

LUMBERTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

**33 Municipal Drive
Lumberton, NJ 08048**

**Maria Matlack
Supervisor of Curriculum and Instruction**

**(609)267-1406, Ext. 6824
Fax: (609)267-0002
E-Mail: MMatlack@lumberton.k12.nj.us**

September 9, 2018

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

The *Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)* which was signed into law on December 10, 2015 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 schools receive Title I funding, and we are happy to share this information with you upon your request.

We are extremely proud of the quality of the teaching staff in the Lumberton Township School District. Many of our teachers hold 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.

Many of our students work with paraprofessionals in their classrooms as well. All of our paraprofessionals have a minimum of a high school diploma, and quite a few have earned college credits. Many possess college degrees, and several are certified teachers. Please feel free to contact my office to request information about the qualifications of any specific paraprofessional who works with your child.

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,



Maria Matlack
Supervisor of Curriculum and Instruction