



Turlock Unified School District

Superintendent's Update

August 1, 2018

Dear TUSD Community,

Welcome to the 2018-19 school year. Following last year's focus on *evidence, effectiveness, and engagement*, TUSD is poised to expand opportunities for our District community while being most mindful of safety and student achievement to support performance and well-being. *Speaking with honesty, thinking with sincerity, and acting with integrity* continues to be emphasized and modeled as we strive to mentor these qualities in our students' character and leadership.

This school year marks my 31st year in education, and although much change has occurred throughout, one mindset remains constant—*our students and their achievement matter most*. Believing that every student is just one caring adult away from success, staff is dedicated to connecting all students to our schools and programs because relationships build meaning and purpose for student learning. Expanded technology, greater social-emotional resources, early literacy and math supports, Career & Technical Education, formalized STEM pathways, equitable programs and facilities across the District, increased communication, and safety are at the forefront of our work this school year. Additionally, embedded collaboration time with writing and literacy professional development for staff will further complement our newly developed *TUSD TK-12 Writing Continuum*.

We value input because it makes us stronger and more accountable to our stakeholders. This past summer, I had the privilege of personally welcoming 67 new teachers to our District while learning what inspired each of them to join the *US* in TUSD. Similarly, I will be meeting with each school's Superintendent Student Senate during fall and spring as I seek to learn more about our students' educational needs and expectations of *US* through their eyes and wisdom. And lastly, in an effort to build leadership capacity and engage more staff in TUSD's "tipping-point" efforts, I'll kick off LEAD (*Lead, Engage, Advance, Develop*) this fall as we reflect on talent, accountability, and shared leadership among our 25-member inaugural LEAD Cohort.

Last spring, TUSD developed a 10-Year Plan to further support our District's vision for present and future work. It is through our Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) process that we dedicate time and resources to annually assess students' needs, provide guaranteed learning, and encourage college/career readiness. Collaboration and input continue to responsibly support Measures N & O and fulfill District and community priorities related to safety, STEM, and modernization. Because feedback continues to be valued, please consider how you might help advance TUSD; I encourage you to review our comprehensive plans located on TUSD's website. Each of *US* in TUSD has an obligation to be our best self while serving the very best—*our students*. It's a commitment and honor to do so.

Sincerely,

Dana Salles Trevethan, Superintendent
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