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*To inspire each student to  
extraordinary achievement  
every day*

Aug. 30, 2024

To Staff and the Twin Rivers School Community,

As we dive deeper into the 2024-2025 academic year, we want to underscore the importance of technology as a valuable tool for our students and staff. With every Twin Rivers student equipped with their own Chromebook, the possibilities for creativity and exploration are endless!

Our Board of Trustees has set a bold vision for our entire district: to create and maintain an unwavering focus on powerful and engaging learning experiences that prepare students for college, career and life success. To this point, we continue to actively integrate technology into teaching and learning. Every classroom is now a hub of interactive learning with new SMART Board MX displays, allowing teachers and students to collaborate in exciting new ways. Teachers are also empowered with brand-new iPads and Apple Pencils enabling them to share their expertise and engage students like never before.

A variety of our cutting-edge Educational Technology (EdTech) programs, like [MagicSchool AI](#) and [Kami](#), provide both teachers and students with personalized learning experiences, fostering deeper understanding and a love of learning. As we continue to embrace technology in our classrooms and homes, it's essential to ensure that we use these tools effectively to support our students' educational goals.

While our outstanding educators regularly work with students to emphasize the importance of responsible use of technology and what it means to be a good digital citizen, here are a few reminders:

- **Effective Use of Educational Tools:** Our district provides a range of digital resources designed to enhance learning. Encourage your students to explore these tools, but remind them that they should always be used to support their academic growth.
- **Digital Citizenship:** Teaching our children to be responsible digital citizens is crucial. Discuss the importance of respecting others online, safeguarding their personal information, and thinking carefully about the content they view and interact with.
- **Balancing Screen Time:** While technology is a powerful educational tool, balance is key. Set reasonable limits on screen time, and ensure your children have plenty of time for physical activity, social interaction, and rest.
- **Supporting Learning at Home:** Technology can be a great ally in learning, but it should complement other forms of study. Encourage reading, creative play, and hands-on activities to reinforce what students are learning online.

By following these guidelines, together we can equip our students with the skills and knowledge needed to harness the power of technology to enhance learning, foster creativity, and prepare for a successful future.

Here are some helpful links for families:

- [Internet Access for Families](#)
- [Student Chromebooks](#)
- [Online Learning Applications for Families](#)
- [Digital Citizenship](#)
- [TRUSD Technology Programs](#)

If your student's Chromebook is not working correctly, they should report it to their teacher or school office. Replacement Chromebooks are available at all schools to ensure students always have the resources they need. If technical support is needed outside of school hours for Twin Rivers provided Chromebooks or hotspots, please contact our technology help desk at (916) 566-7802 or by email at [techsupport@trusd.net](mailto:techsupport@trusd.net) for assistance. Most issues can be quickly resolved remotely and, if necessary, we have a technology service center open year-round for in-person support needs.

#### **#TRUSD Proud Alert!**

I'm thrilled to share that our very own Dr. Marc Vankeuren is a 2025 Sacramento County Teacher of the Year. He teaches AP Physics, AP Environmental Science and Physics of the Universe at Grant Union High School. The Sacramento County Office of Education (SCOE) made the announcement last Friday at its countywide teacher recognition dinner and awards ceremony. Both of our District Teachers of the Year—Dr. Vankeuren (secondary) and Edie Xiong (elementary/Foothill Oaks) were among 14 educators honored at the event. Dr. Vankeuren is the third Twin Rivers Unified teacher since 2020 selected as a Sacramento County Teacher of the Year. He is now eligible for the state competition.

- [Click here for Edie Xiong recognition speech](#)
- [Click here for Dr. Vankeuren recognition speech](#)

Let's keep up the momentum and ensure that this is our best school year yet!

Kind regards,



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