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To inspire, engage, challenge, and support all students to reach their highest level of learning and personal development.

Sierra Unified Community,

Parent conferences were held across our district this week, and we hope all of our families had the opportunity to connect with teachers, learn about their child's progress, and discuss ways to support them moving forward. A heartfelt thank you to our amazing teachers for the time and care they put into planning and preparing meaningful feedback for parents. Our teachers make all the difference in the lives of our students, and we are deeply grateful for their dedication.

The issue of bullying continues to be a concern in schools everywhere, and we know how important it is to address it directly and consistently. Across Sierra Unified—at Foothill Elementary, Sierra Junior Senior High, Sierra Alternative High School, and Sierra@Home—we take every report of bullying seriously. Every student in our district deserves to feel safe, valued, and respected.

It truly hurts my heart to think of any of our students being involved in teasing, taunting, or making jokes about their peers simply because they may be different. Each of our students is unique and brings their own strengths, challenges, and perspectives to our school community. For this reason, we will be looking for ways to help our students better understand and appreciate classmates who may have visible or invisible disabilities—and to teach them how to show respect, compassion, and care toward others in all situations. Likewise, we will continue to support students in standing up to bullying in ways that foster their individual advocacy and agency.

We ask our parents and guardians to partner with us by having conversations at home about kindness and empathy. Please remind your children to be mindful of their words and how they treat others—especially those who may be different from themselves. Many of our students face challenges: some financial, some environmental, and some related to disabilities. Regardless of circumstance, all deserve compassion and understanding.

At Sierra Unified, kindness is non-negotiable. Our mission is not only to prepare our students for college and career but also to help them grow into thoughtful, caring, and responsible members of their community. We will continue to reinforce this message across all of our schools and deeply appreciate our families' partnership in supporting this work at home.

Finally, congratulations to all our fall sports teams as they head into playoff competition! We are incredibly proud of the hard work, teamwork, and school spirit our student-athletes display each week. Their commitment and perseverance truly represent the best of Sierra Unified. A special congratulations goes out to our football team for scoring the most points of the season in their win over Priory High!

As a reminder, Daylight Saving Time ends this Sunday—don't forget to turn your clocks back one hour.

Additionally, SNAP benefits are ending on October 31. To support families who may be affected, please use the link below to locate food resources in your area. Families can enter their ZIP code to find nearby locations:

Food Locator - Central California Food Bank

Measure U Updates

- Sierra is expecting to receive the next estimate from MWC on or before November 12, 2025.
- The district team will meet with engineers and flooring experts to discuss the Cafeteria and Art Room floors.
- DSA has signed off on Phase 1 of the parking project.

With appreciation,

Dr. Lori Grace

Superintendent, Sierra Unified School District