

BUTLER SCHOOL DISTRICT
Bartholdi Avenue
Butler, New Jersey 07405
(973) 492-2032 Phone (973) 492-1016 Fax

Mario D. Cardinale
Superintendent of Schools
mcardinale@butlerboe.org

September 2, 2009

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act was our country's most important education law. In 2001 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 district 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 meet a specific legal definition of "highly qualified" in order to teach in the 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 Butler 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. Our teachers are evaluated each year to make sure that their teaching skills remain at the highest possible level.

A highly qualified teacher knows what to teach, how to teach and has a full understanding of the subject matter being taught. We believe that every teacher in our 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 partnering together – families and educators – we can provide your children with the best education possible.

Sincerely,

Mario D. Cardinale

Mario D. Cardinale
Superintendent