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*To inspire each student to  
extraordinary achievement  
every day*

Sept. 15, 2023

To Staff and the Twin Rivers School Community,

There are many examples of how routines – expectations for how to handle situations – are comforting. Routine can create a sense of reliability, consistency and calm. Predictable patterns and expectations can be seen when we are at work, visiting places of worship, traveling and planning to go through security, and so much more. Routines and patterns create stability.

The old expression, “It’s routine,” simply means I know what to do. I know what to expect, what is expected of me. When it comes to education, patterns and routines can enhance a student’s learning, develop a sense of responsibility and self-confidence, and support self-control.

Since school began just four weeks ago, our teachers and support staff have been working diligently with students of all ages to create routines in the classroom that set forth clear expectations and responsibilities, both for the teacher and the students.

Research and experience tell us that when we can concentrate on the positive rather than the negative, we create better conditions for personal growth and happiness. Our teachers know this; they know it quite well. That is why they work to create classroom and school routines. When a teacher can praise students for following the outlined routines and attending to responsibilities, they are reinforcing the positive. This is true for students of all ages and in all learning environments, from our Pre-K classes, where students learn to sit patiently while the teacher takes attendance and collects paperwork, to our high school students who know precisely what their teachers and coaches expect of them.

We hope that our families will partner with us to reinforce the creation of patterns and expectations at home that will support learning at school. Establishing expectations that homework should be completed, school supplies organized, and getting to school on time are excellent ways to nurture the habits that will help students be successful in school and in life.

The school year is off to a great start. We see an increase in attendance and students working in earnest to show up on time and ready to learn. Thank you to our parent partners for your help in these areas.

Warm regards,

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

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