

## Parents Right to Know

### ESEA Statute (Section 1112)(e)(1)(B)(ii)

**Section 1112 (e)** covers the **Parents Right to Know**, which includes the following required notifications to parents:

#### (1) INFORMATION FOR PARENTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—At the beginning of each school year, a local educational agency that receives funds under this part shall notify the parents of each student attending any school receiving funds under this part that the parents may request, and the agency will provide the parents on request (and in a timely manner), information regarding the professional qualifications of the student’s classroom teachers, including at a minimum, the following:

(i) Whether the student’s teacher—

(I) has met State qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction;

(II) is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which State qualification or licensing criteria have been waived; and

(III) is teaching in the field of discipline of the certification of the teacher.

(ii) Whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.

(B) ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.—In addition to the information that parents may request under subparagraph (A), a school that receives funds under this part shall provide to each individual parent of a child who is a student in such school, with respect to such student—

(i) information on the level of achievement and academic growth of the student, if applicable and available, on each of the State academic assessments required under this part; and

(ii) timely notice that the student has been assigned, or has been taught for 4 or more consecutive weeks by, a teacher who does not meet applicable State certification or licensure requirements at the grade level and subject area in which the teacher has been assigned.

#### (2) TESTING TRANSPARENCY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—At the beginning of each school year, a local educational agency that receives funds under this part shall notify the parents of each student attending any school receiving funds under this part that the parents may request, and the local educational agency will provide the parents on request (and in a timely manner), information regarding any State or local educational agency policy regarding student participation in any assessments mandated by section 1111(b)(2) and by the State or local educational agency,

which shall include a policy, procedure, or parental right to opt the child out of such assessment, where applicable.

(B) ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.—Subject to subparagraph(C), each local educational agency that receives funds under this part shall make widely available through public means (including by posting in a clear and easily accessible manner on the local educational agency’s website and, where practicable, on the website of each school served by the local educational agency) for each grade served by the local educational agency, information on each assessment required by the State to comply with section 1111, other assessments required by the State, and where such information is available and feasible to report, assessments required districtwide by the local educational agency, including—

- (i) the subject matter assessed;
- (ii) the purpose for which the assessment is designed and used;
- (iii) the source of the requirement for the assessment; and
- (iv) where such information is available—
  - (I) the amount of time students will spend taking the assessment, and the schedule for the assessment; and
  - (II) the time and format for disseminating results.

(3) LANGUAGE INSTRUCTION.—

(A) NOTICE.—Each local educational agency using funds under this part or title III to provide a language instruction educational program as determined under title III shall, not later than 30 days after the beginning of the school year, inform parents of an English learner identified for participation or participating in such a program.

## Sample Notifications for a newsletter, newspaper, or school handbook

### **1. Do parents have the right to know the qualifications of the educational staff working with their child?**

Yes. Title I Part A, (Section 1112)(e)(1)(B)(ii) specifies the following requirement. At the beginning of each school year, a local educational agency that receives funds under this part shall notify the parents of each student attending any school receiving funds under this part that the parents may request, and the agency will provide the parents on request (and in a timely manner).

The information must include, at a minimum, the following:

- (i) Whether the student's teacher—
  - (I) has met State qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction;
  - (II) is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which State qualification or licensing criteria have been waived; and
  - (III) is teaching in the field of discipline of the certification of the teacher.
- (ii) Whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.

Parents may also request information on the level of achievement and academic growth of the student, if applicable and available, on each of the State academic assessments required under this part and timely notice that the student has been assigned, or has been taught for 4 or more consecutive weeks by, a teacher who does not meet applicable State certification or licensure requirements at the grade level and subject area in which the teacher has been assigned.

The notice and information provided to parents must be in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, provided in a language that the parents can understand.

### **Sample 2:**

**What do I know about my child's teacher?** The federal education law put in place by the Elementary & Secondary Education Act (ESEA) requires that all parents in a Title I school be notified and given the opportunity to request information about the professional qualifications of classroom teachers and paraprofessionals instructing their child. You may also request information on the level of achievement and academic growth of the student, if applicable and available, on each of the State academic assessments. If you are interested in this information, you may send your request to the building principal who will provide a timely response.