

# Wilkes-Barre Area School District

730 SOUTH MAIN STREET WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA 18711-0375

SUPERINTENDENT: (570) 826-7111 Ext. 1148 FAX: (570) 819-5010

BOARD SECRETARY: (570) 826-7111 Ext. 1162 FAX: (570) 819-5011

www.wbasd.k12.pa.us



Joseph A Caffrey, President  
Mark Atherton, Vice President  
Dr. Brian J. Costello, Superintendent  
Thomas F. Telesz, Board Secretary/Business Administrator

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Rev. Shawn Walker



August 21, 2023

Re: Right to Request Teacher Qualifications

Dear Parents,

As a parent of a student attending a school that is receiving Federal Title I dollars, you have the right to know the professional qualifications of the teacher(s) and instructional paraprofessional(s) who instruct your child.

Federal law requires every Title I school district to comply and to provide you with the requested information in a timely manner. We are happy to provide this information to you. At any time, you may ask:

- Whether the teacher met state qualifications and certification requirements for the grade level and subject he/she is teaching,
- Whether the teacher received an emergency or conditional certificate through which state qualifications were waived, and
- What undergraduate or graduate degrees the teacher holds, including graduate certificates and additional degrees, and major(s) or area(s) of concentration.

You may also ask whether your child receives help from a paraprofessional. If your child receives this assistance, we can provide you with information about the paraprofessional's qualifications.

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) which was signed into law in December 2015 and reauthorizes the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1956 (ESEA) includes additionally right to know requests. At any time, parents and family members can request:

- Information on policies regarding student participation in assessments and procedures for opting out, and
- Information on required assessments that include
  - subject matter tested, o purpose of the test,
  - source of the requirement (if applicable),
  - amount of time it takes students to complete the test, and
  - time and format of disseminating results.

Our staff is committed to helping your child develop the academic knowledge and critical thinking he/she needs to succeed in school and beyond. That commitment includes making sure that all of our teachers and paraprofessionals meet applicable Pennsylvania state requirements.

We look forward to the upcoming school year, and together, we will make a difference in your child's life.

Sincerely,

Mr. John Mendola  
Principal,  
Boyd Dodson Elementary at Mackin

#### Notice of Non-Discrimination

The Wilkes-Barre Area School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.

The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:  
The Wilkes-Barre Area School District Superintendent, 730 South Main Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18711-0375, 570-826-7111

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Re: Derecho a solicitar calificaciones de maestro

Estimados padres,

Como padre de un estudiante que asiste a una escuela que está recibiendo dólares del Título Federal I, usted tiene derecho a conocer las calificaciones profesionales de los maestros y paraprofesionales de instrucción que instruyen a su hijo.

La ley federal requiere que cada distrito escolar del Título I cumpla y le proporcione la información solicitada de manera oportuna. Estamos encantados de proporcionarle esta información. En cualquier momento, puede preguntar:

- Si el maestro cumplió con los requisitos estatales de calificación y certificación para el nivel de grado y la materia que está enseñando,
- Si el maestro recibió un certificado de emergencia o condicional a través del cual se renunciaron las calificaciones estatales, y
- Qué títulos de pregrado o posgrado posee el maestro, incluidos los certificados de posgrado y títulos adicionales, y las especialidades o áreas de concentración.

También puede preguntar si su hijo recibe ayuda de un paraprofesional. Si su hijo recibe esta asistencia, podemos proporcionarle información sobre las calificaciones del paraprofesional.

La Ley cada Estudiante Triunfa (ESSA) que se promulgó en diciembre de 2015 y reautoriza la Ley de Educación Primaria y Secundaria de 1956 (ESEA) incluye adicionalmente solicitudes de derecho a saber. En cualquier momento, los padres y familiares pueden solicitar:

- Información sobre políticas relacionadas con la participación de los estudiantes en las evaluaciones y los procedimientos para optar por no participar, y
- Información sobre las evaluaciones requeridas que incluyen
  - o materia probada, o finalidad de la prueba,
  - o fuente del requisito (si procede),
  - o la cantidad de tiempo que tardan los estudiantes en completar el examen, y
  - o tiempo y formato de difusión de los resultados.

Nuestro personal está comprometido a ayudar a su hijo a desarrollar el conocimiento académico y el pensamiento crítico que necesita para tener éxito en la escuela y más allá. Ese compromiso incluye asegurarse de que todos nuestros maestros y paraprofesionales cumplan con los requisitos aplicables del estado de Pensilvania.

Esperamos con ansias el próximo año escolar, y juntos, haremos una diferencia en la vida de su hijo.

Sinceramente,

Mr. John Mendola  
Principal,  
Boyd Dodson Elementary at Mackin

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