

# DUNELLEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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September 22, 2014

Dear Parent/Guardian:

I sincerely hope your children have settled into their 2014-2015 school routines. They all appear to be enthusiastic about returning to school. This letter is a requirement by the United States Department of Education (USDOE) for all school districts.

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act is our country's most important federal education law. In 2001 this law was reauthorized and is now called the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB). NCLB was designed to make changes in teaching and learning that will help increase academic achievement in our schools.

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. Our 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 Dunellen Public School District. **All of our teachers are highly qualified**, as defined by the state. All of Dunellen's 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.

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 NCLB, and the role of parents, please visit the United States Department of Education (USDE) Web site at [www.ed.gov/nclb](http://www.ed.gov/nclb). Our goal is to help partner families and educators in order that we can provide your child with the best education possible.

Sincerely,



Dr. Patrick Piegari  
Interim Superintendent of Schools