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*To inspire each student to
extraordinary achievement
every day*

March 18, 2022

To Staff and the Twin Rivers School Community,

We can all remember the feeling when a teacher said, "Today, there will be a short test." The idea of testing is likely not your student's favorite part of school, yet assessments can provide extremely important information to help our teachers refine and adjust instruction to meet all students' needs.

This spring, all public schools in California will be implementing the CAASPP tests for students in grades 3-8 and 11. These assessments cover the ability to write clearly, think critically, and solve problems. These are the very skills that prepare our students for college and career; for success beyond high school.

By way of this message, I am asking everyone to lean in and encourage our students to take these tests seriously and give them their best. After a year filled with challenges for our entire school community, we know our students need the support and encouragement of everyone now more than ever.

I taught high school science and math, and I recall thinking that tests of all types—quizzes, pop-quizzes, summary tests—are as much for the teacher as they are for the students.

Just like a coach closely watches their team at practice so they can identify areas where they need to work the players to strengthen skills and strategies, and band and choral directors listen to musicians to refine their art, teachers read test scores to modify and focus their instructional strategies to benefit student learning.

Our district testing window begins March 21 and continues through May. Your principal will have the testing date for your student.

Please Support and Encourage Our Students!

Families - Please remind your students to get a good night's rest, eat a great breakfast and come to school ready to do their best.

All TR Employees – Please offer words of encouragement. Good luck today! We're proud of you! Give it your best! These sentiments should be expressed by all our employees, including coaches, front office staff, those who transport our students to and from school, and the many wonderful people who serve our students breakfast and lunch.

My hope for our students is that they will test with integrity and that the results will show them their strengths and where they should focus attention to amplify their learning. For our teachers and instructional support staff, we know the results will inform your practice and continued work with our students.

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Following testing, both educators and parents will receive a written report of student scores when they are released by the state in June. This allows parents to compare their student's progress from one year to the next. You can find more information about student score reports at the [CAASPP Starting Smarter](#) website.

While no single assessment provides the complete picture of how a student is doing, as a single test is just a snapshot in time, I do ask that we all pull together to support our students to do their best on the CAASPP tests.

Thank you for doing your part to support our scholars.

With warm regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Steve Martinez", is centered on the page.

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