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*To inspire each student to
extraordinary achievement
every day*

Jan. 15, 2021

To Staff and the Twin Rivers School Community,

Last March, when schools moved to online learning we knew it would be a challenge for many students. For students and teachers, distance learning has eliminated one of the most powerful ingredients in a child's learning: the power of relationships and interconnections with peers and teachers.

We will return to in-person learning, but we do not know when. Therefore, we have to work together—school and home, teachers and students—to make sure that we are offering our students the support they need to succeed with their continued learning. Your teachers, counselors, principals, and support providers—our entire team—is here for you.

Today, secondary grading closes for the semester, and by next Thursday, student grades will be finalized and posted to Aeries, the platform that shares (confidentially) with families and students each student's progress. Given the challenges students experience with online versus in-person instruction, we expect that some students may be disappointed or feeling a little anxious, especially if they have any failing grades. First, remember that grades are one measure of success. This is a difficult time, so take a moment to give your student and yourself credit for navigating through a school year like no other because of COVID-19. Let's look at grades as a guide, so that we can see where we need to offer a student more support. Second, take note that we have many programs in place to help support student learning.

Please contact your student's teacher, principal, counselor, or special education case manager if you want to explore accessing any of the following services for your child:

Multi-Tiered Support System for Elementary Students

- Small group support and instruction during the asynchronous learning.
- Contact your principal to involve your student in this support.

After-School Providers Support for Kinder – Eighth Grades

- Instructional and/or social and emotional support for students.
- Designed to support their unique needs.
- Contact your principal to involve your student in this support program.

Counseling Support for Grades Seven – Twelve

- Our dedicated counselors are ready and eager to meet with students and parents/families to strategize about the best way to help your student access online learning.
- Please call or email your student's counselor to set an appointment.

Special Education Support System

- There are a variety of supports that we can offer to families of children with special needs.
- Please contact your case manager or the District's Special Education Department to discuss the options.

Graduation Ready – For Seniors Concerned About Being Grad Eligible

- Any student concerned about being eligible to graduate in spring 2021 is strongly encouraged to look for the upcoming announcement about senior support systems.
- We want you to be able to graduate on time; we want you to receive your high school diploma.
- Please look for the upcoming announcement for support programs to begin on Feb. 1.
- If we do not hear from you, you will hear from us, because helping you earn your high school diploma is one of our greatest priorities.

We know that distance learning is not ideal for many students, which is why the education professionals at each of our schools has put in place a host of supports to help meet our students' needs. Please consider how the aforementioned support options might be a good fit for your student, and call us. **Also, please be aware that TR students have a full day of school. We are hearing that some families are under the impression that students are out at noon and that's not correct. The school day (Monday – Friday) ends at 2:30 p.m. or 3 p.m. for students and teachers.** Our students continue to have school work and teachers continue to support students and plan instruction during typical school hours.

The times are challenging, and the amount of time that our state has been grappling with COVID-19 is tremendous. However, we cannot let that deter us from helping our kids continue to learn. Thank you for your shared commitment to our students.

Good News to Share

Student Achievement

- The California Department of Education has released the 2019-20 four-year cohort graduation rates:
 - Twin Rivers Unified – 85.6%
 - Sacramento County – 83.7%
 - State of California – 84.3%
- [ELA Lesson Design WAGs](#) - Teachers, here's the link to the weekly ELA Lessons. You must use your TR email account to access.

Outreach & Engagement

- All Twin Rivers schools and offices will be closed on Monday, Jan. 18, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. There will be no School Meals 2 Go curbside service. For more information about School Meals 2 Go, please visit: <https://bit.ly/TRNSchoolmeals2go>.
- This year's MLK Day community celebration will be a virtual event. Click [HERE](#) for more information.
- Virtual Parent University: Healthy Habits, Healthy Families, 2 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 19, [Zoom Registration](#).

District Operations

- Plans are moving forward for the Board approved [Norwood Junior HS Enclosed Dining / Multipurpose Room](#).
- For the 11th consecutive year, Twin Rivers Unified School District is the recipient of the Association of School Business Officials (ASBO) International Meritorious Budget Award. The award reflects the District's commitment to sound fiscal management and budgetary policies.

Take care and stay safe!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Steve Martinez".

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

Every Student, Every Day. Leaving No One Behind!