CECIL COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

DIVISION OF EDUCATION SERVICES

GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER EDUCATION LEADERSHIP CENTER
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Jeffrey A. Lawson, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Dianne L. Heath
President, Board of Education

August 31, 2026

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The latest reauthorization of *The Elementary and Secondary Education Act*, the *Every Student Succeeds Act* (ESSA), requires all schools receiving Federal Title I funds to inform parents of their rights to ask school administrators about the qualifications of the teachers and paraprofessionals serving their child.

Your child attends a school that receives Federal Title I funds. You have the right to request the following information, which will be provided to you in a timely manner, if requested.

- Whether the teacher has met Maryland's qualification and licensing criteria for the grade level(s) and subject matter taught.
- Whether Cecil County Public Schools and the State of Maryland has decided the teacher can teach in a classroom without being licensed or qualified under state regulations because of special circumstances. If so, a ***Title I Four-Week Letter*** will be sent home to inform parents.
- The teacher's college major, whether the teacher has any advanced degrees and, if so, the subject of those degrees.
- Whether any paraprofessionals provide services to your child and, if they do, their qualifications.

If you would like to receive any of the above-mentioned information, please provide a written request to your school principal.

Our teachers are committed to helping your child develop the academic knowledge and critical-thinking skills needed to succeed in school and beyond. I encourage you to support your child's education and communicate with the teachers on a regular basis. By partnering, families and educators can provide your child with the best possible education, and chance to grow and succeed.

Sincerely,

Shawn M. Johnson, Ed.D.
Chief Academic Officer
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