



September 10, 2010

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The *Elementary and Secondary Education Act* is our country's most important federal education law. In 2002 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. This letter is being sent as part of the compliance related to the current *NCLB* standard that all teachers are highly qualified to teacher your child/children.

The law requires that all schools receiving Title I funds must inform parents 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 who teach in core content areas 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 his/her 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 Runnemede 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 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 of Runnemede's teachers are highly qualified** by both the state and federal standards.

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

Sincerely,

Dr. Nancy Ward
Superintendent of Schools