



To: First Ward Creative Arts Academy Parents  
From: Selestine Young Adams  
Date: September 17, 2015  
Subject: "Right to Know" Teacher Qualifications

As you know, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools strives to ensure that all its students are equipped with the knowledge, skills, and values to live rich and full lives. One critical way that effort is realized is to attempt to always have every child taught by a "Highly Qualified" teacher, as that phrase is used in the Federal "No Child Left Behind Act" of 2001 ("NCLB") and defined by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction.

The federal law defines a "Highly Qualified" teacher as one who is: fully certified and/or licensed by the state; holds at least a bachelor's degree from a four-year institution; and demonstrates competence in each core academic subject area in which the teacher teaches. Core subject areas include: English, reading, language arts, mathematics, science, foreign languages, civics and government, social studies, economics, arts, history, geography and general classroom curriculum for Grades K-6. The federal regulations do not apply to non-core subjects such as most vocational programs and physical education.

In addition, we are required under NCLB to inform parents of children in schools funded with Title I funds if their child has been assigned, or has been taught for four or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who is not "highly qualified." This law also requires schools to inform parents that they have the "right to know" of a teacher's "Highly Qualified" status as defined by the federal law. **We are pleased to inform you that your child's classroom teacher has met all "Highly Qualified" standards and federal expectations.**

Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools is committed to providing quality instruction for all students and does so by employing the most qualified individuals to teach and support each student in the classroom. If you have any questions regarding the qualifications of your child's teacher at any time during the school year, please feel free to contact the school at (980) 343-5485. For additional information about federal "Highly Qualified" teacher requirements and North Carolina policies related to them, please visit the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction's website at <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/nclb/>. We welcome the chance to work with you to ensure that your child receives excellent educational opportunities.

Sincerely,

Selestine Young Adams  
(Principal)