

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT  
ALLENDALE PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT  
ALLENDALE, NJ 07401

September 28, 2015

Dear Parents/Guardians:

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 of 2001 (NCLB)*. *NCLB* was designed to make changes in teaching and learning that would help increase academic achievement in our schools.

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

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 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 of 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 Allendale School District. All of our regular 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 certain 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) Website at [www.ed.gov/nclb](http://www.ed.gov/nclb).

Sincerely,  
*Michael J. Barcadepone*  
Superintendent