



Board of Trustees

*Michelle Rivas
President*

*Michael Baker
Vice President*

*Basim Elkarra
Clerk*

*Bob Bastian
Member*

*Linda Fowler, J.D.
Member*

*Christine Jefferson
Member*

*Rebecca Sandoval
Member*

*Superintendent
Steve Martinez, Ed.D.*

*To inspire each student to
extraordinary achievement
every day*

Feb. 26, 2021

To Staff and the Twin Rivers School Community,

We could have the answer to a burning question as early as next week. When will we safely return students and staff to in-person learning? On Wednesday, March 3, the Board of Trustees will hold a special school board meeting to discuss our reopening timeline for in-person teaching and learning. Trustees are eager for students and staff to safely return to our campuses. I know you are, too. You are welcome to join us for the virtual meeting on the [Twin Rivers YouTube channel](#) at 5:30 p.m.

As we have stated in the past, our [Road to Reopening](#) TR schools is a gradual phased in approach (across grade levels) and will be a hybrid learning model (in-person and remote) to accommodate the needs of our students/families and all public health guidelines. **You will not see full classes in place five days a week for TK through 12th grade from the start.** We must phase students back to follow strict health and safety protocols. With that said, it has been nearly a year since the state's 6 million students have been off campus, so we are elated at the thought of the imminent return to in-person learning—even if it must be in a phased and measured manner.

In preparation for a return to in-person instruction for grades K-6, parents will receive a message from their child's school by Wednesday, March 3, indicating the schedule for their assigned cohort. If parents wish to change from distance only to in-person learning, please contact your school site immediately. Notification for students in grades 7-12 will soon follow. I also want you to know that the California Department of Public Health announced on Feb. 19 that youth and recreational sports will be allowed to resume in counties with fewer than 14 positive COVID-19 cases per 100,000 residents. The new rules—[Outdoor and Indoor Youth Recreational Adult Sports](#)—apply to all organized youth and adult sports and take effect today, Feb. 26. Sacramento is still above this threshold; however, we expect to meet this requirement soon. The District and site athletic leaders are working with nursing services to prepare policies and meet testing requirements so that athletics may resume as soon as county thresholds are met.

We know there are still many unknowns about how the pandemic will play out even with the availability of COVID-19 vaccines. But it's all coming together under these challenging circumstances. I appreciate your patience as we finalize the details for each grade level. Please know that the health and safety of our students and staff remain our highest priority.

As we move closer to a reopening timeline, I continue to hear questions about the readiness of our campuses, and I know these inquiries come from a sincere desire to protect staff and student health. Be assured, we are ready! We have addressed, and continue to revisit areas of concern, which include:

- Vaccinations for our teachers—we continue to partner with different organizations to provide more opportunities for our staff and the community to receive COVID-19 vaccines.
- Air Quality Management – filters have been upgraded to higher-rated MERV (Minimum Efficiency Reporting Value). The upgraded filters remove a higher level of particles/contaminates from the air. In addition, CO2 sensors will be in every classroom.
- Processes to meet staff requests for necessary health and hygiene materials and supplies are in place.
- Creation of student cohorts to meet physical distancing requirements.

Thanks to everyone for doing your part to slow the spread of COVID-19 by wearing masks and following the advice from public health officials.

With optimism and warm regards,

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!