



# MOUNT EPHRAIM PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Dear Parent/Guardian:

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. In September as part of our student handbook you were given this notification which is located on page 26 of the handbook and is based on board policy 2415.

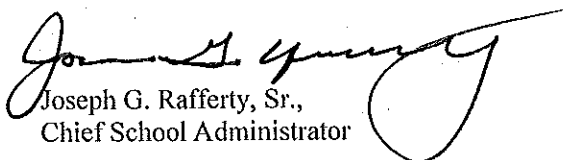
We believe that nothing is more important to your child's education at school than having a well-prepared and highly qualified teacher. The law requires that all teachers must meet a specific legal definition of "highly qualified" in order to teach in schools that receive Title I funding. The legal definition 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 their knowledge in the subject they teach

New Jersey has some of the most qualified teachers in the country, and we are extremely proud that our teachers meet the legal definition of highly qualified status. 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 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 Title I parents, please visit the United States Department of Education Web site at [www.ed.gov/nclb](http://www.ed.gov/nclb). By partnering, families and educators can provide your child with the best education possible.

Sincerely,



Joseph G. Rafferty, Sr.,  
Chief School Administrator

JGR/pac