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PRESS RELEASE

**Feel the Difference! Twin Rivers USD Embarks on a
New Pathway to Student Engagement**

McClellan, CA —With a vision for academic success and a new climate in its classrooms, Twin Rivers Unified embarks this fall on a ground-breaking effort to better connect students to a bright future.

Under the leadership of second year Superintendent Steve Martinez, Ed.D., and the Board of Trustees, the “Feel the Difference!” effort includes enhanced staffing and enriched curriculum. It also puts new emphasis on teachers, staff and administrators to look creatively for a pathway leading all students to college and career readiness.

“We’re sending a clear message that all of us need to do more to support what’s going on in our classrooms,” said Dr. Martinez. “We must increase graduation rates. Our students have to look beyond obtaining a high school diploma to compete in a global economy.”

With additional state funding, the district offers an impressive list of classroom enhancements with a rigorous focus on teaching and learning—33 additional elementary teachers to reduce class sizes; 20 teachers to enhance K-6 visual and performing arts; and 10 positions to support English learners.

There’s a new early literacy program and expanded world language classes for middle school. The district is also offering more Advanced Placement (AP) classes, and working to increase student access to the college level courses.

As part of the “Feel the Difference!” effort, the district will continue its strong emphasis on student attendance, an area of concern in all grades, especially among early learners.

“We are deeply committed to making sure we have positive outcomes for all students,” said Dr. Martinez. “We have to make every day count and that’s not going to happen if kids are not in our classrooms.”

Toward that end, the district is hiring 13 new vice principals and counselors. Twin Rivers is also implementing a software-based attendance management system that will better link teachers and district administrators with parents and students.

Teachers, principals and district staff will regularly monitor student attendance—looking not just for troubling trends but also for intervention opportunities to support student needs.

Parents will be alerted to issues regarding their child’s attendance. School and district staff will hold meetings to link families with valuable school and community resources to address the causes of attendance concerns early.

The idea, Dr. Martinez said, is to engage the entire school community that good performance starts with good attendance habits.

“Our commitment is strong and our mission is clear,” he said. “We must inspire each student to extraordinary achievement every day of our 180-day school year. Our unwavering focus is on educational excellence in all schools for all students, with the entire community working with us to ensure that happens.”

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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