August 24, 2005

Dear Superintendent:

In accordance with ESEA Section 1111(h)(6) *PARENTS RIGHT-TO-KNOW*, at the beginning of each school year, a school district 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 district 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:

1. Whether the teacher has met State qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction.
2. Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which State qualification or licensing criteria have been waived.
3. The baccalaureate degree major of the teacher and any other graduate certification or degree held by the teacher, and the field of discipline of the certification or degree.
4. Whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.

In addition, each Title I school must provide each parent “timely notice that the parent’s child has been assigned, or has been taught for 4 or more consecutive weeks by, a teacher who is not highly qualified”.

If you have questions, please feel free to contact Myron Mason, Acting Division Administrator for Federal Grants and Programs at 217-524-4832.

Sincerely,

Donna J. Luallen
Division Administrator
Division of Accountability