

ROY W. BROWN MIDDLE SCHOOL

130 SOUTH WASHINGTON AVE
BERGENFIELD, NEW JERSEY 07621
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Title I – Parents’ Right-to-Know

September 29, 2011

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act is our country’s most important federal education law. In 2001 this law was reauthorized and is now called the *No Child Left Behind Act* (NCLB). NCLB was designed to make changes in teaching and learning that will help increase academic achievement in our schools.

The law requires that all schools receiving Title I funds must inform parents/guardians of their right to ask schools about the qualifications of their child’s teachers. Our school receives Title I funding and we are happy to share this information with you at your request.

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 Title I 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
3. Proof of 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 at the Roy W. Brown Middle School. All of our 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 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.

All teachers hired after the beginning of the 2002-2003 school year were required to meet this definition. According to NCLB, veteran teachers, hired before the 2002-2003 school year, who did not, at that time, meet the legal definition of highly qualified, had until the end of the 2005-2006 school year to do so. 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 is fully qualified and dedicated to teaching your child and I am proud to tell you that currently, all of the Roy W. Brown Middle School teachers meet the legal definition of highly qualified.

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 NCLB and the role of Title I parents, please visit the United States Department of Education Web site at www.ed.gov/nclb. By partnering, families and educators can provide your child with the best education possible.

Sincerely,

Shana L. Wright
Principal

Together, we will make a difference