

LEHIGHTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Jonathan J. Cleaver, Superintendent
Timothy M. Tkach, Assistant to the Superintendent
1000 Union Street, Lehighton, Pennsylvania 18235
Telephone: 610-377-4490 Fax: 610-577-0032

“Partnering with students, families, and community to provide opportunities for life-long success through academic excellence and individual growth in a safe and supportive environment.”

October 15, 2020

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

Welcome to the 2020-2021 academic school year. We hope that you tried to have a restful and enjoyable summer and your son/daughter is looking forward to another great school year. We ask for your patience and understanding during this crazy time due to COVID-19.

Your child attends Lehighton Area Elementary Center, 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 child’s education. This letter lets you know about your right to request information about the qualifications of the classroom staff working with your child.

At Lehighton Area Elementary Center, we are very proud of our teachers and feel they are ready for the coming school year and are prepared to give your child a high-quality education. As a Title I school, we must meet federal regulations related to teacher qualifications as defined in ESEA. 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 hold, 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 additionally 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

“Educating together to prepare our students for life’s journey.”

“Commitment to Excellence”

Our staff is committed to helping your child develop the academic knowledge and critical thinking he/she needs to succeed in school and beyond. Enclosed you will find the Lehighton Elementary Center Title I/Parent/School Involvement Compact that has been developed jointly with staff and parents. The Compact outlines how parents, staff and students will share in the responsibility of improving student academic achievement. Please read the enclosed compact, sign and return it to your child's teacher. That commitment includes making sure that all of our teachers and paraprofessionals meet applicable Pennsylvania state requirements.

If you have any questions about your child's assignment to a teacher or paraprofessional, please contact either Mr. Aaron Sebelin or Mrs. Melissa Volcskai at the Lehighton Area Elementary Center, 610-377-7880, or mvolcskai@lehighton.org or asebelin@lehighton.org .

Sincerely,

Mr. Aaron Sebelin, Principal Grades Pre-K-2
Mrs. Melissa Volcskai, Principal Grades 3-5
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