



Communications Office
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Twin Rivers Meets Highest Standard for School Budgeting *Local School District Receives International Award*

Sacramento, CA – Each year, the Association of School Business Officials International (ASBO) recognizes school districts that exceed international standards in the way that they prepare and present their budget. When staff in the Twin Rivers Unified School District Budget Services Department decided to use the ASBO guidelines in the development of the 2010-2011 budget and submit it for consideration, they didn't expect to win.

When the letter from ASBO arrived in February indicated Twin Rivers would be receiving the prestigious Meritorious Budget Award, it came as a surprise to Associate Superintendent Rob Ball. "No one wins this award on their first try," he said. "I am extremely proud of our staff and the work they have done in these tremendously difficult times."

During the first three years as a newly unified district, Twin Rivers alone has endured more than \$100 million in State education funding cuts.

The Meritorious Budget Awards Program promotes and recognizes excellence in school budget presentation and enhances the school business officials' skills in developing, analyzing and presenting a school system budget. The program reviews a district budget from a variety of perspectives. The budget is judged on whether the district:

- Provides clear budget presentation guidelines
- Defines state-of-the-art budget practices
- Encourages both short- and long-range budget goals
- Promotes sound fiscal management practices
- Promotes effective use of educational resources
- Facilitates professional growth and development for budget staff
- Helps build solid development, analytical, and presentation budget skills

"Our Budget Services team led by Kate Ingersoll has had a tough job the past few years," said Board President Michelle Rivas. "They have worked very hard to protect the financial health of our district so that we can continue to provide the best possible learning environment."

Twin Rivers competed with school entities (including school districts, educational service units, colleges, and universities) throughout the world for the honor. Only three other districts in California have ever received this award.

Twin Rivers Unified School District serves approximately 27,000 preschool through adult education students in northern Sacramento County. (www.twinriversusd.org)

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