



White Township Consolidated School
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William Thompson
Chief School Administrator

Andrew Italiano
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September 5, 2023

Dear Parents,

The *Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)* was passed by the U.S. Congress and signed into law on December 10, 2015. The *ESSA* 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 are still 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 school receives Title I funding and we are happy to share this information with you upon your request.

New Jersey has some of the most qualified teachers in the country, and we are extremely proud of the quality of the teaching staff at White Township Consolidated School. All our teachers have college degrees and many have advanced degrees. In addition, our teachers continue learning through professional development opportunities, and teachers are evaluated each year making sure their teaching skills remain at the highest possible level.

I encourage you to support your child's education and communicate with your child's teachers 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 together, families and educators can provide our children with the best education possible, and I look forward to working with you this school year.

Sincerely,

William Thompson

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Chief School Administrator