



# TRINIDAD SCHOOL DISTRICT #1

612 PARK ST.  
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TRINIDAD, COLORADO 81082  
OFFICE: 719-846-3324  
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www.tsd1.org

**SCOTT MADER**  
SUPERINTENDENT

**BRIAN BLASI**  
BUSINESS MANAGER

Dear Trinidad School District Staff,

Aug. 9, 2017

Just last year, we celebrated 150 years of being the first established school district in Colorado. We have pride in what the District has been and what we anticipate the future will hold. As we look forward to the new school year, the District is making plans to produce a memorable year for the students, staff, School Board, and the community. I look forward to the new year with anticipation that what we achieve this school year will have a lasting effect on the District, the community, and in turn, our students for many years to come!

For the 2017-2018 school year, we will focus on four issues: we will seek to be one of the best districts in the State academically, we will strive to put our District on a sound financial trajectory going into the future, we will decide if the School District should again ask the public for a District Mill Levy Override (a small tax increase) in Nov. 2018, and finally, we will be in the third year of The Leader in Me program, the year we strive to include more parents and community.

Last year we were informed by the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) that all of our District schools were rated "**Performance**". CDE has four rating assignment and **Performance** is the highest rating the State has for its schools. And the District was rated "**Accredited**" which is next to the highest CDE rating for Districts which have five rating assignments. Now our effort will be around being rated at the highest State level as a District.

During the latter part of last school year, we spent an inordinate amount of time on cutting our District budget to live within the financial limits set by the monies we get from State and local funding. As a side note, since 2009 our District's financial cuts by the State (called the Negative Factor) have been \$8,140,140. Our enrollment has dropped over the last several years and this has also resulted in fewer District dollars. All in all, we still need to cut our budget even more than the deep cuts already made and we will do this this year.

Last November there was a ballot question asking the patrons of our District for a small tax increase. This increase was to address badly needed repairs and upkeep to our buildings and grounds; address the upgrade of our technology infrastructure and hardware; the replacement of school busses and vehicles; and finances to enable us to recruit and retain high quality staff and teachers. The ballot question was narrowly defeated however; these needs remain and have even been exasperated by time. The School Board will be deciding whether to approach the voters once again with a similar ballot issue in 2018.

*Trinidad School District #1 Continuously Raising The Bar*

In regards to our student leaders, we are going into year three of the implementation of The Leader in Me. The purpose of this leadership program is to allow all of our students to develop and demonstrate leadership skills. We believe all of our students have leadership abilities and as a District we have set a goal to allow all of their talents to grow and flourish. As a staff, seeing our students grow in pride and self-esteem is part of our professional mission; we want to see them go forth as leaders in the world. We will take pride in knowing these students are Trinidad District 1 students, who will be contributing world leaders.

Finally, it is my sincere hope that with the accomplishment of the above endeavors, we will all experience not only a better school year this year, but for many years to come. With the above efforts, the district will be on an exciting journey for the next 150 years; a journey that will prove to be bigger than any one of us and more rewarding than we could possibly imagine. Working together, we will make a tremendous difference in the future of Trinidad School District #1 for the next 150 years!

Thank You for Supporting our District,



Scott Mader  
Superintendent,  
Trinidad School District #1

P.S. On another note Trinidad School District #1 has agreed to be one of those State school districts that pilot changes to the State Model Evaluation System during the 2017-18 school year! Being a pilot, we will be the recipient of Colorado Department of Education (CDE) planned trainings and support. As a pilot, we have also agreed to a survey our teachers in the fall of 2017 and again in the spring of 2018 in order to collect educator perceptions on the shifts in the rubric and scoring aligned to the pilot. These perceptions will inform changes to the State Model Evaluation System moving forward.

On August 21<sup>st</sup> CDE will join me in a brief orientation of our District educators on the responsibilities of being a pilot and our connected with this effort.



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## 2017-2018

### Beginning of Year In-service and Schedule for the week of August 21-23

- 7:00 a.m. Coffee and donuts for all staff in Trinidad Middle School cafeteria
- 7:15 a.m. New staff report to the upper Middle School library for new staff orientation
- 7:45 a.m. Rock/paper/scissors in the Trinidad Middle School Atrium
- 8:00 a.m. School Board Introductions (by the superintendent) Middle School Auditorium
- 8:05 a.m. **The Leader in Me** video
- 8:15 a.m. School Board President Paul Monterera (welcome speech)
- 8:20 a.m. School Board (hand out recognition pens to returning staff)
  
- 5-years Katrina Poole
  
- 10-years Thomas Romero  
Fred Vasquez  
Kathy Bueno  
Brenda Maes
  
- 15-years Kim Ruscetti  
Kathy Vigil  
Emily Trujillo  
Frank Begano

*Trinidad School District #1 Continuously Raising The Bar*

Trinidad School District #1 (TSD #1) does not discriminate on basis of disability, race, color, religion, sex, national origin, or age, in access to employment in, or provision of and TSD #1's program, benefits, or activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding policy, William Cordova, TSD #1, P.O. Box 760, Trinidad, Colorado 81082, (719) 846-3324.

20-years Selina Vallejos

25-years Deana Pachelli

30-years Linda Fiorenzi  
Lucy Trujillo

35-years Louise Terry

8:35 a.m. New Staff Introductions (principals)

8:50 a.m. Superintendent welcome

- Kudos
- Importance of all staff
- District goals
  - Achievement
  - Sound financial trajectory
  - Mill Levy Override
  - The Leader in Me
  
- Share reading from book *The Power of Habit*

9:10 a.m. Health insurance

9:30 a.m. PERA

9:50 a.m. Sexual harassment in-service

10:45 a.m. Break

11:00 a.m. Rachael Peck (CDE) In-service (Colorado State Model Evaluation System)

- Orientation/training

12:00 p.m. Conclusion

\*Donated gifts provided by numerous sponsors will be given out throughout the morning

## **Schedule for the week of August 21-23**

**Monday**, August 21--- (see above schedule)

**Tuesday**, August 22---teachers and staff work per administrator or director instructions

**Wednesday**, August 23---Every Child a Writer (ECAW) training for all elementary teachers, high school and middle school English language arts and special ed. teachers at the Eckhart Elementary gym

**Thursday**, August 24--- teachers and staff work per administrator or director instructions

**Friday**, August 25---Leader in Me training for Eckhart Elementary staff and Fishers Peak staff at Fishers Peak and Middle School staff in the Trinidad Middle School upper library and high school staff at the High School cafeteria

