



ECO Charter School  
ENVIRONMENT · COMMUNITY · OPPORTUNITY

Title I Parents' Right-to-Know Letter

13 September 2018

Dear ECO Parent:

On December 10, 2015, the *Every Student Succeeds Act* (ESSA) was signed into law by President Barack Obama. ESSA is the latest reauthorization of the 1965 *Elementary and Secondary School Act*, and replaced the *No Child Left Behind Act* (NCLB of 2001). The reauthorized law sets high standards and policies for schools that are designed to help prepare students for academic success.

Mandated by law, parents of students in federally-funded schools may request certain information about the professional qualifications of their child's teachers. We are pleased to provide information, as requested. Our team 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 all of our teachers are highly skilled. All ECO Charter School faculty members are highly qualified and certificated by the State of New Jersey, well-prepared, committed to your child's success, and engaged in providing your child high-quality academic instruction. We are extremely proud of the quality of our teaching staff. New Jersey has always required a teaching certificate/license for all teachers, **including those who work in charter schools**. In addition, every teacher continues learning via required in-service programs and professional development activities throughout the school year. Moreover, our teachers are evaluated several times each year to ensure their teaching skills are sufficient to meet student needs.

ECO Charter School receives federal funding via a program entitle, Title I. Title I funding allotted our public charter school helps students in need to achieve academic success. We use funding to provide supplementary instruction to students at risk for academic underachievement and to more completely involve families in the academic lives of their children. The criteria used to identify Title I program participants include but are not limited to teacher recommendation, I-Ready Reading and Mathematics proficiency data, grade level benchmark literacy and mathematics tests, PARCC results, school attendance data, involvement with outside advocacy agencies as well as previous program participation. Student participants, depending upon individual needs may receive up to 120 minutes of individualized or small group instruction via an interventionist in Reading/Writing, Math or in both subjects. Based on need, students may also have access to technology to enhance basic skills and/or participate in an after-school program designed to ensure students acquire essential academic skills. Some students may also be eligible to receive tutoring. Students receive the supplemental support weekly and are frequently monitored to determine whether the supplemental instruction is helping the students make academic progress. Students exit the program when sufficient growth is demonstrated and/or when grade level proficiency is achieved; the same measurements used to determine participation are used to make decisions regarding program continuance.

I encourage you to support your child's academic growth by becoming more involved in the life of our school and communicate with your child's teacher(s) on a regular basis. You are invited to help plan and participate in our monthly Home and School Alliance events and/or volunteer in your child's classroom! For more information on ESSA and Title I and/or parental engagement, please visit the United States Department of Education website and/or contact me. We have vacancies on our Title I Committee and are hoping you will consider serving. By partnering, families and educators can provide your child with the best education possible.

Sincerely,

Principal Desarmes

CC File

A. Dendtler, Founder & Head of School/Lead Person & J. Bailey, School Business Administrator