PCSST
Paterson Charter School for Science & Technology
Est. 2002

Central Office
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Title I-Parents' Right-to-Know

September 29, 2025

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The *Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)* was passed by the U.S. Congress late last year 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 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. Paterson Charter School for Science and Technology (PCSST) receives Federal Title I funding and we are happy to share this information with you upon your request.

At PCSST, we are extremely proud of the quality of the teaching staff. All our teachers have college degrees and many have advanced degrees. In addition, every teacher continues learning through professional development activities and our teachers are evaluated each year to make sure their teaching skills remain at the highest possible level. Please know that, at any time, you may request information regarding the professional qualifications of your child's classroom teachers including, at minimum, the following:

1. Whether your child's teacher has met the NJ State qualifications and certification requirements for the grade level he/she is teaching.
2. Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional certification through which state qualifications or licensing criteria have been waived.
3. What undergraduate or graduate degrees the teacher holds, including graduate certificates and additional degrees, and major(s) or area(s) of concentration.
4. Whether your child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.

If at any time your child has been taught for 4 or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who is not "highly qualified", the school will notify you.

If you have questions regarding the professional qualifications of your child's classroom teachers, please feel free to contact our Human Resources Coordinator, Mrs. Rose Oral, at the following phone number: (973) 247-0600. Ext. 1158

I encourage you to support your child's education and communicate with your child's teacher(s) on a regular basis. By partnering, families and educators can provide your child with the best education possible.