

Shrewsbury Borough School
Shrewsbury, NJ

October 5, 2011

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act was our country's most important education law. Nine years ago this 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 the following:

1. a four-year college degree
2. a regular teaching certificate/license; and
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 of the quality of the teaching staff in the Shrewsbury Borough 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 his or her own learning through professional development activities, and our teachers are evaluated each year to ensure that their teaching skills remain at the highest possible level. All teachers hired after the beginning of the 2002-03 school year were required to meet this definition.

To ensure that every child in every classroom has a highly qualified teacher, the state of New Jersey and our school district are working together to help teachers meet the requirements of the federal law by providing several options. They have demonstrated their expertise through a combination of college coursework, professional development activities, and experience.

A highly qualified teacher knows what to teach, how to teach, and has a full understanding of the subject matter being taught. At this time, I would like to inform you that every teacher in the Shrewsbury Borough School District is fully qualified and dedicated to teaching your child.

I encourage you to support your child's education and communicate with his or her teacher on a regular basis. By collaborating – families and educators – we can provide your child with the best education possible.

Sincerely,



Brent MacConnell
Superintendent