



FEDERAL PROGRAMS

August 22, 2019

Dear School Parent,

Each year districts and schools are required to provide information to parents as well as opportunities for them to be involved in the educational decisions that affect their children. The parent engagement requirements of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act or ESEA specifically reflect:

- Shared accountability between schools and parents for high student achievement
- Local development of parental engagement plans with flexibility to address local needs, and
- Building parents' capacity for using effective practices to improve their child's academic achievement

Under the ESEA, parents have a right to know the professional qualifications of their children's teacher(s). This letter is to inform you of your right to ask for the following information about each of your child's classroom teachers and paraprofessionals:

- Whether the State of Alaska has licensed or qualified the teacher for the grades and subjects he or she teaches.
- Whether the teacher is teaching under an emergency permit or other provisional status through which state licensing criteria have been waived.
- The teacher's college major, whether the teacher has any advanced degrees and, if so, the subject of the degrees.
- Whether any instructional aides or similar paraprofessionals provide services to your child and, if so, their qualifications.
- The teachers' and/or instructional aides' or similar paraprofessionals' highly qualified status as defined by the ESEA.

If you would like to receive specific information about your child's teacher or paraprofessional, please contact your school's principal. For general information about the ESEA, please contact Amy Iverson, ESEA Coordinator, at 907-746-9253.

Our district is committed to the success of your child. We appreciate your partnership and support.

Sincerely,

Katherine Ellsworth
Director of Federal Programs