EL News Quarterly

Fall Quarterly 2026 | Issue 1 | Sep 2026



Dear Students,

Welcome to a brand-new school year! We are so happy to see your smiling faces and excited hearts ready to learn. This year, we will explore new words, share our ideas, and grow our English skills together.
Remember — it's okay to make mistakes. Every mistake is a step toward learning something new. Be curious, be brave, and never be afraid to ask questions.

We are a team, and in our classrooms, everyone's voice matters. Let's make this year full of learning, laughter, and success! You've got this — and we are here to help you every step of the way.

Let's make it an amazing year!

"You don't have to be great to start, but you have to start to be great." - Alex Simon Manorek

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Part One: Community Resources for EL families

Marion County has many helpful programs for families whose first language is not English. These services include English classes, translation help, and community events that make it easier to connect with others. This section shares local resources that can support ESL families in learning, working, and feeling at home.

The **Marion County Family Resource & Support Network** is an organization that connects a lot of these resources for families. They aim to make all families feel safe and accepted while helping them reach their fullest potential through community-based planning, access to essential resources, and family-centered activities.





Strong Families
Strong Communities

LOCATION:
200 Fairmont Avenue, Suite 106
Fairmont, West Virginia 26554

CONTACT INFORMATION:
304-366-4445

www.marioncountyfrn.com

The Family Support Center offers the following education and activities:

1. **Family Bonding Activities**
2. **Essential & Baby Needs Pantry**
3. **Parent Education & Support**
4. **Community-Building Events**

Meet Our Team

Meet Melissa DeWitt

As the Supervisor of Elementary Education and Federal Programs, I am passionate about supporting our schools, teachers, and students and helping create opportunities for every child to succeed. Having grown up and received my own public education in Marion County Schools, being part of this school community is especially meaningful to me.

Outside of my professional life, I'm happiest when I'm spending time with the people I love, exploring somewhere new, or finding something that sparks my curiosity. I have always been drawn to things with a story or a sense of nostalgia, and I love discovering the little treasures and beautiful moments that make life memorable. Whether it's an afternoon exploring a new town, enjoying a crisp fall day, or adding a unique find to my collection, I believe the best memories are often found in the simple things.

I'm grateful for the opportunity to serve our schools and communities and look forward to building relationships and making a positive difference along the way!

Four Facts About My Family

1. We love to explore! One of our favorite things to do is visit and explore different towns and cities.
2. We're rescue cat parents! Our family includes a very special rescue cat.
3. We're Marion County proud! We both received our public education through Marion County Schools.
4. We're Penguins fans! We proudly cheer on the Pittsburgh Penguins hockey team!



Three Fun Facts About Me

1. I love preserving wildflowers! I enjoy drying wildflowers as a hobby.
2. Fall is my favorite season! I love all the beauty that comes with the season.
3. I love collecting glass! I enjoy finding unique pieces of glass and the history and character of each piece.



Title III Information

Title III promotes student achievement by increasing the local capacity to support English Learners (ELs) in attaining English proficiency and meaningfully accessing challenging curricular and extracurricular programs. We do this by providing leadership, resources, and services to educators, families and community partners.

The West Virginia Department of Education is committed to using English Language Proficiency (ELP) Standards because they explicitly focus on the learning needs of a wide range of English Learners from pre-kindergarten through twelfth grade who come from widely diverse cultural, linguistic, and educational backgrounds and are at different stages of English language acquisition. Unlike other content standards, they take into account the critical role of language learning in the mastery of content and specifically focus on the learning styles and instructional needs of EL students. ELP standards serve as a bridge for EL students to gain access to content instruction in English.

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Important Dates!

Monday, October 12	NO SCHOOL for students (Professional Learning Day for Teachers)
Tuesday, November 3	NO SCHOOL-Election Day
Wednesday, November 11	NO SCHOOL-Veterans Day
November 23-Novermber 27	NO SCHOOL-Thanksgiving Break
Wednesday, December 23	NO SCHOOL for students (Professional Learning Day for Teachers)



