

# ***Wynne Public Schools***

## ***Highly Qualified Teacher Information***

July 24, 2023

Dear Parent or Guardian,

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act is our country's most important education law. ESEA was designed to make changes in teaching and learning that will help our students achieve more in school. The law requires that all schools receiving federal funds must inform parents of their right to ask schools about the qualifications of their child's teachers. Our school receives federal funding and we are happy to share this information with you.

We believe that nothing is more important to your child's education at school than having a well prepared and highly qualified teacher. The law which requires that all teachers must meet a specific, legal definition of "highly qualified" has three parts. It states that the teacher must have:

1. A four-year college degree;
2. A regular teaching certificate/license; and
3. Proof of their knowledge in the subject they teach.

Wynne Public Schools has some of the most qualified teachers in the country and we are extremely proud of the quality of the teaching staff in the Wynne School District which is Title I Schoolwide K-5 with Title I funds allocated at the Primary and Intermediate Schools. Grades 6-12 are targeted assistance schools. All of our Title I and regular classroom teachers have college degrees and many have advanced degrees with seven National Board Certified. The state of Arkansas requires a teaching certificate/license for all teachers. In addition, every teacher continues his or her own learning through sixty plus professional development hours and our teachers are evaluated each year to make sure that their teaching skills remain at the highest possible level.

Our teachers already meet this legal definition of "highly qualified." All teachers hired after the beginning of the 2002-2003 school year were required to meet this definition. Veteran teachers, hired before the 2002-2003 school year, who did not yet meet the legal definition of "highly qualified" had until the end of the 2005-2006 school year to do so. One-hundred percent of all Wynne Elementary teachers meet the highly qualified requirements.

To ensure that every child in every classroom has a highly qualified teacher/Arkansas and our school District work together to help teachers meet the requirements of the federal law by providing several options. Teacher Assistants are able to take a test (paraprofessional exam), or demonstrate their expertise through a combination of college coursework, professional development activities, experience, and degrees. A highly qualified teacher knows what to teach, how to teach and has a full understanding of the subject matter being taught. Teachers in our school are highly qualified and dedicated to teaching your child.

I encourage you to support your child's education and communicate with his or her teacher on a regular basis. For more information on The Elementary and Secondary Education Act and the role of Title I, contact Wynne Title I District Office (870) 238-5020. By partnering together - families and educators - we can provide your child with the best education possible.

Respectfully,



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