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Steve Martinez, Ed.D.

To inspire each student to extraordinary achievement every day

Aug. 15, 2025

To Staff and Our Twin Rivers Families,

And here we are, four days away from the start of the new school year on Tuesday, August 19. If you haven't already, please take a moment to confirm your child's school start and end times so both you and your child are fully prepared for the first day. You can find the bell schedules for each school here: 2025-2026 School Start and End Times.

As we count down to this exciting day, it's important to me that you feel confident your children will get the most out of this school year—with inspiring teachers supporting them, a strong sense of community around them, and learning experiences that keep them engaged and growing. Our teachers, school site leaders, and support staff work tirelessly to create environments where questions are encouraged, real, meaningful growth is celebrated, and every student counts. Over my 13 years as your superintendent, I've seen firsthand how these efforts help students thrive. I continue to be encouraged by the dedication, commitment, and collaboration that move us forward every day, every month, and every year.

This year, let's embrace the unexpected moments—the small breakthroughs, quiet acts of kindness, and everyday gestures that bring us together and remind us what it truly means to be part of a school community. These moments might not always be noticed by everyone, but they are what make our schools and our district feel like home.

As we prepare for the first day, here are a few practical reminders to help your family get ready for a successful start:

- Discuss Technology Use Together: Review the district's acceptable use policies for devices and internet safety, and talk about responsible screen time in the Student and Family Handbook. (English) (Spanish) (Pashto)
- **Know the Drop-Off and Pick-Up Procedures:** Familiarize yourself with your school's traffic flow and safety measures to keep arrivals and dismissals smooth.
- **Explore Communication Channels:** Find out how your school shares updates—email, phone calls, websites, or apps—and confirm your contact information is correct.
- Review School Policies Together: Take a moment to revisit important school rules or expectations with your child, including behavior guidelines, to set clear expectations.
  Behavior, Citizenship, and Discipline – found in the Student and Family Handbook.
  (English) (Spanish) (Pashto)

## Around TR!

As the new school year begins, you may notice construction happening at several of our schools throughout the district. Thank you for your patience as we complete these important projects—part of our ongoing efforts to improve learning environments, create welcoming spaces, and provide students with the resources they need to thrive.

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This week, we celebrated four ribbon-cutting ceremonies marking the completion of the Madison Universal Transitional Kindergarten (UTK) and Kindergarten Complex (featuring three classrooms), the Highlands Beautification Project, the Rio Linda High School Stadium Turf and Track Replacement Project (which includes a new video scoreboard), and the Foothill High School Stadium Turf and Track Replacement Project (which also includes a new video scoreboard).

And the excitement doesn't stop there! Our district will be in the national spotlight on Saturday, August 23, as **ESPN** comes to town to televise the **Grant vs. Folsom football game**. This is a rare opportunity to showcase our student-athletes and community on a national stage. The game will be broadcast at 7:30 p.m. Inside stadium seating is limited, and all tickets must be purchased online (**GoFan**). All fans will also need to pass through a security checkpoint to enter the stadium. Please note, **tailgating will not be permitted** at this event. Let's go Pacers!

All the best,

Steve Martinez, Ed.D.

Superintendent, Twin Rivers Unified