an internet marketing service in Omaha, Neb. “The word ‘censorship’ leaves a bad taste in your mouth, and for good reason. It’s a slippery slope,” McGann said. Yet, she views terms and conditions as a safeguard for the social media company to “help them carry out their fiduciary duty to their audience to shut down hate speech, stop scammers, help stymie the spread of misinformation and a lot more.”

Due to the liability placed on social media companies, McGann does not see unrestricted platforms as a solution to the current controversy. “As the standards of our news organizations have crumbled, we have now had to say that these social media platforms have a responsibility to their users/community to step in and uphold certain standards,” McGann said.

Platform leaders like Jack Dorsey and Mark Zuckerberg are facing an ethical dilemma: Is it possible to uphold the right to free speech and simultaneously halt the spread of misinformation and violence? In the coming years, there will likely be widespread reform around the use of social media, but there is no doubt that free speech is being redefined, leaving many users wondering “Where is the line?”

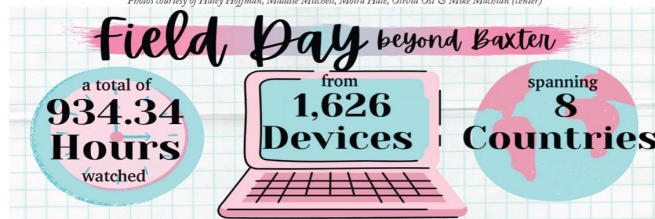
1. Feb. Front: This front page was published soon after the riots at the Capitol Building in Jan. 2021. The graphic was paired with a news story about social media's role in free speech.



**Even with masks, Field Day '21 makes up for two years of spirit**



*Photos courtesy of Haley Hoffman, Maddie Mitchell, Moira Hale, Olivia Ott & Mike Machian (center)*



*Data from Mr. William Debler, Technology Director*

*Infographic by MaddieGenoways*



2. **May Front:** This front page covered Field Day, the one of the most cherished traditions at Marian High School. The collage displays each of the four classes participating in their different categories throughout the day. The infographic underneath shows viewing statistics of the streamed event, and the teaser below advertises important pages in the rest of the issue.

*Marian High School presents...*

# **FREAKY**

*Friday*

**TICKETS**  
**ADULT: \$12.00**  
**STUDENT:**  
**\$8.00**



<b>THURSDAY, APRIL 8</b>	<b>7PM</b>
<b>FRIDAY, APRIL 9</b>	<b>7PM</b>
<b>SATURDAY, APRIL 10</b>	<b>7PM</b>
<b>SUNDAY, APRIL 11</b>	<b>2PM</b>

Freaky Friday is presented through special arrangement  
with Music Theatre International (MTI)



**Mary Joy & Tal  
Anderson  
Performing Arts  
Center  
Kish Auditorium  
7400 Military Ave  
Omaha, NE**

3. **Freaky Friday Poster:** This was the poster for the Marian 2021 musical, *Freaky Friday*. I met with the directors and treated it like a design-for-hire, so I had to meet their needs and be able to attract ticket sales.



# THE ENNEAGRAM

DISCOVER THE REASONS BEHIND YOUR ACTIONS.

## Enneagram allows for self-reflection, deepens sense of self

Every single person has a different way of thinking, which causes unique outlooks on every situation, however, there are similarities that group people into separate distinctions. This grouping is called the Enneagram, and it is a way to discover the personality traits of others, and why they act the way they do. Though the in-depth personality depicter has supposedly been around for centuries, in 1955, a Russian philosopher, George Gurdjieff, was researching human development, and thus came the publicity and popularity of the Enneagram. This personality test gives individuals the opportunity to look deeper into the components that guide their thinking, and explains behavioral patterns.

The nine personality types allow for everyone to have a source of clarification for their feelings and

actions. The nine types are subdivided into three categories, called triads: the body, the heart, and the head. In the body lies the Challenger (8), the Peacemaker (9), and the Reformer (1). The people associated with the body tend to guide their lives by instinct and gut feeling. A more romantic category, the heart, contains the Helper (2), the Achiever (3), and the Romantic (4). As you could guess, these people base their decisions off of emotion. Lastly, the Head contains the Investigator (5), the Loyalist (6), and the Enthusiast (7). This last group uses intellect to make decisions, and thoroughly thinks through the outcomes.

Theology III teacher, Mrs. Lori Spunbauer, has spent a considerable amount of time analyzing the Enneagram in her faith journey. She said, "I think that the nine types make up

the whole person. We all have all of those nine types within us, but we have a dominant type that helps us understand how we interact with the world."

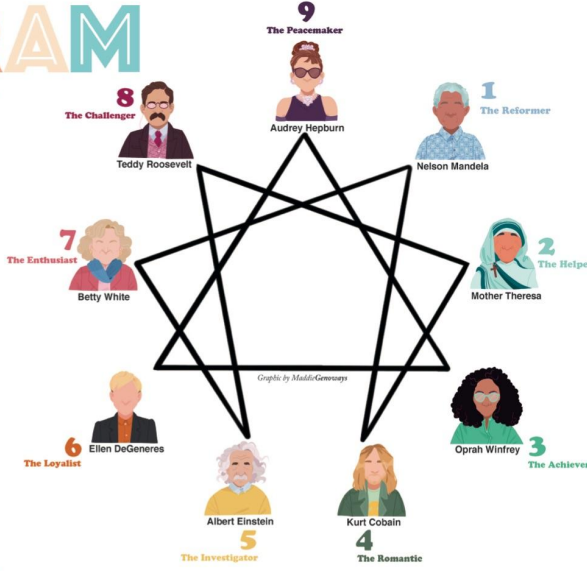
Just like no person fits into just one category, each type has two wings and security and stress points. The wings of each type are the two numbers directly next to it, and some people with that type may "wing" one of those two numbers; your wing can change over the course of your life, but your type cannot. The security point across the diagram from your number is the number from which you take the negative qualities during times of stress.

For example, if you are a four, a romantic, you can wing a three or five; your security point is one, and your stress point two.

However, the Enneagram does not simply state the redeeming, positive qualities of everybody; it also points out the faults each type contains: snobbish, self-absorbed, demanding and more. Sheddling light on the good and the bad praises everyone, while also humbling them and giving them the gift of seeing their own faults.

Libby Cole, Owner and Certified Coach of Enneagram to Expand, said, "I truly believe learning more and digging deeper into the Enneagram can help you develop into the best version of yourself. Many forms of self-exploration are beneficial to your overall development and self-awareness, but the Enneagram especially is a strong tool."

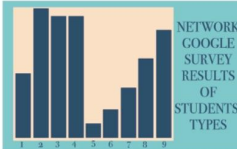
The Enneagram gives a specific insight that allows for deep personal reflection and an acceptance and deeper understanding of the self.



TYPE 1	TYPE 2	TYPE 3	TYPE 4	TYPE 5	TYPE 6	TYPE 7	TYPE 8	TYPE 9
<b>THE REFORMER</b> Driven to follow morals and rules; can be restricting or critical	<b>THE HELPER</b> Values being seen in a positive light; prioritizes helping others; can be manipulative	<b>THE ACHIEVER</b> Very efficient and goal oriented; can be over-achieving, making the people around them seem lazy	<b>THE ROMANTIC</b> Values creativity and uniqueness; strives to be authentic; can often feel misunderstood	<b>THE INVESTIGATOR</b> Strong drive to understand why, independent; can appear disconnected and seem suspicious	<b>THE LOYALIST</b> Very responsible and clings to safety and comfort; can be worrisome; making them seem suspicious	<b>THE ENTHUSIAST</b> Wants to experience everything to the fullest; can be impulsive; and lack good judgement	<b>THE CHALLENGER</b> Acts as a strong leader for those around them; strives for justice; can be aggressive or lustful	<b>THE PEACEMAKER</b> Strives to create harmony in everything surrounding them; very self-aware; can be extremely stubborn
<b>Core fear:</b> Being morally bad	<b>Core fear:</b> Feeling unloved	<b>Core fear:</b> Feeling worthless	<b>Core fear:</b> Feeling insignificant	<b>Core fear:</b> Feeling incapable	<b>Core fear:</b> Feeling trapped or deprived	<b>Core fear:</b> Being controlled	<b>Core fear:</b> Not having inner peace	

- Mrs. Jillian Roger, Social Studies Teacher, Type 1**  
"I want to be good and an very critical of myself"
- Mrs. Amanda Pritchard, Spanish Teacher, Type 2**  
"It just reminded me that I need to prioritize self care, too. I can help others better when I am at my best."
- Mr. Eric Thompson, Math Teacher, Type 3**  
"I consider myself to be pragmatic and analytic, which I attribute to my work as a Math teacher"
- Bridget Gerard, Senior, Type 4**  
"I consider myself different from others in some ways, and I like to maintain a certain self image"
- Ashlee Cray, Senior, Type 5**  
"I'm very independent and observant, and I like to be knowledgeable in any topic that fascinates me"

- Grace Ellis, Senior, Type 6**  
"I think taking the test just reaffirmed what I already knew about myself"
- Laura Torres-Salvador, Freshman, Type 7**  
"I am very extroverted and optimistic, and the strongest feature I identify with is being spontaneous."
- Mrs. Susie Sullivan, Principal, Type 8**  
"I do not have a problem asking questions and letting people know my opinion, and I stand up for what I believe in"
- Mrs. Gary Dellamiller, Theology Teacher, Type 9**  
"The strongest characteristic for me is wanting to mediate a sense of peace, and in such a way that there's growth."



Don't know what type you are? Scan this code to take the 'Truity' test to find yours!

Scan this code and click on your type to get an in-depth description!

## An 8 speaks out: Understanding the types creates acceptance, love

*Opinion by Natalia Casick*

We've all grown up with the idea that we are on some transient journey to "find ourselves." We hear about people who venture into the wilderness "off the grid" with no reception for a month and emerge from the woods a new person. This leads most to believe that who we are before this big "ah-ha" moment is just some impostor in place of the real version of ourselves that will one day appear. The Enneagram completely wiped away this faint map of a self-discovery path winding through the back of my brain and replaced it with a road sign saying "there's no one else to find."

The Enneagram exposes the concept that you were created to be your authentic self but may have been confusing this with your personality, which is really just the mask we use to strive to protect our true self. "Before we can become who we really are, we must become conscious of the fact that the person who we think we are, here and now, is at best an impostor and a stranger," Thomas Merton said. "Your Enneagram type or number is not reflective of your personality but actually your most inner, true self."

To take the first steps on the Enneagram's journey of self-understanding, you can take an online

test, talk to someone who knows both you and the Enneagram well or, to be completely sure of your type, read about it.

After I took those first two steps and was sure of my type, I began to read into it. As I read all about type 8, I felt like I was reading words written by a little elf living in my brain. Everything I read was a direct reflection of who I am, yet I had never been able to put these truths about myself into words. Although reading all this gave an explanation for the ways I act, love and fail, I didn't learn anything I didn't already know deep down. That's why I have primarily found the Enneagram as a way to understand those around me.

As a type 8, I have a lot of trouble understanding that there are other truths beyond my own and that not everyone can see things the way I do. It was almost earth-shattering to hear from the 9s why they avoid conflict; I always thought that was just a bad habit of theirs that needed to be fixed. I never would have thought that the 3s in my life—who's constant people-pleasing I can't stand—are really trying to combat feeling unworthy.

I was completely fascinated to hear about the way other people see life, because I have always

been too busy trying to force them to put on an 8s glasses.

Reading about each Enneagram type with my family and friends in mind gave me insight into thought processes some of them probably couldn't even explain about themselves. Understanding provides for acceptance and empathy, which is exactly what I took away from reading about the Enneagram and brought into my friendships.

The Enneagram forced me to look in the mirror at my innermost fears, desires and faults. While these realizations created a few moments of self-hatred, they left me with a greater sense of self and a comfort in knowing why I am who I am. More importantly, the Enneagram allowed me a glimpse inside the minds and hearts of people I thought I could never relate to.

I've learned that there is a reason, and sometimes a fear, behind every person's actions and inactions. Everyone sees the world in a completely different light, but that should never hinder our relationships or force us into the shade of others' views. There are many truths in this world, and accepting our own and others' is the only way to truly love ourselves and others.

4. Enneagram: This graphic paired with an In-depth page focused on the Enneagram personality test. The graphic was modeled after the test's result chart and shows a celebrity that supposedly shares the personality type.

### Activism at Marian

#### How Marian girls are finding solutions to difficult problems

Chaise Calla Cavanaugh marched with friends, signs in hand, along 72nd and Dodge this past June. The protest called with a rally at Memorial Park. "I was motivated to protest because I wanted to see my voice and presence to help educate others about the Black Lives Matter Movement, police brutality, and the history of persistent systemic racism in this country," said Cavanaugh. She described the protest as peaceful. "The movement was so empowering, there were chants, inspiring speakers, and the energy was positive and hopeful."

Senior Tory Roshdoun was to protest that wasn't as peaceful, but equally as powerful. "The protest was extremely energizing, you could feel the public anger over George Floyd's death, not JUST his death, but the years and years of suppression and mistreatment the Black community has faced," Roshdoun said. "Right before the first flash bang was thrown by police forces, there was a moment of silence and that moment, I know those protests were making something that even witnessed in my lifetime thus far."

As powerful as the protests were for these students, it also reminded them that the U.S. still has a ways to go before fixing the racial disparities in this country. So how can the Marian student body create real change? Self-reflection helps individuals recognize any biases they may have and work to erase them. "As a predominantly white school, we as students should recognize how we may contribute



**"It is very easy for girls to stay inside their bubbles of privilege unless we make things monetary."**  
Callie Cavanaugh '21

# BLACK LIVES MATTER

The movement's past and present

Though it was suppressed and hidden away in the hearts of passionate people for decades, the spirit of the Black Lives Matter movement has always been alive, begging to break free. In the early 1950s, the Civil Rights Movement began around the United States. The Black community simply demanded equal treatment as the white community in existence beside them. When the change that was sought after still hadn't occurred by 1960, Malcolm X, an Omaha native, cited the famous quote "By any means necessary" and redefined the movement.

On July 13, 2013 a Black 17-year-old boy, Trayvon Martin, was shot to death by the police in Sanford, Florida while walking home to his father's condo. Instantly after his death, the community began to call for justice, and so the Black Lives Matter (BLM) movement officially began.

Then on July 17, 2014, Eric Garner was suffocated by police during an arrest in New York. As he was being choked, he pleaded, "I can't breathe," begging for the police to know the child he had on his back, leading to his death. This murder caused an emotional reaction in America, leading to protests, rallies and acts of passionate civil disobedience in hopes of gaining attention for the lost life. Professional athletes wore T-shirts quoting, "I can't breathe" to stand up in front of crowds of thousands, celebrities used their influence to advocate for petitions of justice and millions participated in #BlackoutMatters-based movement to make it easier for the public to devote time to the BLM movement.

As the years passed, acts of racism and police brutality continued behind the public eye, but still happened nonetheless—until May 25, 2020—when Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin knelt on George Floyd's neck. Floyd, a 46-year-old Black man and father of one, was suffocated by Officer Chauvin for nearly nine minutes as pedestrians stood by. The event was caught on camera and later posted to social media, triggering an emotional response all around the United States and once again bringing the BLM movement back to the forefront of American culture.

Once Floyd's murder occurred, an explosion of civil unrest followed, exposing the unjust murders of Elijah McClain killed for looking suspicious with a hat on as he was walking home at night; Breonna Taylor shot by police during a no-knock warrant for her boyfriend's alleged drug possession; Armin Jefferson shot in the presence of her nephew for a reported call of her front door being open; Stephen Clark shot for holding a phone that supposedly looked like a gun... and countless other lives.

Though the need for change started through forms of awareness on social media, such as resource lists to learn about the movement and links to petitions, it soon took to the streets. Protests by big cities like Minneapolis, Chicago, Philadelphia, and even Omaha arose. In Omaha, one of the protests ended with a devastating story. James Scott, a 22-year-old Black man, was shot and killed by Jacob Gardner, owner of The Fire and The Candy bar. The death of this young man rattled the Omaha

community and compelled the community to stand up for justice. On 72nd and Dodge, the location of the main protests, a billboard based off of the mural on 14th and Farm St. was put up to remember the life of Scott. The movement not only reached the city of Omaha, with the citizens holding protests and supporting Black business owners, but it reached Marian High School as well. After a commercial #BlackLivesMatter post on Marian's Instagram page, students expressed personal hardships they have endured and courageously brought previously unaddressed racial disparities directly to the administration.

Because of the recent exposure, Marian's administration felt a strong need to make changes as well. Multiple meetings were held over Zoom in which students were encouraged to share their honest opinions and ideas to ensure a more inclusive environment at the school. "Marian understands that we don't understand," Principal Susie Sullivan said. She followed with, "This is too important to miss up."

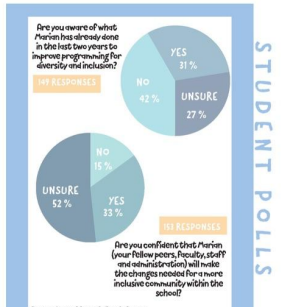
To help navigate the conversation, Marian invited Anette Crowder, from Omaha Public Schools and Cynthia Robinson, a University of Nebraska at Omaha professor to give helpful insight and provide a more comfortable setting for all the students who were brave in raising concerns. At the meetings, multiple students voiced their opinion and opened the eyes of the Marian community. Robinson said, "[I] fear racism as its own time-aggressive [it] make sure it doesn't come back." See chart below:

### STEPS TAKEN

- Professional development for faculty and staff
- Faculty diversity committee
- Creation of an African American studies class
- History and English classes increased multicultural focus
- Cultural awareness videos
- Black and Hispanic students began meeting with Mrs. Sullivan in the spring of 2019
- Diverse educational opportunities for students
- Job advertisements expanded to multiple cities

### STEPS PLANNED

- A Student Diversity Board
- The hiring of a Director of Diversity and Inclusion
- Enhanced handbook policy relevant to racist behavior
- School wide racial awareness conversions in small group settings
- A student-planned multicultural night
- Additional student participation in policy relevant to racist behavior
- Inclusivity workshops
- Student-led programming for peer to peer teaching



### Microaggressions can cause marginalization

As defined in the English Dictionary, a microaggression is "a comment, action, or incident regarded as an instance of indirect, subtle, or unintentional discrimination against members of a marginalized group such as a racial or ethnic minority." Microaggressions stem from societal stereotypes and a lack of diversity education. For example, continually mispronouncing the name of a student with a non-English sounding name after being corrected, complementing a student with a different background on their English, assuming the physical abilities of a student based on their race or teaching a student's hair and asking if it is natural can all be defined as microaggressions. The base of a microaggression is assuming a person's abilities and background from external stereotypes in society and a lack of effort to correct them. The use of microaggressions can cause

minority groups to feel marginalized in their own community. Prejudicial actions can be subconscious or learned through the culture one is raised in making self awareness and reflection vital to ensure welcoming communities. By continuing to acknowledge differences that we see apart from others while simultaneously embracing the qualities that bring you together, Marian will grow into a safer space for students and teachers alike.

### We need someone who has experienced racism. We want someone like us.

Izzy Seto '22

### What some students are seeking: Action, Awareness. A seat at the table.

Marian girls have the opportunity to actively transform the school's trajectory moving forward. In June 2020, dozens of students opened up about their personal experiences as a member of a minority community at a majority white school.

"We need someone who has experienced racism. We want someone like us," junior Izzy Seto said. A Latina student, Seto believes a more diverse staff would make it easier for students to speak openly about their experiences as a minority. "It's trying to explain racism to someone who doesn't know how it feels. If I were ever to have a racial problem I would feel more comfortable going to anyone of color." Soils comments were echoed by other students with the desire to be understood without speculation and a factor in the administration's

decision to hire a diversity coordinator. However, it is not just current students seeking change. "Even though I won't be at Marian next year, I want it to be a better place for the people after me," freshman Agam Momyal said. "This school needs to be a pro-life for all students," Momyal said. Her hope is an example of aliphap. As Black women, she is speaking to improve the Marian community and ensure the wellbeing of those after her, despite knowing she will not witness the results firsthand.

Effective aliphap can be manifested by amplifying unheard voices, educating oneself and supporting various policies to create a more just society for all. Some minority students at Marian feel the need of aliphap is inconsistent and recently explained that social support from staff, students, and administrators is easily contradicted by the presence of a majority white staff, optional school-wide diversity trainings rather than mandatory ones and an absence of zero-tolerance policy against racism. Administrative participants heard these concerns loud and clear and have since turned the criticism into positive change.

With the help of staff and administration, Marian girls are transforming the school's trajectory before the school year has even started. A diversity coordinator has been hired for the 2020-2021 school year, mandatory faculty/diversity training is scheduled and a Diversity Student Board will soon join the ranks with other student-led initiatives at Marian. As a result of these dynamic changes and able going to anyone of color." Soils comments were echoed by other students with the desire to be understood without speculation and a factor in the administration's



### @OmahaMarian makes a statement

Marian's first public statement regarding race after the death of George Floyd was a controversial start. The June 2 Instagram post made by @omahamarian featured a student-made mural from February 20th, which was created in honor of Black History Month. Marian's president, Mary Higgins, said the intent of the post was to "authentically express a message of support and compassion." "We did not want to be silent," she said. The photo was accompanied by

a doot caption that wrote, "Compassion, Empowerment, Community. We stand with and support our students of color." Reaction to the post was a combination of support and criticism—some comments expressed gratitude that Marian had said something about the matter, others were critical that the school did not say enough. Within minutes the post had hundreds of responses from Marian students, along with other Instagram users, who felt it was a "disappointing, bland and insensitive" statement. The post was intended to show support. The post was deleted two hours after its initial upload due to students and faculty being targeted in the comment section. With over 200 likes and hundreds of comments the greater Marian community made it clear that Marian needs to "be better." While this statement can sound vague, these Zoom meetings between students and administrators throughout the month of June has made that request more clear. See chart for action steps.

## 5. BLM People: These graphics corresponded with quotes from Students of color at Marian. It paired with multiple stories about the school's response to Black Lives Matter protests and calls for equality among students.