

Boonton Public Schools

Christine A. Johnson, Superintendent

Committed to the continuous achievement of all students



September 9, 2011

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act is our country's most important education law. In 2003, the law was revised and is now called, **The No Child Left Behind Act**. No Child Left Behind (NCLB) was designed to make changes in teaching and learning that will help our students achieve more in school.

The law requires that all schools receiving federal funds must inform parents of their right to ask schools about the qualifications of their child's teachers. Our school receives federal funding and 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 must meet a specific, legal definition of "highly qualified" in order to teach in schools that receive federal funding. The legal definition of a "highly qualified teacher" has three parts. It states that the teacher must have:

1. A four-year college degree;
2. A regular teaching certificate/license; and
3. Proof of their knowledge in the subject they teach.

To ensure that every child in every classroom has a highly qualified teacher, the State of New Jersey has measures in place to help teachers meet the requirements of the federal law by providing several options should they need them. Teachers may take a content Praxis test, or they can demonstrate their expertise through a combination of college coursework, professional development activities and experience.

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 Boonton Town School District. All of our teachers meet the highly qualified status. Each teacher in our district holds a college degree and many have advanced degrees. The State of New Jersey has always required a teaching certificate / license for all teachers. All of our teachers hold the appropriate N.J. teaching certificates/licenses and have demonstrated proof of their knowledge in the subject areas assigned. In addition, every teacher in Boonton continues his or her own 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.

We are confident that every teacher in our school district is not only highly qualified, but is also dedicated to each and every student. I encourage you to support your child's education and communicate with his or her teacher on a regular basis. Establishing a strong partnership insures the best possible education for your child.

Sincerely,

Christine A. Johnson

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Superintendent of Schools