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*To inspire each student to  
extraordinary achievement  
every day*

Sept. 24, 2021

To Staff and the Twin Rivers School Community,

The challenges and tremendous workload created by COVID-19 have created speed bumps on the road to consistent improvement, but I want you to know that we will not let that deter us from focusing on the critically important work of reaching and teaching each and every student.

This week, our Board of Trustees received a presentation on the District's efforts to address equitable education for each and every student in Twin Rivers. With the Board's full support, we are launching a comprehensive process to create a Strategic Equity Plan to ensure that our educational efforts and support services are reaching and meeting the needs of all students in our school district. This is critical work for our education team. Our mission is to inspire each student to extraordinary achievement every day, and we believe this requires an unwavering focus on powerful and engaging learning experiences that prepare students for college, career and life success.

We began our Strategic Equity Plan by inviting members of our school community—employees, students, families and community partners—to join a task force that will help us develop a plan with clearly outlined goals and action steps. I am thrilled to share that 130 people stepped up to assist us with this important work. This impressive collection of passionate people will begin their work at their first meeting on Sept. 28, and will continue through to February when we intend to have our plan outlined.

Every student has their own story, their own talents, strengths and challenges. It is our intention to make sure we have a plan to connect with each student, because in education, first you "reach" and then you "teach." Key groups that we will pay particularly close attention to include multi-lingual learners, foster youth, students with special education needs, our LGBTQI students and those who are homeless. I point out these groups because these are often the "softer voices" in our school system, and we must be sure to hear from them; however, I want to assure you that the plan is intended to address equitable access to instruction and learning across all our student populations.

Through my weekly messages to the TR community, I will keep you apprised of our work. I realize that much of what we have been discussing in education has had to do with COVID-19 impacts on our education, but I assure you that the pandemic will not keep us from reviewing, revising and redesigning educational strategies so that we continue to improve our service to students.

### **Around TR**

**Congratulations to our award-winning Positive Behavior and Intervention Supports (PBIS) schools!** The California PBIS Coalition implemented a recognition system to acknowledge schools for successfully implementing PBIS. We are #TRUSD Proud of the following schools:

#### **Gold**

FC Joyce K-8  
Hagginwood Elementary  
Hillsdale Elementary  
Las Palmas Elementary  
Madison Elementary  
Michael J. Castori Elementary  
Northwood Elementary  
Oakdale PK-8  
Ridgepoint Elementary  
Woodlake Elementary

#### **Silver**

Allison Elementary  
Babcock Elementary  
Del Paso Heights Elementary  
Foothill Oaks Elementary  
Garden Valley Elementary  
Hazel Strauch Elementary  
MLK Jr. Technology Academy  
Regency Park Elementary  
Rio Tierra Jr. High School  
Smythe Academy K-6  
Smythe Academy 7-8  
Village Elementary

With warm regards,



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