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*To inspire each student to
extraordinary achievement
every day*

Sept. 29, 2023

To Staff and the Twin Rivers School Community,

You've likely heard quite a bit about artificial intelligence, or "AI." Lately, we frequently hear and read stories about how this fast-evolving technology can process information and manage routine tasks with incredible efficiency. From rapid-speed data analysis and voice recognition to writing tasks and lesson planning, AI presents concerns, questions, and possibilities.

I understand that some may worry about the power and potential of technology as a threat, but let's face it, historically technological advances have been met with mixed feelings. Some see potential; others fear change. But just as the computer did not replace teachers or high-quality first instruction, neither will AI.

The fact is that AI is here to stay and is only going to grow more and more integrated into our jobs and lives, so it is our responsibility to understand it and put it to good use in our district. It is imperative that we study AI so that we can understand both how to use it and how to teach our students to use it. After all, if we're committed to preparing our students for success in life, then we certainly must prepare them to be digitally literate, competent, and responsible.

To be clear, AI is here to increase productivity (student achievement) and efficiency (speed at which information is accessible) for all students and Twin Rivers employees. Nothing will ever replace the "human element" in education. Instead, we must consider AI an ally in the pursuit of educational and operational excellence. Our goal is to empower staff and students with the knowledge and tools to leverage AI to its fullest potential, enhancing the teaching and learning experiences, and providing students with a richer, more personalized learning journey.

Teaching and Learning, Together

In this [video](#), we explore numerous benefits AI can bring to our classrooms—from automating routine tasks, to offering personalized tutoring, fostering creativity, and enabling a more inclusive educational environment. We'll showcase real-life examples of how AI is already making a positive impact in education worldwide. In Twin Rivers, we look forward to providing ongoing training and support in all areas of our district, including:

- A series of AI trainings/workshops for teachers and support educators addressing how to use AI for assessments and lesson development
- Strategies provided for student best practices in the use of AI, including digital literacy and responsibility
- Professional development for all department staff with ways to leverage AI to work more effectively and efficiently
- Data privacy and security measures and best practices
- AI Summer Institute coming in 2024

As we delve into the world of AI in education, we hope to augment and accelerate the wonderful work that our teachers are already doing to inspire confidence, spark creativity, and ignite a passion for learning with the help of these incredible technological advancements. Together, we can harness the power of AI to create a brighter future for our students and ourselves.

As we study AI and its vast possibilities, we are committed to ensure that it is used responsibly by staff and students with the goal of increased efficiency, and this process will take time. Just as one walks before they run, we must move carefully and thoughtfully as we integrate this exciting technology into education and our lives.

Around TR!

Congratulations to our [32 TR schools recognized statewide by California PBIS](#) for the successful implementation of Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports at the platinum, gold and silver levels. We sincerely appreciate the hard work done by our PBIS teams and the entire learning community to achieve this level of recognition.

Have a great weekend.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Steve Martinez".

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