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*To inspire each student to
extraordinary achievement
every day*

Nov. 16, 2016

Dear Twin Rivers Families,

On behalf of the Board of Trustees and our dedicated staff, I want to thank you for all that you do to support student success in and outside of the classroom. The research is clear—when schools, families and communities work together and support each other, students of all backgrounds achieve at higher levels and believe college and career readiness are realistic and attainable goals.

To ensure our students reach high expectations, we have set specific goals for the 2016-17 school year to improve educational outcomes for all students. I'd like to take this opportunity to share a few of the goals with you:

- **Elementary Schools:** All students will increase proficiency on state testing by 20 percent in English and Math.
 - To achieve this goal, teachers are working as grade level teams and with local specialists to plan and implement standards-based lessons that are interesting and engaging for students.
- **Middle Schools:** All students will increase proficiency on state testing by 20 percent in English and Math.
 - To achieve this goal, we are investing heavily in Professional Learning Communities as well as piloting quality curricular materials aligned to state standards in English Language Arts (ELA) and Math. We are also examining the structure of our middle schools to offer more opportunities to students, while allowing teachers additional Professional Development time.
- **High Schools:** All students will graduate college and career ready.
 - To achieve this goal, we are providing multiple opportunities for students to access rigorous AP courses and the opportunity to take the College Board's Preliminary Scholastic Assessment Test (PSAT) or Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT) free of charge for all students in grades 8 through 12. We are also supporting teacher collaboration through Professional Learning Communities.

We hope you are as excited and inspired as we are about what's happening in Twin Rivers. We have eight California Gold Ribbon Schools and a 2016 Model California Continuation High School. Our dropout rate is declining. It's down 6.1 percent and is lower than state and county averages. Our graduation rate continues to rise—up 5.9 percent. At 82.9 percent, our graduation rate exceeds state and county averages.

In addition, as part of our continuing effort to increase college and career readiness, approximately 6,300 students in grades 8-11 took the PSAT on Oct. 19, 2016 and more than 1,170 seniors took the SAT on the same day at no cost to families. We have new enrichment programs for elementary students. All third, fourth, fifth and sixth-graders have an opportunity to participate in field trips this year that support classroom instruction. Already, approximately 2,700 students have enjoyed engaging experiences at destinations like the Sierra College Natural History Museum and Planetarium and Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic Park in Coloma.

While these accomplishments should be celebrated, we know there's still much work to do. Please know that we are committed to the success of every student and value the trust you have placed in us to inspire each student to extraordinary achievement every day.

Be sure to visit our website for more information and look for the next edition of We Are TR! in your mail.

Sincerely,

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

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