



Denville Township Board of Education

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Dear Lakeview Parent/Guardian:

The *Elementary and Secondary Education Act* is our country's most important federal education law. In 2002 this law was reauthorized as the *No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB)*, and in 2015, the Act was revised and is now called the *Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)*.

"With this bill, we reaffirm that fundamentally American ideal—that every child, regardless of race, income, background, the zip code where they live, deserves the chance to make of their lives what they will." —
President Barack Obama

The law requires that all schools receiving Title I funds must inform parents of their right to ask schools about the qualifications of their child's teachers. Lakeview School receives Title I funding and we are happy to share this information with you at your request.

We believe that nothing is more important to your child's education at school than having a well-prepared and highly qualified teacher. The law requires that all teachers who teach in core content areas must meet a specific legal definition of "highly qualified" in order to teach in schools that receive Title I funding. 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
3. Proof of his/her 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 Denville Township School District. All of 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 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.

All of our teachers at Lakeview Elementary School already meet this legal definition of highly qualified, as required by the state of New Jersey.

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 (USDE) Web site at www.ed.gov/esea.

By partnering, families and educators can provide your child with the best education possible.

Sincerely,
Dr. Sandra Cullis
Mrs. Elizabeth Baisley