



COLUMBIA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

COLUMBIA HIGH SCHOOL

901 Ironville Pike, Columbia, PA 17512

Phone: 717-684-7500 - Fax: 717-681-2219

"Dedicated to Excellence..."

www.columbia.k12.pa.us

October 7, 2015

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The 2001 federal law called the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) requires our school to inform you about the qualifications of your child's teacher. This law requires that all teachers who teach "core subjects" meet certain criteria for being highly qualified (HQT) for their position. Core subjects are: English language arts (including English as a Second Language), reading, math, science, foreign language, social studies, art, music, elementary education, and early childhood education (grades K-3 only). Special educators who provide primary instruction in English/reading, math, science, and/or social studies; alternative program educators who teach English/reading, math, science, and/or social studies; and Title I Reading and/or Math teachers must also meet HQT requirements.

This letter is to inform you that your child's French teacher is in the process of meeting the new requirements and we are providing the necessary support. To ensure that every child in every classroom has a highly qualified teacher, the state of Pennsylvania and our school district are helping teachers meet the requirements of the federal law by providing several options. Teachers are able to take a test, or they can demonstrate their expertise through a combination of college coursework, professional development activities, and experience.

After some delays, we are in the process of assisting a French instructor with meeting PA Department of Education requirements to qualify to teach at Columbia High School. We are hopeful that the wait will be minimal and the instructor will be in place shortly. We currently have a substitute French teacher assigned until we can get all the paperwork completed for the full-time French teacher to begin. Additionally, we will provide additional opportunities for academic support through tutoring for French once our teacher begins working at CHS.

We are dedicated to the success of every child in the class. I encourage you to continue to support your child's education and through our partnership, we can provide your child with the best education possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Maura K. Meiser".

Maura K. Meiser

Columbia High School Principal