August 2020

Dear Parent:

On December 10, 2015, President Obama signed the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), which reauthorizes the Elementary and Secondary Act (ESEA). ESSA replaces the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) and provides significant flexibility around federal education policy by shifting authority back to states and schools. Your child’s school receives Title I funding and is covered under ESSA.

Under ESSA, 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:

- Whether the State of Pennsylvania 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 they do, their qualifications.

At the present time, all teachers and paraprofessionals are highly qualified.

If you would like to receive specific information about your child’s teacher or paraprofessional, please contact your school’s principal. General information about ESSA is provided on the Pennsylvania Department of Education website.

Our district is fully committed to the success of your child. We appreciate your partnership in our efforts.

Sincerely,

Wayne P. Gdovic
Superintendent of Schools
South Park School District