



August 20, 2008

Dear Parent/Guardian,

On January 8, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB). This legislation, designed to ensure that all children have an opportunity to obtain a quality education, has resulted in many changes in South Carolina's schools.

The No Child Left Behind Act was adopted, in part, to ensure that schools and school districts across the country employ highly qualified teachers, teachers' aides and instructional assistants in schools that receive federal funds.

As part of this legislation, we are required to let you know that parents may request and receive information about the professional qualifications of their child's classroom teacher(s) and about any instructional assistants working in your child's classroom.

According to this law, a "highly qualified" teacher is one who is certified or licensed in the content area he/she teaches, holds a minimum of a bachelor's degree, and has demonstrated knowledge and skills in his/her teaching area. This law also requires your school to inform you when a teacher does not meet the "highly qualified" definition set forth in the NCLB law.

The NCLB defines a "highly qualified" aide or assistant as one who holds a two-year degree, has two years of college with 60 semester hours, or who passes a new state test.

Lexington County School District One's Board of Trustees already places top priority on hiring and placing highly qualified teachers and paraprofessionals for all our classrooms. As part of our continued commitment to excellence, we ask each teacher to put information about his/her qualifications on his/her teacher Web page. You can access those Web pages by going to the Web site of your child's school. The district's Web site address is www.lexington1.net. You can get to our schools' sites from there.

If you neither own a computer nor have access to the Internet, the Gilbert, Lexington and Pelion branches of the Lexington County Library system all provide Internet access. If you still cannot get this information from our Web site and would like to receive it, just send a letter to your child's principal. In that letter, please give your child's name, the name of the teacher or paraprofessional, and the grade or subject that person teaches. Your principal will provide you with the information within three weeks of receiving your request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karen C. Woodward". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Dr. Karen C. Woodward, Superintendent