



Date: January 4, 2016

To: TUSD Community

A new year moves us beyond the past thirteen of the No Child Left Behind regulations and welcomes the Every Student Succeeds Act that promises to focus on meeting the needs of all students in a more collaborative and thoughtful manner. Funding and focus now returns to early childhood education and those students most in need, while focusing on the use of multiple measures to evaluate all students' success. TUSD is charged and ready to accommodate all learners with the number one priority placed on a balance of academic achievement and social-emotional well-being. Our students deserve this attention; parents and our community expect it; and our staff is prepared and eager to meet the needs of every student at every campus district-wide. Collectively, we have combined efforts with a number of community professionals who possess additional expertise and resources to further support our students and families who encounter a personal crisis. We firmly believe that healthy, well-balanced students and families will confidently position TUSD to increase academic rigor, stakeholder engagement, and the very best in each of us.

In the spirit of giving back to our TUSD community, increasing family participation, and supporting the City's *Kindness* initiative, our district held an inaugural *Farm to Family Feast* luncheon for students and families on December 29th, with site and district administrators donating the day to serve meals to 260 at three host sites—Crowell, Osborn, and Wakefield. The first-year event was filled with a delicious tri-tip meal and family photos in a festive setting that celebrated our District's Farm and a healthy start to the New Year. Plans are already underway to make next year's event even more spectacular and attended.

To further support our very own, 70 TUSD administrators will kick off its novel *iMatter* program on January 6th, pairing up with a K-12 student who has been identified by staff and parent as needing some additional attention and mentoring to be the best he or she can be. Our mentoring efforts will begin in January, with plans to maintain this one-on-one support until each student crosses the commencement stage their senior year. *iMatter* expectations placed on ourselves as educational leaders is simple: *make a difference for every student*.

Thank you for your continued support of our students and TUSD community. We have much to accomplish during the second half of the 2015-16 school year, and our students benefit greatly from our work together; it encourages each of us ***to be our best in order to serve better***.

Best,

Dana Salles Trevethan