

HARRISON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT  
120 N. MAIN STREET  
MULLICA HILL, NJ 08062

Phone: (856) 478-2016

Fax: (856) 478-4825

*Margaret Q. Peretti, Ed.D.*  
Superintendent of Schools

*Robert Scharlé*  
Business Administrator

*Andrew P. Davis*  
Director of Curriculum & Instruction

*Joan P. Ruberton*  
Supervisor of Student Services

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Dear Parent/Guardian:

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act was landmark legislation for our country. ESEA was designed to make changes in teaching and learning that will help reduce achievement gaps and increase academic achievement in our schools.

The law requires that all schools receiving federal funding (Title I) must inform parents of their right to ask schools about the qualifications of their child's teachers. Our schools receive Title I funding and we are happy to share this information with you. We believe that nothing is more important to your child's education than having a well-prepared and highly qualified teacher.

The law requires that all teachers must meet a specific legal definition of "highly qualified teacher" in order to teach in schools that receive funding. The legal definition of a "highly qualified teacher" has three parts. The teacher must have the following:

- A four-year college degree
- A regular teaching certificate/license
- Proof of their knowledge in the subject they teach

New Jersey has some of the most qualified teachers in the country and we are extremely proud of the quality of the teaching staff in the Harrison Township School District. A highly qualified teacher knows what to teach, how to teach, and has a full understanding of the subject matter being taught. **All teachers and paraprofessionals in our district meet the legal definition of highly qualified and are dedicated to teaching your child.** In addition, our educators continue learning through professional development activities. They are evaluated each year to make sure that their teaching skills and content knowledge remain at the highest possible level.

I encourage you to support your child's education and communicate with his or her teacher(s) on a regular basis. For more information on ESEA, please visit the United States Department of Education website at [www.ed.gov/nclb](http://www.ed.gov/nclb). I appreciate your continued involvement in the district and your child's learning. Together we can meet and even exceed State expectations.

Sincerely,



Andrew P. Davis,  
Director of Curriculum and Instruction