



TAMALPAIS HIGH SCHOOL

A 2017 GOLD RIBBON SCHOOL

BECAUSE OF
THE STUDENTS
THE PARENTS
THE STAFF
THE COMMUNITY
THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

May 4, 2017

Dear Friends -

Congratulations to the Tamalpais High School community on being named a 2017 California Gold Ribbon School. Your school is a wonderful example of recognizing challenges as opportunities and creating ways to use those opportunities to meet the needs of ALL students. Believing in the need to educate the whole child, you have developed specialized support programs for students who require more to achieve the same. At the same time, you provide challenging programs for students who are more academically prepared. This approach reflects the talent, flexibility and commitment of dedicated teachers, visionary administrators, involved parents and a supportive community. In the end, innovative programs with academic rigor are provided to each student.

While many in education today talk about the "achievement gap" that exists among students for a variety of reasons, at Tamalpais High School there is a CORE Program through which your school has committed to close the achievement gap between many students of color, special education students and the general population. With sound educational research and practice, Tam High pairs students with the same English and Social Studies teachers for two years to develop strong academic relationships. You also provide emotional and social growth opportunities, tutoring support and create an atmosphere where students feel safe and valued. What a wonderful example of proactively addressing academic and social challenges instead of assuming that "one size fits all."

Tamalpais High School has served students and families since 1908. In those 109 years, many students have entered the doors as freshmen and left as seniors to do good things in our community, state, nation and the world. The good news is that will continue for the next 109 years and beyond.

Thank you for setting an example of what a great high school should be. Thank you to those who have dedicated their professional lives to teach the students. Thank you to the students for the hope they represent. Thank you to a community that financially and in so many other ways supports your important work. Tamalpais High School knows how to be a Gold Ribbon School!

MARYJANE BURKE

Marin County Superintendent of Schools