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*To inspire each student to
extraordinary achievement
every day*

April 29, 2022

To Staff and the Twin Rivers School Community,

What a joy to share and celebrate the latest announcement from the California Department of Education (CDE). Twin Rivers Unified and Garden Valley Elementary School are winners of the 2022 California Pivotal Practice (CAPP) Award Program. Garden Valley is among only four individual Sacramento schools to win the award and Twin Rivers is the only individual district in Sacramento County to be honored. Impressive efforts on the part of everyone involved!

CDE says the newly created CAPP Awards are being utilized in place of the California Distinguished Schools Program. CAPP honors the efforts of schools and districts that designed and implemented unique opportunities and strategies to support students during the 2021-2022 school year when schools were required to offer distance learning due to COVID-19. Schools and districts receiving the honor completed an online application that evaluated work in the areas of student engagement, distribution of technology, nutrition services, and social emotional well-being of students.

I know that our district team and all of our schools worked tirelessly to meet student needs during the pandemic, shifting from in-person instruction to online delivery virtually overnight. The challenges were monumental, and the pace of change was tremendous. I am deeply grateful to every member of the TR family for their unwavering commitment to serve students and families during that difficult time.

Congratulations to the team at Garden Valley Elementary for this well-deserved recognition.

More Celebrations on the Horizon

May begins a time when we recognize students' accomplishments. This is a time when students hear about scholarships; when they are bestowed honors from their teachers and schools for accomplishments; and when families join us for special events to recognize staff and students for exceptional work. I look forward to spending a great deal of time on our campuses with staff, students, and families throughout the upcoming month and having the opportunity to personally thank our TR team members and congratulate the students.

Graduation – Returning to Traditions

Our high school graduation ceremonies will be in-person events. As you know, we had to shift to online, live-streamed events during the pandemic. While we are thrilled to return to in-person events, we realized the online offering allowed more family members and friends to join in the ceremony without traveling. Because this worked well for so many of our students' families, we will continue to offer access to each of the high schools' graduation events online. Families, please contact your high school for information about the in-person and online events. Please note that because we have capacity limitations, families may be required to secure tickets to graduation ceremonies. I strongly encourage you to contact your student's high school to confirm details about their graduation plans at your earliest convenience.

Summer School – Filling Up

Our summer school programs are popular and classes are filling up quickly. We still have some space, so if your students would benefit from some extra learning time during the summer, please check out our portfolio of [Summer Programs 2022](#).

Employment Opportunities

Come join the amazing TR team! We're hiring, and now's the time to apply. You can make a difference in the lives of our students and also work side-by-side with the best educators and support staff in the area. Certificated vacancies are posted on [EdJoin](#) and classified vacancies are posted on [Teamtailor](#).

Again, I offer a heartfelt congratulations to the entire team at Garden Valley Elementary School. Exceptional work for students is taking place across TR every day, and it's great when this work is recognized by education authorities. Thanks to our TR team for all that you do to serve our students.

With warm regards,

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

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