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*To inspire each student to
extraordinary achievement
every day*

Sept. 10, 2021

To Staff and the Twin Rivers School Community,

While our journey continues and the challenges persist, plans are in place to address some of the most immediate and important needs. We hear the urgency in your questions about instruction while in quarantine, and I want you to know that this topic has our full and focused attention. Specifically, I want everyone to know that we are looking in earnest at the educational options that we can provide to our students when they are placed on quarantine for possible exposure to COVID-19 or when they have tested positive for the virus.

To be clear, there is nothing more important than making sure our students' learning can continue, even when the public health requirements demand that they stay off campus for a period of time. We are focused on this and will have more specific information for all of our families by early next week. Here are some important points of interest that I draw to your attention:

1. **When in Quarantine** - Please remember that all students have access to instructional material that is being covered in class. Stay in touch with your teachers, principal or counselor to make sure your student is getting the materials they need. Please see resources at our [Parent Corner \(Family and Community Engagement page\)](#).
2. **Short-Term Independent Study** - Next week we will distribute the process for students to complete missed assignments during short term leaves that may be due to quarantine.
3. **Entire Class Quarantined** - If we find that an entire class must be quarantined, we will have a substitute teacher provide instruction to all students online, much like the way they received instruction last year.

In addition, given the pandemic, we are in a staffing shortage due to vacancies and employee absences. If you hold a bachelor's degree and are interested in working as a substitute teacher you can find more information at <https://bit.ly/3BYmCqV>.

Please know that we are fully focused on the need to explore options to continue our students' learning during these trying times, and we are grateful that our teachers and the teachers association will work with us to explore the options that make the most sense for our students—the heart of our mission.

Other areas of operations where we have plans in place to address concerns include:

1. **Air Conditioning** - It's hot outside, and we know this requires fully operational air conditioning units across our schools. At this time, we have many units that require technical attention, so I want you to know that we have six teams working to address this situation. Our teams know that this is a priority project, and they are working in earnest to correct the situation.
2. **Transportation** - Like many employers, we are having a hard time filling some employee vacancies, and transportation is one of the most critical areas of need. To address our driver shortage and ensure that we can get our students to school and home safely, we have [revised some of our routes](#) for driver optimization. [Click here for the new bus route schedule](#). Thanks to our many families who completed the questionnaire that provided important information to us regarding transportation needs. Your input is instructive and appreciated.

Again, I fully acknowledge the many issues that are unfolding due to the continued challenges presented by COVID-19. We are all in this together, and honest communication and shared priorities will see us through. I also want you to know that many people are collaborating to solve problems, stretch staff and keep education humming for our students.

Thank you for your commitment to doing what is required to help our students stay healthy and safe. Your support is what makes Twin Rivers a special place for all of us.

Respectfully,

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

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