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*Committed to cultivating within all our students the knowledge, skills, and character essential to becoming purposeful, productive and engaged members of their world.*

Dear Parents and Guardians,

At Northfield Elementary School, we are dedicated to providing your child with a top-quality education. As a school that receives Federal Title 1 funds, we are committed to ensuring that our students meet state achievement standards. Throughout the year, we will keep you informed about important aspects of this program and your child's education.

This letter is to inform you of your right to request information regarding the qualifications of the classroom staff who work with your child. We take great pride in our teachers and staff, and we are confident in their ability to deliver a high-quality education.

As a Title 1 school, we are required by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) to meet federal regulations concerning teacher qualifications. You have the right to inquire about the following:

- Whether your child's teacher has met state qualifications and certification requirements for the grade level and subject they are teaching.
- Whether the teacher has received an emergency or conditional certificate, allowing them to teach even if state qualifications were waived.
- The undergraduate and graduate degrees held by the teacher, including any additional certifications, majors, or areas of concentration.

Additionally, if your child receives assistance from a paraprofessional, you may request information regarding their qualifications as well.

Under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), signed into law in December 2015, you also have the right to request information at any time about:

- Policies regarding student participation in assessments and procedures for opting out.
- Details of required assessments, including:
  - The subject matter tested
  - The purpose of the test
  - The source of the requirement (if applicable)
  - The amount of time it typically takes students to complete the test
  - The schedule and format for disseminating the results

A Title I schoolwide program is a comprehensive reform strategy designed to enhance the overall educational experience in a Title I school. Its goal is to improve the achievement of all students, particularly those who are struggling. By consolidating funds through Title I schoolwide programming, we can more effectively address the diverse needs of our students.

Under the ESEA, a school may operate a schoolwide program if it meets any of the following conditions:

- The school has 40% or more of its students living in poverty, regardless of the grades it serves.
- The school has received a waiver from the State Education Agency (SEA) to operate a schoolwide program without meeting the 40% poverty threshold.
- The school is designated as a Tier I or Tier II school and receives funds through the School Improvement Grant (SIG) program to implement specific improvement strategies.

Our dedicated staff is committed to helping your child develop the academic skills and critical thinking necessary for success in school and beyond. We are also committed to ensuring that all of our teachers and paraprofessionals meet Vermont state requirements.

If you have any questions about your child's teacher or paraprofessional assignments, please feel free to contact me at 802 485 6161 or via email at [drussell@cvsu.org](mailto:drussell@cvsu.org).

Sincerely,

Denise Russell