

# **PARSIPPANY-TROY HILLS TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS**

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## **Right to Know**

2019-2020

Dear Parents:

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act is our country's most important federal education law. This law was reauthorized and is now called the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). ESSA was designed to make changes in teaching and learning that will help increase academic achievement in our schools.

The law requires that schools receiving Title 1 funds must inform parents of their right to ask about the qualifications of their child's teachers. Our school receives Title 1 funding and we are happy to share this information with you at your request.

We believe that the most important aspect for your child's education is having a well-prepared and highly qualified teacher. The law requires that teachers must meet a specific legal definition of "highly qualified" in order to teach in schools that receive Title 1 funding. The legal definition includes the following:

1. A four year college degree
2. A regular teaching certificate/license

We are extremely proud of the quality of the teaching staff in the Parsippany-Troy Hills 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. Our teachers are evaluated each year to assure their teaching skills remain at the highest possible level.

A highly qualified teacher knows what to teach, how to teach, and has a full understanding of the subject matter being taught. Every teacher in our school is highly qualified and dedicated to your child. I encourage you to support your child's education and communicate with your child's teachers on a regular basis. For more information on ESSA and the role of parents, please visit the United States Department of Education (USDE) website at [www.ed.gov/nclb](http://www.ed.gov/nclb).

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