Parent’s Right to Know Guidance  
As Required by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

School districts are required to notify parents of ALL children in ALL Title I schools that they have the right to request and receive timely information on the professional qualifications of the teaching staff within the building. This requirement applies to all children in the school—whether or not they receive Title I services—and all Title I schools, both targeted assistance and schoolwide.

When a parent requests information on professional qualifications, schools and districts must, at a minimum, report the following:

a. The education level and subject area of the teacher’s college degree major and any graduate degree or certificate held;
b. Whether or not the teacher is teaching under an emergency status;
c. Whether or not the teacher has met North Dakota’s licensing requirements for the grade level(s) and core academic subject(s) they teach; and
d. Whether or not the school’s paraprofessionals meet the ESSA requirements.

The notification must take place at the beginning of each school year. This information could be disseminated through the district or school parent handbook, newsletter, sent as a separate mailing, or be kept on file at the district or school administration office in the event a parent requests it.

The following paragraph is sample language of how a school can meet the requirement for the Parent’s Right to Know. This information could appear in the school’s parent handbook or be included as part of a school newsletter.

Through federal education law, parents have the right to request information on the professional qualifications of the teachers and paraprofessionals at our school. If you are interested in learning this information, please contact the school administration office at (701) 111-1111. Upon this request, you will receive a detailed explanation of the licensing, education, and experience of each of our teachers. You will also receive information regarding the names and qualifications of the paraprofessionals at our school(s).

If at any time during the school year a child is taught for four or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who does not meet applicable state licensure requirements at the grade level and subject area in which the teacher has been assigned, parents must be notified in a timely manner.