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September 2017

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) was signed on December 10, 2015, and represents good news for our nation's, our state's, and our local schools. This measure reauthorizes the 50-year-old Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), the nation's national education law and longstanding commitment to equal opportunity for all students.

The new law builds on key areas of progress in recent years, made possible by the efforts of educators, communities, parents, and students across the country.

ESSA includes provisions that will help to ensure success for our students and our schools. Below are a few section highlights found in the law:

- *Advances equity by upholding critical protections for America's disadvantaged and high-need students.*
- *Requires that all students in America be taught to high academic standards that will prepare them to succeed in college and careers.*
- *Ensures that vital information is provided to educators, families, students, and communities through annual statewide assessments that measure students' progress toward those high standards.*
- *Sustains and expands access to high-quality preschool.*
- *The law requires that all schools receiving federal funds inform parents of their right to ask schools about our parental involvement activities and about the qualifications of our teaching staff, including paraprofessionals.*
- *New Jersey has some of the most qualified teachers in the country and we are extremely proud of the teaching staff in the West New York School District. All of our teachers have college degrees and many have advanced degrees. In addition, every teacher continues his or her own learning through professional development activities and our teachers are evaluated each year to make sure that their teaching skills remain at the highest level.*

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 child with the best education possible.

Sincerely,



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Septiembre del 2017

La Ley Cada Estudiante Triunfa (ESSA) fue firmada en Diciembre 10, del 2015, y representa buenas noticias para nuestra nación, nuestros estados, y nuestras escuelas locales. Esta medida reautoriza la Ley de Educación Primaria y Secundaria (ESEA), la legislación de educación nacional que se compromete a la igualdad de oportunidades para todos los estudiantes de la nación, y vigente desde hace 50 años.

La nueva ley está basada en áreas claves de progreso en los últimos años, lo cual ha sido posible por los esfuerzos de educadores, comunidades, padres, y estudiantes en todo el país.

ESSA incluye provisiones que ayudarán a asegurar el éxito para nuestros estudiantes, y nuestras escuelas. A continuación detallamos algunas partes de la Ley:

- Promueve la igualdad mediante la protección crítica de los estudiantes desfavorecidos y de alta necesidad.
- Requiere que a todos los estudiantes en Estados Unidos se les enseñe según altas normas académicas para que estén preparados para el éxito en la universidad y en su profesión.
- Asegura que los educadores, familias, estudiantes, y comunidades reciban información vital de las evaluaciones estatales que miden el progreso de los estudiantes hacia esa meta.
- Sostiene y amplía acceso al preescolar de alta calidad.
- La ley requiere que todas las escuelas que reciben fondos federales informen a los padres sobre sus derechos a preguntarle a la escuela sobre actividades en las que participan los padres, y sobre las cualificaciones de nuestros maestros, incluyendo los ayudantes de maestros.
- El estado de Nueva Jersey tiene algunos de los maestros más cualificados en el país y estamos muy orgullosos de los maestros del Distrito Escolar de West New York. Todos nuestros maestros tienen título universitario y muchos tienen estudios de postgrado. Además, cada maestro continúa su propio aprendizaje mediante las actividades de desarrollo profesional y nuestros maestros son evaluados cada año para asegurarnos que su habilidad se mantiene en un alto nivel.

Les animo a que respalden la educación de sus hijos y a que se comuniquen con los maestros regularmente. Al asociarnos padres y maestros podemos darles a sus hijos la mejor educación posible.

Sinceramente,



Clara Brito Herrera
Superintendente de Escuelas

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Title I – Parents' Right-to-Know

2017-2018 School Year

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The *Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)* was passed by the U.S. Congress late last year and signed into law on December 10, 2015. The *ESSA* replaces the *No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB)* and is the latest reauthorization of the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)*.

Although *NCLB* was designed to make changes in teaching and learning in order to increase students' academic achievement, the Highly Qualified Teacher (HQT) provision under *NCLB* was eliminated from the *ESSA*. Despite this fact, all educators in New Jersey still are required to hold the appropriate state certificate/license for their given position.

Under the *ESSA*, all schools receiving Title I funds must inform parents of their right to ask schools about the professional qualifications of their child's teachers and paraprofessionals. Our school receives Title I funding and we are happy to share this information with you upon your request.

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 West New York School District. All our regular teachers have college degrees and many have advanced degrees. In addition, every teacher continues learning through professional development activities and our teachers are evaluated each year to make sure 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. For more information on *ESSA*, and the role of parents, please visit the United States Department of Education's (USDE) website at <http://www.ed.gov/essa>.

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

Sincerely,



Clara Brito Herrera
Superintendent of Schools