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LAKE COUNTY SCHOOLS
2018-2019 Annual Parent Notification
Right to Request Teacher Qualifications

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) was signed into law on December 10, 2015, and represents good news for our nation's schools. The previous version of the law, the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act, was enacted in 2002.

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. Specifically you can request the following:

- Whether the teacher has met State qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction.
- Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which the State qualification or licensing criteria has been waived.
- The baccalaureate degree major of the teacher and any graduate certification degree held by the teacher, and the field of discipline of the certification or degree.
- Whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.

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. If you would like to learn more about ESSA, and the role of parents, please visit the Florida Department of Education Web site at <http://www.fldoe.org/academics/essa.stm>

By partnering, families and educators can provide your child with the best education possible.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth West
Director, Federal Programs