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*To inspire each student to
extraordinary achievement
every day*

Dec. 5, 2025

To Staff and Our Twin Rivers Families,

This week, our schools didn't just resume classes after Thanksgiving break. Across the district, students returned ready to pick up the work they had paused before the break—revisiting a research project with renewed focus, taking another look at a difficult math problem, or trying a different approach to something that hadn't clicked before. You could see it in the way they revised a paragraph, tested out an idea, or finally worked through a math problem they'd struggled with. These moments—small, yet significant—are real signs of students pushing forward.

With winter break approaching from Dec. 22, 2025 to Jan. 2, 2026, these next few weeks are short but critical, and every day counts. Students are juggling long-term projects, presentations, daily classwork, and extracurricular activities that require focus and persistence. Routines tighten, deadlines loom, and the work can feel exhausting. This period tests not just what students know, but how they handle pressure, stay persistent, and work through challenges when they arise. These weeks reveal resilience, determination, and growth that will carry into the second half of the school year.

We know this stretch asks a lot from you as well. You notice late-night study sessions, offer a gentle reminder to step away and recharge, and quietly check in on progress. You are the steady presence that allows students to keep going when the workload feels heavy. Your encouragement, attention, and belief give students the confidence to push through and see the results of their effort.

As winter break approaches, take a moment to notice the growth happening right now. This isn't just about finished projects or earned grades. It's about students discovering what they can handle, figuring things out when it gets tough, and surprising themselves with what they're capable of.

The breakthroughs you see today and every day are the story unfolding in our schools, and they are worth noting, celebrating, and reflecting on together as a community.

With sincere appreciation,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Steve Martinez", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

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