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*To inspire each student to
extraordinary achievement
every day*

Feb. 13, 2026

To Staff and Our Twin Rivers Families,

Some of the most meaningful moments in my work have happened through simple conversations with students. When I ask how things are going, they're candid—at times even brutally honest—and I'm grateful for their openness. They trust us enough to tell the truth.

These conversations feel especially energizing as we head into the busy spring season. With state testing and end-of-year events approaching, I see students stepping up in ways both visible and quiet. I see it in clubs staying after school to plan events that bring people together. I see it in students organizing service projects, and in classmates who encourage one another to stay focused when the school day and weeks feel especially long. Their efforts strengthen our schools in ways that don't always show up on a calendar. They show care for one another. They show pride in their campuses. They show that leadership isn't about holding a title—it's about choosing, every day, to make a difference in ways big and small.

That spirit of leadership is reflected in five remarkable students who were sworn in this past November as Twin Rivers Unified School District Student Board Members: **Issabell Viotti - Creative Connections Arts Academy; Amauri Steele - Foothill High School; Lynn Reed - Grant Union High School; Nevaeh Wixson - Highlands High School; and Kennedy Edmon - Rio Linda High School.**

While they do not cast a formal vote, their voices matter deeply. They keep a steady pulse on what school feels like for students each day—sharing the small but meaningful moments of peer support, the excitement surrounding campus events, and the honest challenges their classmates face. They help ensure that student perspective is always a guiding voice in our conversations.

Students don't just learn—they lead. Whether serving in student government, leading as student body presidents, or training as JROTC cadets, students are shaping their school communities in ways that truly matter. And when families encourage young people to step forward, whether in formal roles or everyday acts of leadership, they are nurturing confidence, responsibility, and courage.

I am deeply grateful to our student leaders, the school advisors who guide them, and the families who stand beside them.

#TRUSD Proud Alert!

Congratulations to Grant Union High School's **U.S. Army JROTC Cadets!** They recently won the Fresno State Bulldog Battalion Raider Challenge, a competition that featured 10 teams and approximately 120 cadets from throughout the Central Valley. The event tests teamwork, discipline, and leadership through physically demanding challenges, including ruck marches, obstacle courses, rescue drills and more. Our cadets' victory is a testament to their skill, determination, and leadership, and we are incredibly proud of their accomplishment.

Around TR!

On Feb. 13 – 14, Foothill High School will host the **CIF Sac-Joaquin Section Girls North Regional Wrestling Tournament**, featuring 57 teams and 300 student-athletes. We're proud to have 13 athletes from Foothill, Grant, and Rio Linda high schools competing. Action on the mats begins at 9 a.m. both days. General admission is \$13.60. Here's the link for tickets: [Friday](#) | [Saturday](#).

A reminder: Our schools and the District offices are closed Monday, Feb. 16, in observance of Presidents' Day.

Enjoy the weekend, and Happy Valentine's Day (Saturday, Feb. 14)!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Steve Martinez", with a stylized flourish at the end.

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