



*Board of Trustees*

Oct. 2, 2020

*Michelle Rivas  
President*

To Staff and the Twin Rivers School Community,

Planning, preparation and precautions—the unwavering areas of focus for the TR team over the next couple weeks as we begin to implement plans to support a safe return to in-person teaching and learning.

It was on Tuesday when we learned (Sept. 29 Superintendent's letter) that Sacramento County is turning a corner with COVID-19, moving from the “purple” to “red” tier in the public health index. This means that TR may be able to begin returning students to in-person instruction as early as mid-October if the county remains in the “red” for two weeks.

While the news of this change is encouraging, especially because it's an indication that our public health protective actions are making a positive difference in lives throughout our county, our District will need to continue to move meticulously and methodically to ensure our schools are ready to implement all public health guidelines. Some of the areas in Sacramento County that have been severely impacted by COVID-19 are within the TR boundaries, so it makes sense that we would take extra steps to prepare for and to help protect our staff and students.

From the outset of this pandemic, we committed to make the health and well-being of all staff and students our top priority and will continue to be vigilant in our efforts. Knowing that re-entry to in-person instruction will require a tremendous amount of planning and preparation, our District has taken extra precautions to help prioritize personal health. We engaged an organization that is familiar with the public health guidelines for schools, as outlined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). They are visiting every campus, every classroom, and all working areas at our schools and our District offices to ensure that guidelines and requirements, including spacing, entrance/exit and traffic flow, hand hygiene stations, protective barriers, are in place before students return to campus. Additionally, we took the initiative to purchase COVID-19 tests, offered free of charge to any employee who feels this extra step will bring them increased peace of mind.

Our success with the implementation plan to return to campus depends on all of us working together. We ask for your continued patience as we still have details to work through with our certificated and classified staff. We want them to feel confident regarding their health and safety, so when they return they can be fully focused on our students' needs.

*To inspire each student to extraordinary achievement every day*

We also need to remember that public health officials have expressed that a spike in cases may be likely in late October. So it's important to keep in mind that the situation is fluid, and we must be flexible and understanding with one another. Our TR team will continue to prepare for a phased return to school, and we will be prepared to return to remote instruction if that is the direction given to us by public health.

We are TR! Together.

### **Good News**

#### **Student Achievement**

- To help meet the needs of English learner students, our English Learner Services Department (ELSD) has set up instructional support Zoom drop-in hours for teachers and site administrators every Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 1:30-2:30 p.m. ELSD is able to collaborate with staff in a number of areas, including instructional activities and support for families.

#### **Outreach & Engagement**

- The English Learner Services Department will host a virtual District English Learner Advisory Committee (DELAC) meeting from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 8. Families can call the ELSD message line at 1.916.566.1600, ext. 33424 for more information.
- Family and Community Engagement (FACE) will host a virtual workshop on *How to Prepare for Assessments from Home* at 5 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 13. Interpretation in Spanish. [Register online](#). [View Flyer](#).
- In collaboration with TR, the Elica Health on Wheels Van will be in the District twice a week. Visit the [Health Services webpage](#) for more information.

#### **District Operations**

- Update: the District's 7-11 Advisory Committee will meet at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 14. Click [HERE](#) for more information, including a list of meeting dates. The purpose of the Committee is to review and analyze real property that is owned by Twin Rivers and to determine what real property could be designated as "excess" or "surplus" because it will not be needed for school purposes.

With deep respect,



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

*Every Student, Every Day. Leaving No One Behind!*