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*To inspire each student to  
extraordinary achievement  
every day*

May 8, 2026

To Staff and Our Twin Rivers Families,

As our schools and community celebrate National Teacher Appreciation Week (May 4-8), it's hard to fully capture the impact of educators like **Mandie Tepe of Sierra View Elementary and Jarrett Black of Rio Linda High School, our 2026-2027 District Teachers of the Year.**

Ms. Tepe teaches third grade and Mr. Black teaches English Language Arts (ELA) for grades 10-12. They will now represent Twin Rivers Unified in the Sacramento County Office of Education (SCOE) Teacher of the Year recognition program—an honor that reflects their exceptional impact and leadership. Through this competitive process, they could be selected as a Sacramento County Teacher of the Year and advance to the state-level California Teacher of the Year consideration.

In their classrooms, both stand out for the way they thoughtfully support each student, maintain high expectations, and build strong relationships that keep students engaged, growing academically, and developing confidence in themselves. They model excellence each day, blending strong instructional expertise, a deep understanding of their students and their backgrounds, and genuine care to ensure every student is supported and able to thrive.

**A Month of Appreciation**

Their recognition is part of a month filled with employee celebrations. We began with **School Principals/Administrators Day on May 1**, honoring the leadership and care our site leaders bring to their school communities. **May 6 marked National School Nurse Day**, recognizing the compassion, expertise, and critical support our school nurses provide each day to keep students healthy, safe, and ready to learn. **May 13 is California Day of the Teacher.**

Here are additional May recognitions:

- May 15: National Peace Officers Memorial Day
- May 15-21: National Police Week
- May 17-23: Classified School Employee Week and Confidential Employee Appreciation Week
- May 18: National Speech Pathologist Day

We are deeply grateful to all of our employees for the meaningful difference they make across Twin Rivers Unified.

**Free Summer Meals Program**

Twin Rivers Unified School District will offer free summer meals, funded by the USDA, to all children and teens ages 18 and younger at sites across the district. Breakfast and lunch will be available beginning as early as June 8 ([view Free Summer Meals flyer](#)). No application or proof of income is required. Please note that meals will not be served on June 19 or July 3. For more information, please call 916.566.1600, ext. 36272.

Enjoy the weekend, everyone!

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

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