

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), enacted on December 10, 2015, replaces the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) and is the latest reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA).

Although NCLB was designed to make changes in teaching and learning to increase students' academic achievement, the Highly Qualified Teacher (HQT) provision under NCLB was eliminated from the ESSA. Despite this fact, all educators in New Jersey still are required to hold the appropriate state certificate/license for their given position.

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. Maugham School, Tenaflly Middle School, and Tenaflly High School receive Title I funding and we are happy to share this information with you upon your request. Additionally, schools are required to provide timely notice that a student has been assigned or has been taught for four or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who does not meet applicable State certification or licensure requirements.

New Jersey has some of the most highly qualified teachers in the nation, and the Tenaflly Public School District is proud of the excellence and dedication of our teaching staff. All teachers hold college degrees, and many have earned advanced degrees. Our educators continue to grow through ongoing professional development and are evaluated annually to support continuous improvement and ensure the highest quality of instruction for our students.

I encourage you to support your child's education and communicate with your child's teacher(s) on a regular basis. For more information on ESSA, and the role of parents, please visit the United States Department of Education's (USDE) website at <http://www.ed.gov/essa>. By partnering, families and educators can ensure the best education possible is provided to your child.

Sincerely,



Brenda Yoo
Assistant Superintendent of Schools