March 20, 2019

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Student success is always at the top of our priorities. In fact, your children are the center of all conversations and decisions in Twin Rivers Unified. We wholeheartedly believe they are our future policy makers, environmentalists, educators, agricultural scientists, doctors, lawyers, web and multimedia developers and entrepreneurs.

We monitor their learning progress in several ways, including district benchmark assessments and state standardized testing. In fact, the testing window begins March 25 through May 17 for students in grades 11 and April 29 through May 17 for students in grades 3-8. They will take computer-based English language arts and math tests that are part of the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) system. You can contact your school for specific grade-level testing dates.

We had solid gains last year—especially in math—and expect even better results this year. Strategies and key district initiatives making a significant impact on improving outcomes for all students and increasing proficiency on state testing by 40 percent in both English language arts and math include:

- **Swun Math**: The official K-8 core math curriculum in Twin Rivers Unified, approved by the Board of Trustees Jan. 29, 2019. Introduced as a pilot program during the 2017-2018 school year to help boost math scores, Swun Math aligns with California’s Common Core standards for math.

  - District math scores have gone up 2.71 percentage points, a rate of growth faster than Sacramento County and the state during the 2017-18 school year. In addition, several schools exceeded district growth.

- **Career Technical Education (CTE)**: Twin Rivers offers a wide range of programs to engage students and successfully set them on pathways to college and careers. CTE students receive industry-specific training in areas such as Construction, Digital Media, Agriscience, Green Engine, Hydraulics and Electronics, Criminal Justice, Business, Information Technology and Engineering.

  - 98 percent of our CTE students graduate from high school—a rate 6 percent higher than the state.
CHAMPS Program (Safe & Civil Schools): Designed to motivate students to put forth their best efforts every day, CHAMPS provides structures for student success, teaches expectations and supports positive interactions among students and staff.

- 1,683 employees have been trained in CHAMPS or Discipline in the Secondary Classroom.

We’re excited about what our students and staff have accomplished and how much more they can achieve before we close another school year. On testing day, you can help by making sure your child gets a good night’s sleep and is on time for school. The district provides free breakfast and lunch for all students. If you have any testing questions or concerns, please contact your student’s teacher.

Wishing the entire Twin Rivers school community the very best for the upcoming testing period.

Sincerely,

Steve Martinez, Ed.D
Superintendent
Twin Rivers Unified