Helpful Tips on Parents Right to Know (ESEA Section 1112)



Purpose	Parents Right to Know is a requirement under the Every Student Succeeds Act reauthorization, and is located in Section 1112(e)(1)(A) of the reauthorized law. This section of ESEA has two significant components. The first requires the LEA to inform parents/guardians they have a right to request and review their child's teacher credentials. The second portion of this section requires the LEA to inform parents/guardians if their child is being taught by a teacher that is not appropriately certified to teach in their state for four or more weeks. When this situation occurs, the LEA must notify the impacted students parent/guardians with a four-week letter.
Parents Right To Know	Parents/Guardians have a right to request the qualifications of their child's teacher. The LEA may provide information they deem appropriate to demonstrate the teacher qualifications. LEAs should identify what information will be provided, if requested; how the LEA will provide annual notice to parents/guardians about this right; and how the LEA will provide the selected documentation upon request. These are local decisions, but it is recommend the LEA be consistent in how the annual notice is published; what information is disbursed; and the method(s) of disbursement. [1112 (e)(1)(a)]
Four-Week Letter Requirement	 The four-week letter is required to be sent to parents/guardians when a teacher, who does not meet the requirements for the course(s) to be deemed appropriately certified, instructed their child for four consecutive weeks. If a school has a teacher(s) instructing that is/are not appropriately certified, and the school receives Title I.A funding they must issue the four- week letter. This requirement must be adhered to by all schools that receive Title I.A funding, and is not determined by the LEA's participation in Title I.A. The LEA must provide the following information: The school is a Title I.A school and the notice is a requirement of section 1112(e)(1)(A); Their child is receiving instruction from a teacher that is not deemed appropriately certified in the State of Missouri; <i>The name of the teacher, grade level(s), and specific subject areas the teacher provides instruction</i>
How to Send Out a Four-Week Letter	The LEA may choose to disburse the Four-Week Letter in a manner that meets the needs of their community. Examples of effective methods could be electronic mail or traditional mail. It is recommended that the LEA provide consistent modes of delivery to assure equitable access to all impacted parents/guardians.