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*To inspire each student to
extraordinary achievement
every day*

April 5, 2024

To Staff and the Twin Rivers School Community,

As we begin to experience the promise of spring – with its warmer weather and outdoor activities - I wanted to take a moment to remind everyone of the importance of staying focused on our academic goals as we approach the end of the school year. There's still much to accomplish before the final bell rings, and every day counts in shaping the future success of our learners.

One significant aspect of this time of year is the upcoming state testing period. The TR testing window begins Monday, April 8, and ends Friday, May 17. Please contact your principal if you have any questions about your school's testing date. Simply put, state testing is like a check-up to see how well students are doing in their learning, giving us the opportunity to measure academic gains and areas where we must continue to focus on each student's learning needs. In addition to providing valuable insights into student progress, these exams help us identify areas for professional growth by identifying for our education professionals areas where they can amplify instruction in service to students.

In TR, we are mindful that assessments are important to both teaching and learning.

As teachers prepare to help our students do their very best, I want to thank our families for helping play an important role in making sure that kids are ready to perform their best. In my experience, I know that testing can be a source of anxiety. Please remind your children that all they need to do is try their best and they will have done their job. Keep cheering on your kids and encouraging them to rest well, stay calm, and remain focused. Your partnership in this journey is invaluable, and together, we can help our students reach new heights of achievement.

Let's approach the remainder of the school year with enthusiasm, determination, and a commitment to excellence. By working together, we can ensure that every student has the opportunity to succeed, both in the classroom and beyond.

Solar Eclipse Safety

With the upcoming solar eclipse on April 8, it's essential to prioritize safety. Without proper precautions, viewing the eclipse can pose serious risks to your eyesight.

Here are some important safety reminders to ensure an enjoyable eclipse viewing experience.

- **Supervise Children Closely:** Ensure that all children are supervised by adults while viewing the eclipse to ensure proper use of eclipse glasses and solar viewers.
- **Use Certified Solar Eclipse Eyeglasses:** You must view a solar eclipse through specialized eye glasses or a handheld solar viewer that meet the International Safety Standard (ISO) 12312-2. Looking directly at the sun without proper eclipse glasses can cause permanent eye damage. In addition, viewing the eclipse through a camera lens, binoculars or a telescope without a special solar filter secured over the front of the optics will cause severe eye injury.
- **Check for Damage:** Before using approved solar eclipse glasses, inspect them for any scratches, holes or damage. If they are compromised in any way, do not use them. They may not provide adequate protection.
- **Avoid Homemade Filters:** Do not attempt to make your own solar filters or use improvised materials such as sunglasses or smoked glass. These are not safe for direct viewing of the sun and can cause serious eye injury.
- **Stay Informed:** Keep yourself updated on safety recommendations from reliable sources, such as NASA ([Total Solar Eclipse Safety](#)) ([Total Solar Eclipse FAQ](#)).

Around TR!

- Today, students, community members, special guests and school board members joined us for a special ribbon cutting ceremony to mark the completion of the new Foothill High School Baseball/Softball Complex. It's a wonderful venue for our students and the community. We are definitely looking forward to the first home game at the new venue.
- TRUSD is holding a Teacher Recruitment Fair on Wednesday, April 10, at the District Office. Applicants will get an opportunity to meet administrators, submit resumes and interview on the spot. [Please share the event flyer.](#)

Kind regards,



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