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To inspire each student to extraordinary achievement every day

Sept. 22, 2023

To Staff and the Twin Rivers School Community,

One of the most important things we can teach our students is resiliency. Knowing that we all face challenges, disappointments, and difficulties in life, developing resilience helps prepare our students with the life skills they need to face these experiences with confidence. From the earliest ages to the time our graduates shake a hand and accept their diploma, we should all be partnering to help all students become resilient.

Resilience is the ability to adapt to challenging life experiences—to not give up—but to see the challenge and face it with confidence and persevere.

In TR, we believe the lessons and experiences that our students have in group activities can help to build resilience. Consider how team sports helps to build confidence, communication skills, a desire to press on past the occasional defeat or disappointment only to return to practice and games with an "I got this" attitude.

We have invested time and finances to offer a wide range of before and after-school activities for students from elementary to high school. Some of them include: Engineers Club, Game Design, LEGO Robotics and Pickleball. <u>Click here for a full list</u>. You can also call Special Projects at (916) 566-1720.

Our students' experiences and the skills they develop in group activities also benefit classroom learning. When students see the power that comes from confronting and overcoming challenges, they are better equipped to hang in there with tough math and language lessons. They may push themselves to read books at a more difficult level. They will participate in class discussions and debates. In other words, they will grow and learn at a higher level.

To quote the popular movie *Field of Dreams*, "If you build it, he will come." In TR our hope is "If we build it, they will come." They are your students, and we invite all families to help your children explore and consider our after-school activities and get involved.

Thank you to the TR team who helps to make these activities possible for our students.

Warmly,

Steve Martinez, Ed.D.

Superintendent, Twin Rivers Unified