

Dear Parents/Guardians of Jackson Preparatory & Early College:

The *Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)* was passed by the U.S. Congress and signed into law on December 10, 2015. The *ESSA* replaces the *No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB)* and is the latest reauthorization of the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)*.

Additionally, your child currently attends a school that receives funds from the Title I, Part A program. Title I, Part A is a federal supplemental program designed to help children reach high academic standards.

As part of *ESSA* and Title 1, Part A, each state and school district must develop plans for all children to be taught by highly effective, certified teachers, meaning the teacher has met state qualification and licensing criteria for the grade level(s) and subject area(s) in which the teacher provides instruction. Any time your child is being taught for four (4) consecutive weeks by a teacher(s) who is not certified, you will be notified.

Due to the growing teacher shortage, many schools across the state have employed educators who are in the process of completing their certification. JPEC follows this trend. The teachers listed below from JPEC are actively pursuing their full teaching certification in Michigan through the Teachers of Tomorrow program. This program assists individuals with degrees to achieve certification while they teach:

- Jonathan Robertson: Graduated with a Bachelor's Degree from Sienna Heights University. Mr. Robertson joined JPEC in the fall of 2022 as the Special Education teacher.
- Lance Berry: Earned his Bachelor's Degree from Adrian College. Since the fall of 2022, Mr. Berry has been serving JPEC as the Physical Education/Health teacher.

My staff and I will closely monitor these classes to ensure student achievement. I am confident that quality instruction will continue in these classrooms. However, if you have additional questions or concerns about your child's educational progress or teacher, you may contact me at (517) 705-5732 or email me at debra.gibson@jacksonpec.org.

Sincerely,

Debra A. Gibson, Principal

Jackson Preparatory & Early College