



# WATCHUNG BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

GEORGE P. ALEXIS  
SUPERINTENDENT

RICHARD PEPE  
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR

NICOLE DITOTA  
DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL SERVICES

September 23, 2021

Dear Parents,

We are writing to inform you of certain rights you have to ask about the qualifications of your child's teachers. In accordance with the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), which was signed into law on December 10, 2015, all schools receiving Title 1 funds must inform parents of their right to ask schools about the professional qualifications of their child's teachers and paraprofessionals. Valley View Middle School and Bayberry Elementary School receive Title 1 funding, and we are happy to share this information with you, upon request.

By way of background, ESSA replaces the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) and is the latest reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). In an effort to raise student achievement, NCLB included a Highly Qualified Teacher (HQT) provision. Though this provision was eliminated by ESSA, all educators in New Jersey still are required to hold the appropriate state certificate for their assigned position.

We are extremely proud of the quality of our teaching staff. In addition to all teachers having college degrees, many hold advanced degrees. To promote the highest levels of teaching and learning in our schools, all teachers continue their learning through professional development activities and are evaluated pursuant to state guidelines each year.

We encourage you to communicate with your child's teachers on a regular basis. For more information on ESSA and the role of parents, please visit the United States Department of Education's (USDE) website at <http://www.ed.gov/essa>.

Please let us know if you have any questions. Our partnership is key to providing your child with the best possible education.

Very truly yours,

Handwritten signature of George P. Alexis.

George P. Alexis  
Superintendent of Schools

Handwritten signature of Karin L. Kidd.

Karin L. Kidd  
Principal, Valley View Middle School

Handwritten signature of Denise M. Fichner.

Denise M. Fichner  
Principal, Bayberry Elementary School



## Bayberry Elementary School

113 Bayberry Lane Watchung, NJ 07069  
908-755-8184 [www.watchungschools.com](http://www.watchungschools.com)

### Bayberry Elementary School Parent/School Compact 2021-2022 School Year

The Bayberry Elementary School and the parents of the students participating in activities, services, and programs funded by Title I, Part A of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), agree that this compact outlines how the parents, the entire school staff, and the students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement. They also agree that it outlines the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership that will help children meet the state's high standards.

The Bayberry Elementary School Staff will:

- Provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables the participating children to meet the State's student academic achievement standards as follows:
  - Have high expectations and help every child to develop a love of learning.
  - Provide a safe and supportive learning environment.
  - Participate in professional development opportunities that improve teaching and learning and support the formation of partnerships with families and the community.
- Actively participate in collaborative decision making and consistently work with families and school colleagues to make schools accessible and welcoming places for families, in an effort to help each student achieve high standards.
- Hold parent-teacher meetings as needed during which this compact will be discussed as it relates to the individual child's achievement.
- Provide parents with regular reports on their child's progress.

We, as parents, will support our children's learning in the following ways:

- Provide a comfortable environment for homework.
- Encourage my child to read every day.
- Ensure that my child attends school every day, gets adequate sleep, regular medical attention, and proper nutrition.
- Regularly monitor my child's progress in school.
- Participate in my child's education whenever possible through activities, including our attendance at parent-teacher meetings as needed.

We, as students, will carry out the following responsibilities:

- Come to school ready to learn and work hard.
- Come to school prepared with necessary materials, complete classwork, and participate in daily activities.
- Respect the school, my classmates, the school staff, and the school's families.
- Communicate regularly with my parents and teachers about school experiences so that they can help me to be successful in school.



## Valley View Middle School

50 Valley View Road Watchung, NJ 07069

908-755-4422 [www.watchungschools.com](http://www.watchungschools.com)

### Valley View Middle School Parent/School Compact 2021-2022 School Year

The Valley View Middle School and the parents of the students participating in activities, services, and programs funded by Title I, Part A of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), agree that this compact outlines how the parents, the entire school staff, and the students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement. They also agree that it outlines the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership that will help children meet the state's high standards.

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- Provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables the participating children to meet the State's student academic achievement standards as follows:
  - Have high expectations and help every child to develop a love of learning.
  - Provide a safe and supportive learning environment.
  - Participate in professional development opportunities that improve teaching and learning and support the formation of partnerships with families and the community.
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