

Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015

Parent and Family Member Right to Know

The federal [Every Student Succeeds Act \(ESSA\)](#) of 2015 includes provisions that help ensure success for students and schools. The previous version of the law, the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act, was enacted in 2002. ESSA:

- advances equity by upholding protections for disadvantaged and high-need students.
- requires that all students be taught to high academic standards that will prepare them to succeed in college and careers.
- ensures that information is provided to educators, families, students and communities through annual statewide assessments that measure students' progress toward those high standards.
- helps to support and grow local innovations - including evidence-based and place-based interventions developed by local leaders and educators.
- sustains and expands investments in increasing access to high-quality preschool.
- maintains an expectation that there will be accountability and action to effect positive change in our lowest-performing schools, where groups of students are not making progress, and where graduation rates are low over extended periods of time.

ESSA was adopted, in part, to ensure that schools and school districts across the country employ teachers and instructional assistants who meet applicable state certification and licensure requirements in schools that receive federal funds.

According to this law, teachers should:

- have met state qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction;
- be teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which state qualification or licensing criteria have been waived; and
- be teaching in the field of discipline of the certification of the teacher.

Lexington County School District One's Board of Trustees places top priority on hiring teachers and paraprofessionals for all our classrooms who meet applicable state certification and licensure requirements.

As part of our continued commitment to excellence, we ask each teacher to make information about his/her qualifications available on his/her teacher webpage, Schoology page, etc. You can access that information by going to the website of your child's school. The district's website address is www.lexington1.net. You can get to each school's website from there.

If you neither own a computer nor have access to the internet, the Gilbert, Lexington and Pelion branches of the Lexington County Public Library system provide internet access.

If you still cannot get this information from our website and would like to receive it, just send a letter to your child's principal. In that letter, please give your child's name, the name of the teacher or paraprofessional, and the grade or subject that person teaches. Your principal will provide you with the information in a timely manner after receiving your request.