

August 13, 2019

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

Desert Heights Charter Schools receive 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 child's education. This letter informs you of your right to request information about the qualifications of the classroom staff working with your child.

Desert Heights Charter Schools are confident that our teachers and staff are ready for the coming school year and are prepared to provide your child with a high-quality education. As a Title I targeted assistance school, we are required to meet federal regulations related to teacher qualifications. These regulations allow you to learn more about your child'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, and
- What undergraduate or graduate degrees the teacher holds, including graduate certificates and additional degrees, and major(s) or area(s) of concentration.

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

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), which was signed into law in December 2015 and reauthorizes the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1956 (ESEA), includes additional 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, and
- Information on required assessments that include subject matter tested, purpose of the test, source of the requirement (if applicable), amount of time it takes students to complete the test, and time and format of disseminating results.

Our staff is committed to helping your child develop the academic knowledge and critical thinking he/she needs to succeed in school and beyond. That commitment includes ensuring that our teachers and paraprofessionals meet requirements put in place by the state of Arizona.

If you have any questions about your child's assignment to a teacher or paraprofessional, please contact Katherine Miller, MA Ed., Principal at Desert Heights Charter Schools, at (623) 896-2900 or via email at katherine.miller@dhschools.org.

Sincerely,

Katherine Miller, MA Ed.
Principal, Desert Heights Charter Schools

Beth Gue, M.S.
Director of Federal Programs, Desert Heights Charter Schools

Susan Otto, MA Ed.
ESEA Coordinator, Desert Heights Charter Schools