

RIVER ISLANDS

CURRENTS



OPEN LETTER FROM SUSAN DELL'OSSO

We are in uncharted waters here at River Islands, with daily—and sometimes hourly—changes to our lives. While we are uncertain about something that none of us has experienced before, this is still a time to think about others as well as ourselves. Because we are more physically separated than ever before, let's stay connected through technology and keep our bonds of family and friendship strong. We are all in this together, River Islanders!

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Susan Dell'Osso, President

Something wonderful is in the works for the parents and students of our schools at River Islands: in an extraordinary act of cooperation and visionary planning for the good of ALL the students, the Banta Elementary School District (BESD) board of directors have voted unanimously to approve a new charter organization, "River Islands Academies".

What this means is that BESD, one of the oldest school districts in California, will authorize public charter schools for the growing student population within its district boundaries at River Islands, while turning over the daily operations of the charter schools to an Executive Director. Brenda Scholl, currently the principal of the River Islands Technology Academy, will become the Executive Director of this program. The two charter schools already in operation at River Islands, its Technology Academy and the Next Generation STEAM Academy will merge, to become one high-performing academic program on two campuses. In addition, a third K-8 school currently being designed for River Islands and currently planned for completion in the 2022 academic year, will open as a charter within this group. And a high school at River Islands, whose timing is currently pending the future unification of Banta Elementary School District into Banta School District, would be operated as one of the River Islands Academies.

We are so fortunate for the support and drive of Dan Moore, BESD Superintendent, who has been at the table for every discussion about the proposed plan. What he wants is the best educational opportunities for our students. In his own words, Dan said recently, "Banta has a long history and tradition of representing its students well in a changing world. The opportunities of creating and executing a vision for all of the schools in a master planned community is a rare one, and Banta is firmly in favor of providing the best—and most comprehensive—programs for each school in the charter system."

Just think about it: both River Islands Technology Academy and the Next Generation STEAM Academy have been providing the residents of River Islands with learning environments geared toward sending the students on to college. Now, with Banta's unprecedented support of charter schools throughout River Islands, we can build new campuses with confidence, knowing that our authorizing district is 100% behind our plans. This is a unique example of cooperation between an established school district and new development within its boundaries—perhaps the only one in California.

As you might recall, River Islands Technology Academy has been under the authorizing authority of San Joaquin County. The move back to Banta is also a move back to local representation on the school board, and a much stronger voice for the parents. This clearly proves that when everyone puts the needs of the students first, great things can happen.

All the best,

Susan Dell'Osso
President, River Islands Development

**NEW 15-ACRE
COMMUNITY
PARK APPROVED
FOR 2021!**



The largest park designed to date for River Islands residents has been approved by the City of Lathrop. Construction will begin later this year, with a planned opening date in the summer of 2021.

The park has a footprint of 15 acres. The amenities planned for the park are as varied as the residents of River Islands, with a playground for young children, a Little League-sized field and three regulation size ball fields. The picnic area includes built-in tables and barbecues. Lawn areas for exercising or relaxing have been included, as have walking paths.

The location of the park, along River Islands Parkway, just past Dell'Osso Drive, will create a walkable destination for year-round activities.

**RIVER ISLANDS NAMED
ONE OF THE MOST
SUCCESSFUL
MASTER PLANS IN THE
COUNTRY**

In mid-February, two different national real estate research firms named River Islands to their lists of most successful master planned communities in America. One firm, John Burns Real Estate Consulting, named River Islands as the Number One master planned community in all of Northern California, based on its review of the community.



**TEXT ALERTS
NOW AVAILABLE FROM
LATHROP IRRIGATION DISTRICT**

Lathrop Irrigation District will begin using a new “text alert” service to share urgent power supply information with its customers. This service will be used only for information related to LID power supply issues and will be brief and short.

To enroll in the new text alert service, simply text the word “alerts” to the number “8332222154”. Sign up for one mobile device per household.