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*To inspire each student to  
extraordinary achievement  
every day*

June 19, 2020

To Staff and the TR School Community,

The state budget shuffle!

On June 15, our Legislature is legally obligated to provide the Governor with their version of the state budget. The “budget shuffle” goes something like this: the Governor outlines an initial budget in January, then revises it in May, basing it on projected income tax receipts and other sources of revenue to the state. Then, the Assembly and Senate create their versions of the budget; leaders from the Assembly and Senate negotiate to arrive at one budget from the Legislature; and by or before June 15, the Legislature presents their budget to the governor and the public.

When negotiations between the Legislature and Governor began, there was a \$20 billion divide between Governor Newsom’s budget, which was presented on May 14, and the proposed budget from our Legislature, which we received yesterday. *Why?* The Legislature is banking on more relief from the federal government. The Governor is not banking on it; he is *hoping* for it.

Where does that leave TR?

Like all public school districts in California, the overwhelming source of money to our district comes from the state budget. Until we know precisely what the state will be allocating to public education, it is my recommendation that we build a budget based on reliable revenue.

Therefore, we have built our budget projections based on what Governor Newsom set forth, which represents a reduction of \$27.6 million to our total budget.

But there’s more.

We were going to present our proposed budget for the coming school years to the Board of Trustees on June 23—noting that we are legally required to build three-year budgets that balance.

However, I gave staff direction to hold our budget recommendations until June 30 because we have learned that the Governor and Legislature have reached an agreement on the state budget, and it is expected to be shared next week.

I am hopeful that their agreement represents fewer cuts to public education. I am hopeful that we will not need to make the draconian cuts, but that we will be able to build a balanced budget with some trimming and efficiencies that we can agree to with our employee groups.

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Until we have the state budget, I am delaying our budget update to the Board and community so that we can work with facts, figures and solid information – no speculations based on worst-case or hope-based scenarios.

Staff will present the budget to the Board of Trustees on June 30. As always, materials and information presented to the Board of Trustees can be found on our website at [Board agendas](#).

While the budget news is a challenge for all of us, we must remain focused on our commitments to students. TR staff members have been working diligently to keep our students engaged this summer. If you did not get a chance to register your child for the 2020 K-8 Summer Program, they still have the opportunity to access weekly reading, math, social emotional and enrichments lessons. Click [Summer Learning for All](#) for more information.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Steve Martinez", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Steve Martinez, Ed.D.  
Superintendent, Twin Rivers Unified