

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



KATHRYN S. MATAYOSH
SUPERINTENDENT

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
MOMILANI ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
2130 HO'OKI'EKI'E STREET
PEARL CITY, HAWAII 96782

Highly Qualified Teacher
School Year 2016-2017

Dear Parents and Guardians:

The No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Federal Law required teachers to be, or become, "Highly Qualified." *The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)*, which became law in December 2015, no longer requires that all teachers teaching core academic classes meet a specific, Federal definition of "Highly Qualified." New ESSA requirements will be effective School Year (SY) 2017-2018.

As a parent/guardian of Hawaii Department of Education student, you continue to have the right to know the professional qualifications of the classroom teachers(s) and the educational assistants(s) who instruct your child. Federal law allows you to ask for certain information about your child's classroom teachers(s) and educational assistants(s) and requires us to give you this information in a timely manner upon request.

You have the right to ask for the following information about each of your child's classroom teachers(s):

1. Whether the teacher has met licensing criteria and has earned the designation of Highly Qualified for the grade levels and subject areas in which he/she teaches. Core academic subjects include: English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Foreign Languages, Civics and Government, Economics, History, Geography, Art.
2. Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which State qualification or licensing criteria have been waived.
3. The teacher's college major, whether the teacher has any advanced degrees and, if so, the subject of the degrees; and
4. Whether any teacher's aides or similar paraprofessionals provide services to your child and, if they do, their qualifications.

If you would like to receive any of this information, please contact our school office.

Respectfully,

(Mrs.) Doreen Y. Higa
Principal