



UNION COUNTY VOCATIONAL - TECHNICAL SCHOOLS

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Mrs. Gwendolyn S. Ryan
Superintendent of Schools

Fall, 2021

Dear UCVTS Parent/Guardian:

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), which is one of our country's most important federal education laws. ESSA was designed to incorporate changes in instruction and learning that will help increase academic achievement in our schools.

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:

- A four-year college degree
- A regular teaching certificate/license
- 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 our teaching staff at the Union County Vocational-Technical Schools (UCVTS). The state of New Jersey has always required a teaching certificate/license for all teachers. All of our academic teachers have college degrees and many have advanced degrees. In addition, every teacher continues learning through professional development activities. UCVTS teachers are evaluated each year to ensure that their teaching skills remain current and effective. All of our district teachers meet the legal definition of highly qualified.

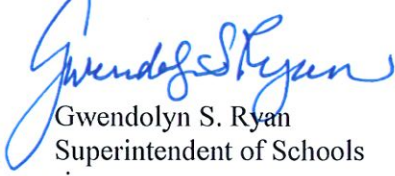
A highly qualified teacher knows what to teach, how to teach, and has a full understanding of relevant subject matter. Every teacher in our school is fully qualified and dedicated to teaching your child.

Our school utilizes Title I funds by providing additional math classes negotiated by pre/post-assessments administered by our math teachers. Free and reduced lunch reports, per State regulations, are analyzed to determine student eligibility of funding for our District.

You can support your child by communicating with your child's teacher(s) on a regular basis. For more information on *ESSA/ESEA*, and the role of parents, please visit the United States Department of Education (USDE) Web site at www.ed.gov/nclb.

As partners, families and educators will provide your child with the best possible educational experiences.

Sincerely,



Gwendolyn S. Ryan
Superintendent of Schools
ajg

cc Janet Behrmann, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary
Lisa Tauscher, Principal