

# Friday Reflection

I suppose I could expect any week that begins with a full “super” moon and ends with Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> to be interesting. Of course, throw in heavy rain and the end of the quarter before Spring break. There was also the Coronavirus. Oh yes, that. Little did we know when we started the week that we would be cancelling so many activities. Usually I dedicate my reflections to all that happened during the week. A significant aspect of this week’s reflection is what didn’t, or won’t happen.

Baseball, softball, lacrosse, volleyball, swimming, dance, cheerleading, winterguard and drumline all lost games or competitions as a result of either rain or the Coronavirus restrictions. In some instances, these groups lost the remainder of their season. Even Physics class had to postpone their annual boat race, while Choir had to postpone last night’s concert. The county wide “Every Student Succeeds Breakfast” was also canceled or postponed. It would have recognized Destiny Lujan as our TUSD honoree. She has overcome so much in her life and shown so much resolve. While she is no doubt grateful for the honor, she is one person who would be able to gain perspective on all the cancelations and move forward well.

The Coronavirus will no doubt be a significant memory from this school year. It isn’t every day for example that professional sports complete halt games or seasons. Some argue the actual seriousness of the virus, but no one can argue the impact on all of us. Please know that TUSD is taking the Corona virus seriously and has been working hard to monitor the situation and plan for possible scenarios. For example, teachers are setting up courses in the unfortunate event we need to do school on line in the future. While that is not currently the plan of action, we want to be prepared just in case. District custodians are working strategically to make sure areas are wiped and sanitized, and we are canceling or postponing after school gatherings for the time being. I appreciate how so many people have stepped up to make sure that everyone is safe. I also appreciate the resolve I have witnessed among people to make the best out of a unique situation. We live in different times, but as Tillers, we are part of a tradition of quality people.

Speaking of quality people, Wednesday night was our district’s community dinner to recognize outstanding volunteers among TUSD. We honored Blincia Mojica as our PTO president and Stephen Jennings as our “volunteer of the year”. Mr. Jennings is a retired engineer who owned his own company and received multiple degrees from impressive universities. He could be sipping cocktails in the Bahamas, but instead he gives frequent and consistent time tutoring and supporting some of our most vulnerable learners. He says his work with our students is stimulating and keeps him sharp, and I know it means a great deal to our students. A nice touch to the celebration on Wednesday was interacting with his wife Linda, who turns out is co-founder of the Tustin Public Schools Foundation. In a world that sometimes feels a little jaded, it is so great to know people like the Jennings who genuinely love people and give generously. Mr. and Mrs. Jennings are two people who make it great to be a Tiller.

Go Tillers!

Dr. Jon Tuin

Tustin High School Principal