

# Audubon Public Schools

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**Steven C. Crispin**  
Superintendent

August 2014

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act is our country's most important federal education law. In 2001 this law was reauthorized and is now called the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB). NCLB was designed to make changes in teaching and learning that will help increase academic achievement in our schools. The law requires that all schools receiving Title I funds must inform parents of their right to ask schools about the qualifications of their child's teachers. Our schools receive Title I funding, and we are happy to share this information with you at your request. We believe that nothing is more important to your child's education at school than having a well-prepared and highly qualified teacher. The law requires that all teachers must meet a specific legal definition of "highly qualified" in order to teach in schools that receive Title I funding. The legal definition of a "highly qualified teacher" has three parts. It states that the teacher must have the following:

1. A four-year college degree
2. A regular teaching certificate/license
3. Proof of his/her knowledge in the subject he/she teaches.

New Jersey has some of the most qualified teachers in the country, and we are extremely proud of the quality of the teaching staff in the Audubon School District. All of our regular teachers have college degrees and many have advanced degrees. The state of New Jersey has always required a teaching certificate/license for all teachers. In addition, every teacher continues learning through professional development activities and our teachers are evaluated each year to make sure that their teaching skills remain at the highest possible level. All teachers hired after the beginning of the 2002-03 school year were required to meet this definition. According to NCLB, veteran teachers, hired before the 2002-03 school year, who did not meet the legal definition of highly qualified, had until the end of the 2005-06 school year to do so. To ensure that every child in every classroom has a highly qualified teacher, the state of New Jersey and our school district have worked together to help teachers meet the requirements of the federal law. A highly qualified teacher knows what to teach, how to teach, and has a full understanding of the subject matter being taught. We believe that every teacher in our school district is exceptionally qualified and dedicated to teaching your child. I encourage you to support your child's education and communicate with your child's teacher(s) on a regular basis. For more information on NCLB, and the role of parents, please visit the United States Department of Education Web site at [www.ed.gov/nclb](http://www.ed.gov/nclb). By partnering, families and educators can provide your child with the best education possible.

Sincerely,

Steven C. Crispin  
Superintendent

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#### MISSION STATEMENT

*In partnership with our students, families, and communities, the Audubon Public Schools will educate all students by providing motivating and challenging learning experiences embedded in technology that prepare them to achieve the Common Core and New Jersey Core Curriculum State Standards at all grade levels, in a safe setting of mutual respect, in order to develop ethical, productive citizens who will contribute to the local and global community.*