



MARBURN ACADEMY

Marburn Academy
New Albany, Ohio
Head of School – July 1, 2020

“We celebrate students who learn differently, empowering them to awaken their potential, to achieve success in school and life and to drive positive change in our communities.”

In 1981, a group of visionary parents, educators and civic leaders founded a school that would provide the finest curriculum and environment for average and above average students who learn differently. Today Marburn Academy is a leader in research-based educational best practices for students with dyslexia, ADHD and executive function issues. It is also a resource for parents, a demonstration center for model programs and a training center for educators, psychologists and other professionals. Over its 37-year history, Marburn Academy has evolved from a local resource to one serving 34 central Ohio communities, and is now a nationally recognized center of excellence where children and young people with learning differences learn how to maximize their academic and personal potential.

Marburn Academy has 282 students in Grades 2-12 with 94 in the high school. There are 55 faculty who teach in small classes with an 8-to-1 student-teacher ratio. One hundred percent of graduating seniors have been accepted to college. Marburn students are successful in learning and in life because they thrive under the Academy’s “diagnostic, relationship-focused, data driven multisensory approach.” Students are coached in individual goal-setting and shown how to employ appropriate organizational and self-management tools to attain their goals. Extracurricular activities, especially the arts, supplement the academic program nicely and enhance students’ self-esteem. The outcome is confident students who achieve their personal best. Thus, there is a high level of parental satisfaction with the School.

In January 2017, Marburn moved into a new building located in desirable New Albany, Ohio, which has been recognized as “America’s Best Suburb” by *Business Insider*. The current building can house up to 325 students and is located on 17 acres of land, which allows for significant growth for years to come.

Marburn Academy has experienced consistent growth throughout its history due to the school’s mission and its substantial support from the Central Ohio leadership. The Board of Directors and Head of School enjoy a close, collaborative partnership which has helped fuel this growth. Marburn has a diversified funding structure that includes tuition, strong development and public support that has sustained growth through all economic cycles.

In October 2017, Marburn adopted a new strategic plan. The four pillars of the plan are as follows:

1. Optimize the student profile to refine further the size and nature of the student population that Marburn wishes to serve;
2. Provide innovation and leadership to the broader LD learning community;
3. Expand community connections and outreach; and
4. Create long-term organizational sustainability.

Marburn is a member of the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS), the Independent Schools Association of the Central States (ISACS) and the Ohio Association of Independent Schools (OAIS). It is accredited by the International Dyslexic Association and is one of only 15 schools in the country accredited by the Academy of Orton-Gillingham Practitioners.

The Opportunity

Reporting to the Board of Directors, the Head of School will have day-to-day responsibility for maintaining and strengthening the current overall standards of excellence at Marburn while managing growth and change. The ideal Candidate will have experienced leadership in a comparable LD setting and be well-versed in state-of-the art curriculum and approaches that serve this student population.

The Head of School will be expected to:

- Promote and model the Marburn Academy mission and core values in all areas of school life;
- Serve as a visionary and strategic leader in anticipating and analyzing trends in the field of LD education and work with the Board and staff to position the School to grow and thrive;
- Advance the strategic direction of the School according to the strategic plan;
- Promote Marburn as a destination school in order to retain and attract students through Grade 12;
- Innovate and advance the current excellence in programming while keeping informed about and open to state-of-the art curriculum in theory and practice;
- Foster and continuously strengthen a culture of teacher innovation, creativity, diversity, compassion, and mutual accountability;
- Recruit, develop and retain an outstanding faculty and staff, with a special focus on acclimating and onboarding new hires to the unique Marburn culture;
- Be a visible presence on campus and an active ambassador for Marburn in the community;
- Communicate effectively and with appropriate transparency with all stakeholders in a timely manner;
- Provide effective advocacy in government relations and lobbying to continue state support for families.

The Successful Candidate

The following characteristics, skills and knowledge have been identified as most important:

- A passion for the School's mission and vision enabling him or her to grow the School and leave an imprint on the wider community;

- An innovative, progressive thinker who encourages faculty and staff to think and act creatively in their instructional approaches;
- Strong business and organizational skills with an attention to detail;
- The ability to build strong relationships within the school community by partnering with students, families, teachers, administration and the Board;
- Networking skills to engage actively in outreach efforts to maintain and expand Marburn's reputation as a leader in the education of students with learning differences in central Ohio;
- Demonstrated experience in building and supporting a diverse school and faculty community;
- Strong oral and written communication skills that demonstrate clarity, appropriate transparency, honesty and timeliness;
- Humility, integrity and compassion;
- An engaging personality with the ability to build productive rapport with all constituents;
- The vision, knowledge and experience to identify and anticipate educational needs and opportunities;
- The confidence to be a change agent balanced by the ability to manage the nature and pace of organizational change.

Compensation

The salary and benefits package will be competitive.

An Invitation to Apply

Inquiries regarding this position are strictly confidential and should be directed to:

John C. Littleford
Littleford & Associates
PO Box 14806
Baton Rouge, LA 70898
Phone: 1-800-69TEACH
Email: John@Jlittleford.com

Please provide a CV, cover letter, statement of educational philosophy and three references. Electronic submission is preferred.

