



Pocono Mountain School District

PO Box 200 • Swiftwater, PA 18370 • 570-839-7121

2024-2025

Dear Parent (s)/Legal Guardian (s):

Your student attends Pocono Mountain West Junior High School, which receives Federal Title I funds to assist students in meeting state achievement standards. Throughout the school year, we will be providing you with important information about this law and your student's education. This letter lets you know about your right to request information about the qualifications of the classroom staff working with your student.

At Pocono Mountain West Junior High School, we are very proud of our teachers and know they are prepared to give your student a high-quality education. Pocono Mountain School District Title I schools must meet federal regulations related to teacher qualifications as defined in The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). These regulations allow you to learn more about your student's teachers' training and credentials. We are happy to provide this information to you. At any time, you may ask:

- Whether the teacher met state qualifications and certification requirements for the grade level and subject he/she is teaching
- Whether the teacher received an emergency or conditional certificate through which state qualifications were waived
- What undergraduate or graduate degree(s) the teacher holds, including graduate certificates and additional degrees in specific major(s) or area(s) of concentration

You may also ask whether your student receives help from a paraprofessional. If your student receives this assistance, we can provide you with information about the paraprofessional's qualifications.

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) was signed into law in December 2015. It reauthorizes the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1956 (ESEA) and includes right to know requests. At any time, parents and family members can request:

- Information on policies regarding student participation in assessments and procedures for opting out
- Information on required assessments that include:
 - o Subject matter tested, purpose of the test and source of the requirement (if applicable)
 - o Amount of time it takes students to complete the test
 - o Time and format for disseminating results

Our staff is committed to helping your student develop the academic knowledge and critical thinking skills he/she needs to succeed in school and beyond. This commitment includes making sure that all Pocono Mountain School District teachers and paraprofessionals meet applicable Pennsylvania State requirements. If you should have any questions about your student's assignment to a teacher or paraprofessional, please contact Stacy Kulics at 570-839-7121 or email skulics@pmsd.org.

Sincerely,

Stacy Kulics
Director of Federal Programs