



**PALMYRA SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**PALMYRA, NJ 08065**

Brian J. McBride, Ed.D.  
*Superintendent of Schools*

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William R. Blatchley  
*Business Administrator/  
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Dear Parent/Guardian:

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

The law requires that all schools must inform parents of their right to ask schools about the qualifications of their child(ren)'s teachers. We are happy to share this information with you at your request.

In Palmyra, we believe that nothing is more important to a child's education at school than having a well-prepared and highly qualified teacher. All teachers must meet a specific legal definition of "highly qualified". 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.

We are extremely proud of the quality of the teaching staff in the Palmyra School District. All of our 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 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. Every teacher in our school district is fully qualified and dedicated to teaching your child(ren).

I encourage you to support your child(ren)'s education and communicate with your child(ren)'s teacher(s) on a regular basis. For more information on ESEA please visit the United States Department of Education Website at <https://www.ed.gov/essa?src=rn>. By partnering, families and educators can provide all our children with the best education possible.

Sincerely,

Brian J. McBride, Ed.D.  
*Superintendent of Schools*

More information on the new law and teacher quality can be found on the following internet website: <https://www2.ed.gov/nclb/overview/intro/faqs.html>

Additional information on the new law and Title I Parent/Family Involvement, as well as A Parent's Guide and links to additional sites, can be found at: <https://www2.ed.gov/admins/comm/parents/pntinv.html>

A section on helping your child succeed in school can be found at: <https://www2.ed.gov/parents/academic/help/succeed/partx.html>