

R U S D U P D A T E



Roger Stock
Superintendent
Rocklin Unified
School District
rstock@rocklinusd.org

We've Got the Power!

Running Smoothly amidst Tricky Situations at RUSD

I think we can all agree that sometimes things just don't go the way we plan them. Have you ever had one of those days where despite planning ahead, thinking a situation through, sometimes unexpected snags are thrown into the mix! For me, I can easily think of a moment (just in the last week) where this was true. In my opinion, the most difficult part, though, is that it's not about the things that could have gone wrong – it's about what we do in reaction to those moments that make us stare adversity in the eyes and say, "We've got this!"

At Rocklin Unified, we are fortunate enough to have a hardworking team of staff members who spend their days working so things don't go wrong! In addition to the best and the brightest teachers and staff at each of our schools, many other folks behind the scenes also work day in and day out to support our students, the vibrant learning taking place in our classrooms, and make our school district great! Our nutrition services folks ensure young minds are nourished, our business department helps to keep finances in order, the technology services team works to ensure our electronic systems are running properly, and so many more employees do their respective jobs to make sure things go smoothly. However, even after all of the preparation, we are occasionally faced with things outside of our control.

Like many of you, our district experienced the threat of losing power last month due to a pre-scheduled Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) carried out by PG&E. Some of you may have even been without power. We were told that nearly half of our school sites were positioned to be affected by the outages ranging from Sierra Elementary School to Rocklin High School – what is a district to do when approximately 6,000 students would be faced with this disruption to their day? This is one of those moments where our district's dedicated staff came together and said, "We got this!"

We have been planning for this since we were alerted to the possibility of outages this summer. Over the course of the week, our team worked diligently with several Placer County agencies to execute a response. Regardless of the protocols we have in place for situations like this, a significant issue for RUSD was the lack of precise information from PG&E on which schools and areas of Rocklin would be involved in the shutdown. Our team prepared for any possible outcome so updates could be shared as quickly as possible to families and staff once accurate information was relayed from PG&E.

On the morning of the expected PSPS, dedicated members of another one of our school district's departments had a game plan. Several of our maintenance, operations

and facilities team actually visited school sites before the sun came up to check for any signs of an outage. Thankfully, it was all clear! RUSD had power and we were happy to report to families and staff that school would be open early that morning! Throughout the chaos, our incredible families were cooperative and patient, which made it all the more rewarding to give them the good news.

Every once in a while, just like many of you, Rocklin Unified is faced with something unexpected. Although it's typically the unexpected situation that makes the news, our dedicated staff members who handle it with poise and confidence continue to remind me that it's all about the reaction to adversity that truly makes a difference. I'm so proud to be amongst these hardworking professionals, today and every day!

I am able, by the way, to write this article and share our experience with you one day after we experienced it all, just making publication deadline for this November edition of the Newsletter!

How was your Public Safety Power Shutoff experience? Let me know! If you're a family member or staff member at RUSD, how do you think we handled this turn of events? We always want to get better, so I'd love to hear your feedback. Please drop me a line at rstock@rocklinusd.org.