May 1, 2020

To our TR Staff, Families and Community,

As we head into the weekend, let’s all take a moment to contact a teacher, principal, colleague, or a TR family to share our appreciation for a job well done. We’ve completed our first full week of Distance Learning!

This is a “new normal” for all of us and technology is critical to online learning. If your student still needs a Chromebook, please visit https://lfweb.twinriversusd.org/Forms/devicerequest. The District will continue to deliver Chromebooks next week at all four of our comprehensive high schools (Foothill, Grant Union, Highlands and Rio Linda).

So what’s expected of our students each day as we move forward? First and foremost, we expect all students to log in, participate, and complete all assigned work necessary to make daily progress. Our goal is to give every student every opportunity to be successful as we move forward.

**Planning for Next School Year**

As you may be aware, Gov. Gavin Newsom has made comments about a possible late July or early August start to the 2020-2021 school year to offset any “learning loss” occurring during the stay-at-home order. Please note that NO decision has been made and there are no details available at this time. The comments came during the Governor’s daily briefing on Tuesday as he outlined a four-stage plan to reopen the state.

Visit https://www.cde.ca.gov/nr/ne/yr20/yr20rel27.asp to read what the California Department of Education has to say about a possible early start to the 2020-2021 school year.

Details about what learning looks like next year in Twin Rivers will depend on a variety of factors as well as guidance from public health. Our intention—as much as circumstances will allow—is to meet our anticipated Aug. 18 start date. However, this remains a fluid situation with social distancing and the latest COVID-19 data from public health officials. We will continue to monitor the latest guidance from our state and county officials and will keep you updated on any new developments.

**Key Updates**

**Student Learning**

- Our schools will continue to engage in remote learning through the rest of the school year. We expect all students to attend regularly scheduled class sessions and complete all assigned work.
- Our dedicated teachers have created more than 3,000 Google Classrooms.
- We have a Chromebook and hotspot check-out system with robust reporting so that we know exactly which student has a Chromebook or hotspot.
We’ve developed a survey for families, students and staff around Distance Learning to identify needs and gaps that will guide our work and assist in professional development planning.

- We’ve created an email account for every TR student.
- Teachers are checking to see which students are logging in, completing assignments and staying connected. Our goal is to stay connected with all of our students on a regular basis.

**Graduation/Promotion Ceremonies**
- This has not been an easy decision, but we will be taking our graduation and promotion ceremonies virtual. We’re sending a separate email to staff and families outlining the plan.

**2020 Summer School**
- We are reviewing and modifying Distance Learning summer program offerings.

**Online Registration and Enrollment**
- Please click on this link [https://www.twinriversusd.org/Students--Families/Enrollment/index.html](https://www.twinriversusd.org/Students--Families/Enrollment/index.html) for information about the new online registration and enrollment process.

**Staff Professional Development**
- To date, 54 of 180 workshops are full for Summer 2020 Professional Development learning opportunities; nearly 2,900 seats are currently reserved by teachers and we’re adding additional workshops.

**District Operations/Budget**
- While it’s too soon to fully predict our fiscal year budget, we do anticipate ongoing COVID-19-related expenses and reductions in revenues. We are preparing for a range of budgetary scenarios, depending on state and federal funding availability and our enrollment projections for the upcoming academic year.
- The District recently locked in a savings of over $10 million for local taxpayers by refinancing outstanding school district bonds.

**Free Meals for Students**
- Free student meals are available for pick-up only at several school sites. 300,000 meals served since March 17! [https://www.schoolnutritionandfitness.com/index.php?sid=1509725207245](https://www.schoolnutritionandfitness.com/index.php?sid=1509725207245)

**Facilities**
- Maintenance & Operations continues to sanitize and deep clean sites in anticipation of the reopening of schools for the 2020-2021 school year.

We know this has been a challenging time. We want everyone to stay healthy, so please remember to continue following public health guidelines by washing your hands often and practice social distancing. Please know we are here to support you. Don’t hesitate to reach out if you need help.

Warm regards,

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