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*To inspire each student to
extraordinary achievement
every day*

April 1, 2022

To Staff and the Twin Rivers School Community,

Our concerts and big events are back! Last night the district held its first large-scale event—our annual Festival of the Arts featuring 450 student performers (grades 3-12), 1,100 paintings, drawings and sculptures (TK-12) and approximately 1,500 in attendance. Honestly, I was a little emotional and so were many around me. You could feel the electricity in the air. It was just an exciting and memorable experience to see our Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA) students return to in-person performances. Absolutely loved it. And by all accounts, so did everyone in attendance. I'm happy we were able to livestream the event so the entire community could see and enjoy what our students accomplish every day in our beloved district.

As I watched our students, I couldn't help but think about all the hard work that went into planning the Festival of the Arts this year. Kudos to Danise Egan, the Director of Arts and Career Education and her outstanding team, the Festival of the Arts committee, our supportive and engaged parents, our dedicated VAPA teachers throughout the district, our activities directors and all the departments and district staff volunteers who helped with setup.

Of course, the event wouldn't be possible without our diverse and talented student artists, singers, dancers and musicians. You could see and feel their joy in performing together, in person, for the first time in two years. Their love of music, dance and art is stronger than ever. We are so TR proud!

Spring Break

Our upcoming spring break is April 11-18. When we return, Tuesday, April 19, we will be ready to make the most of the rest of the instructional year and welcome the fun end-of-year activities that we have sorely missed over the past two years. In fact, our hardworking employees are already tending to the early stages of graduation and promotion ceremonies that bring together our full school community to celebrate student achievement and thank our dedicated staff. Indeed, there are many wonderful activities ahead following spring break.

In the spirit of enjoying productive activities, I want to congratulate the Grant Union High School boys' varsity basketball team, which won the CIF Sac-Joaquin Section Division 2 Boys Basketball Championship. Under the leadership of varsity head basketball coach Deonard Wilson and his staff, this team has realized a tremendous victory. We are so proud when our students find joy, fulfillment and success working as teams, working hard, and putting their minds and selves to work for something positive. Congratulations, Pacers!

Next week, I will remind everyone to ask their students to grab the free COVID tests that we are making available so that they may test before returning to school after the break. While not an obligation, it is recommended, and thus the tests are free to all students and staff. Again, I will provide more details next week, but for now, please be assured that we will provide these resources at no cost to you.

Enjoy the weekend.

With warm regards,

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

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