



NEW MILFORD PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT
145 MADISON AVENUE, NEW MILFORD, NJ 07646
201.261.2952 · Fax: 201.634.9671

Lauren Odoksta

Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction
lodoksta@nm-psd.org

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Dear Parents and Guardians:

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).

Under ESSA, all schools receiving federal funds must inform parents of their right to ask schools about the professional qualifications of their child's teachers and paraprofessionals. Some of our schools receive federal funding and we are happy to share this information with you upon request.

We believe nothing is more important to your child's education at school than having a well-prepared and qualified teacher. New Jersey has some of the most qualified teachers in the country, and we are extremely proud of the quality of the teaching staff in the New Milford Public School District. All of our teachers have college degrees and many have advanced degrees. The State of New Jersey has always required a teaching certificate/license for all teachers. In addition to having all required certifications, every New Milford teacher continues his or her own learning through professional development activities and is evaluated each year to make sure that their teaching skills remain at the highest possible level.

We encourage you to continue to support your child's education and communicate with his or her teacher 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 with your child's teacher, together we can provide your child with the best education possible.

Sincerely,

Lauren Odoksta
Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction