

## January, 2019: Notice To Parents Regarding Teacher Qualifications In Title I Schools

*Requirements Under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), reauthorized in 2015 as the Every Child Succeeds Act (ESSA), Public Law 114-95*

Under federal law, all parents of children attending US public schools that receive certain types of federal aid (Title I funding) have the right to know the professional qualifications of the classroom teachers and paraprofessionals who instruct their children. You are allowed to ask for certain information about your child's classroom teacher(s), and the school district is required to provide this information in a timely manner if you ask for it. Specifically, you have the right to ask for the following information about any of your child's classroom teachers and paraprofessionals:

1. Whether the teacher has a Colorado teaching license and is qualified under state requirements for the grade level and subject matter that they are assigned to teach;
2. Whether the teacher is working under an emergency or other provisional license granted by the Colorado Department of Education;
3. The teacher's undergraduate college major, whether the teacher has any advanced degrees, and if so, the subject of the advanced degrees.
4. Whether the child is served by any paraprofessionals, and if so, their qualifications.

In addition, the law requires that the school district notify parents of students attending Title I-funded schools if and when their child is taught for four or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who does not meet applicable Colorado certification and/or licensing requirements at the grade level and subject area in which they are assigned. In such a circumstance, the parents will receive a letter from the Boulder Valley School District, notifying them of this.

To request information about a teacher's qualifications, please fill out a **Teacher Qualification Request Form**. These are available from your school, at the BVSD website (<http://www.bvsd.k12.co.us/general/teachqualifications.shtml>), or at the district Education Center Human Resources department (6500 East Arapahoe Road). The form contains information about where to turn it in.

Please do not contact teachers, the principal or other school staff to request information about teacher qualifications, as they do not have immediate access to personnel records. To insure that fair and uniform information is provided, all requests for information about teacher qualifications will be processed by the Boulder Valley School District's Department of Human Resources. They will provide written information by mail within 30 days of receiving a request. The HR Department cannot provide this information over the telephone, nor will they respond to anonymous requests. The teacher in question and the principal of his/her school will be notified that information regarding qualifications has been requested and given to a parent, and provided with the same information supplied to the parent; however, the teacher and principal will NOT be given the name of the parent requesting information.

For further information on these federal policies, the website link below may be helpful:

<https://www.cde.state.co.us/parentnotificationrequirements>