



September 13, 2021

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

The Howard County Public School System is committed to ensuring equity and giving every child an opportunity to succeed. Essential to this mission is hiring and retaining highly effective teachers and support staff who are invested in providing safe and secure classroom environments where every child is encouraged to thrive.

The Federal *Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)* contains several provisions that promote a parent/school partnership through communication. One such provision gives parents the right to ask for and receive information about the professional qualifications of their child's classroom teachers. A parent may request the following information:

- Any college or university degree, major or certification held by the teacher
- Whether the teacher is certified by the State of Maryland to teach a particular grade level or subject area
- Whether the teacher holds a conditional teaching certificate
- The qualifications of the paraprofessionals serving the student

If you would like to request the professional qualifications of your child's classroom teachers or paraprofessionals, please submit a written request to the principal. The principal will provide the information to you within 30 business days of the date of your request.

I hope your child has had a positive start to this unique school year. We encourage your continued involvement in your child's education.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael J. Martirano", written in a cursive style.

Michael J. Martirano, Ed.D.
Superintendent