

Mariah Moore

Pendleton County High School

Class of 2013



Mariah is a graduate of Pendleton County High School and an Honors graduate from the University of Louisville with a bachelor's degree in Biology and a minor in Chemistry. She completed medical school at the University Of Louisville School Of Medicine. Mariah is currently attending her residency at UPMC Altoona Family Medicine Residency in Pennsylvania and plans to specialize in Family Medicine.

Tell us about your journey in Pendleton County Schools. What was a highlight that stood out?

I attended Pendleton County Public Schools from grade school up to high school graduation. Some of the memories that stand out the most to me are the trips the high school band took every year. With the help of avid fundraising, we were able to travel and perform in Virginia Beach, Orlando, Chicago, and San Antonio. My favorite by far was our trip to Orlando, Florida where we performed a Disney compilation at the Magic Kingdom Park itself! I definitely look back on those trips with fond memories.

What aspects of your public education helped mold you into the person you are today?

Public schooling gave me multiple opportunities to build my confidence as a leader. By my senior year of high school I was able to take on various leadership roles and responsibilities that helped prepare me for higher education.

When you think back on your experience in school, are there specific instances or relationships that stand out to you as having had a significant impact on your success since graduating?

I remember quite clearly the moment I first considered becoming a doctor. I was sitting in my sophomore biology class and thought 'I enjoy this, why not a doctor?' It seemed so far-fetched at the time, but when I mentioned it to my biology teacher Ms. Ziegler, she had nothing but praise and encouragement. She, like the rest of my teachers, never doubted me. I'm now a 4th year medical student just months away from earning the once dreamed title of 'doctor'. Ten years have passed, and I now want to be a doctor for more reasons than just enjoying science, but it's truly humbling to know that a teacher listened to 15 year-old me and believed.

As a product of public education, what advice would you give to a parent who was choosing an education path for their child?

Public education gave me everything I needed to succeed down my chosen path. I was encouraged and challenged academically by my teachers. And I had guidance counselors that helped me with scholarships and college admissions. It's gratifying to be able to look back and see just how much I was supported by my school. I know my teachers are proud of me, and that continues to push me to do my best. There are always going to be things that private schools provide that public school don't and vice versa; but this does not mean public school children are at a disadvantage.

As a product of Pendleton County Schools what drives you to give back to your local school and/or district?

I was supported every step of the way during my time in public schools, something I once took for granted. I would like to think that I could offer the same to students one day.