



KINNELON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Diane DiGiuseppe
Superintendent

September 18, 2015

Dear Parents:

The *Elementary and Secondary Education Act* is our country's most well-known federal education law. In 2001 this law was reauthorized and is now called the *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB)*. *NCLB* was designed to make changes in teaching and learning that will help increase academic achievement in all schools across the United States.

Kinnelon Public Schools qualified to receive Title I funding for the first time in the 2015-2016 academic year. Our Title 1 funding is not at all based on state test scores nor performance data of any kind, but rather it is based on economic data obtained from the most recent census. Since we are entitled to this funding, we accepted it and the requirements as how it can be used. Under *NCLB* Title 1, we are required to use the funds to address the educational needs of our most academically at-risk students. Over the next few weeks, teachers and administrators at Kiel and Stonybrook will be using multiple measures to determine who among the students in Kindergarten through grade 5 are in need of academic interventions. Once we determine eligibility, we will be providing academic intervention supports to eligible students in the form of before and after school basic skills programs. The program may even be able to extend over the summer depending on enrollment numbers.

Educational policy makers believe that nothing is more important to your child's education at school than having a well-prepared and highly qualified teacher. The *NCLB* law requires that all teachers who teach in core content areas 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; a four-year college degree, a regular teaching certificate/license, and proof of his/her knowledge in the subject they teach. New Jersey has always required this of teachers in both Title 1 and Non-Title 1 schools.

All of the teachers employed in Kinnelon have college degrees and many have advanced degrees and are **all** "highly qualified" under the *NCLB* Act of 2001. For more information on *NCLB*, and the role of parents, please visit the United States Department of Education (USDE) Web site at www.ed.gov/nclb.

By partnering, families and educators can provide your child with the best education possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Diane DiGiuseppe". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Diane DiGiuseppe
Superintendent and Acting Title 1 Coordinator