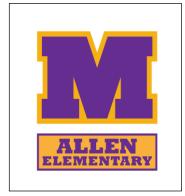
# **New Beginnings DAEP**

Marion Community Schools | Allen Elementary School







### **Our location**

MCS is an urban school system of about 3,900 students in the city of Marion, population about 30,000.

## Allen's demographics

About 358 students: 49% white: 19.3% black; 15% Hispanic; 16.7% multiracial.





For more information about the New Beginnings program, email Principal Anthony Williams, awwilliams@marion.k12.in.us, or Assistant Principal Jo Messner, jmessner@marion.k12.in.us. Learn more about Allen Elementary and Marion Community Schools at www.marion.k12.in.us.

Please watch our video on YouTube to further explore our New Beginnings program. It offers perspective from administration, staff, students and parents. Our goal is to share why this alternative to suspension works for our students and could work for

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I3bJcG8IIoE

#### **OUR PROMISING PRACTICE**

We created our New Beginnings Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (the first of its kind in Indiana) to address our concerns for suspended students, and the educational and personal growth opportunities they were missing.

Since the creation of this program, out-of-school suspensions have dropped dramatically (202 in the 2013-14 school-year; 16 in the 2014-15 school year; 35 in the 2015-16 school year and 13 as of February 2017)!

New Beginnings is not an in-school suspension program. It is a multi-faceted and multi-tiered approach to responding to and improving student behavior. Students work one-on-one with behavioral interventionists and instructional aides and meet frequently with a school counselor and social worker. The minimum length of participation is three days. There is no maximum.

Parents are also invited to Parent University, a support and encouragement program, to build a positive relationship in which everyone has the best interest of the student at heart.

#### **OUR STEPS**

Staffers traveled to a Texas elementary school that had DAEP in place, then created a data- and research-based plan. The program has since evolved to meet the needs of our students. We plan to use Title I funds to sustain when SIG ends after 2015-16.

#### **SHARING OUR SUCCESS**

Allen staffers presented at the SIG conference in Goshen, Indiana (December 2014); Committee of Practitioners in Indiana (December 2014); Indiana Association of School Principals Conference (November 2015); Indiana School Counselors Association Annual Conference and to DOE representatives several times. New Beginnings was featured in the January 2015 issue of the IASP Indianagram and at the Catapult Learning Leadership Institute in San Francisco. Allen Elementary and Marion Community Schools staff had the privilege of speaking at the National Alternative Education Association Conference in March 2015. Allen has hosted various Indiana school corporations onsite and via webinar, as well as schools from Alabama, California, Georgia and Kentucky.

Our TRUE success, though, is the change we see in our students every day!