



February 3, 2021

Title I – Parents’ Right-to-Know

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

The *Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)* was passed by the U.S. Congress and signed into law on December 10, 2015. The *ESSA* 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 in order 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.

The following information may be requested:

- Whether the student’s teacher...
 - ★ has met State qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction;
 - ★ is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which State qualification or licensing criteria have been waived; and
 - ★ is teaching in the field of discipline of the certification of the teacher.
- Whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.

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 school receives Title I funding and we are happy to share this information with you upon your request.

If you wish to request information concerning your child's teacher and/ or paraprofessional qualifications, please contact Human Resources at hr@brickeducation.org.

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 provide your child with the best education possible.

Sincerely,

Chaleeta N. Hines
Chief School Administrator