



Pequannock Township School District

Director of Curriculum & Instruction
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Dear Parent/Guardian:

The Pequannock Township School District receives federal funds through the *Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)*, enacted on December 10, 2015, which replaced the *No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB)* and is the latest reauthorization of the *Elementary and Secondary Act (ESEA)*.

Under the ESSA, all schools receiving Title I funds must inform parents of their right to ask schools about the professional qualifications of their child's teachers and paraprofessionals. Our middle school and high school receive federal funding, and we are happy to share this information with you upon request by contacting the Title I Coordinator below. We believe that nothing is more important to your child's education than having well-prepared and highly qualified teachers. The legal definition of a "highly qualified teacher" has three parts. It states that the teacher must have the following:

1. A four-year college degree;
2. A regular teaching certificate/license; and
3. 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 Pequannock Township School District. All our teachers have college degrees and many have advanced degrees. The State of New Jersey has always required a teaching certificate/license for all teachers. In addition, every teacher continues his or her own learning through professional development activities, and our teachers are evaluated each year to make sure that their teaching skills remain at the highest possible level.

We encourage you to support your child's education and communicate with his/her teachers on a regular basis. For more information on ESSA and the role of parents, please visit the United States Department of Education's website at <https://www.ed.gov/essa>. Questions regarding this notification should be directed to Mr. Ann Marie VanSickle at annmarie.vansickle@pequannock.org.

Regards,

Ann Marie VanSickle

ESEA Grant Coordinator/Title I