

Dear Parent-Caregivers,

The federal *Elementary & Secondary Education Act (ESEA)*, reauthorized as *the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)*, requires schools who receive Title I and Title II funds to notify parents or legal guardians when their child has been taught for four consecutive weeks by a teacher who is not considered “properly certified.” A teacher of a core academic subject is “properly certified” if he or she completed an approved educator preparation program resulting in a regular license to teach that subject. In some cases, we have had to fill teaching assignments in core academic subjects with teachers on emergency licenses or permits when licensed teachers were not available to hire. In addition, the South Carolina Public Charter School law states that a charter school may, “in its discretion hire non certified teachers in a ratio of up to twenty-five percent of its entire teacher staff.”

As of the date of this letter, your child’s teachers Sazie Eagan (Media Technology) and Marquez Drayton (Entrepreneurship and Business Principles and management) are not considered “properly certified.” Please be assured that this does not mean this teacher is not qualified or effective in providing your child a quality education for this assignment. Given his/her professional experience and efforts to acquire full certification, we believe that your child is receiving a high-quality education.

Sazie Eagan currently teaches Media Technology at Coastal High School and does not currently hold a South Carolina teaching certificate. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies with a concentration in Interactive Media from Coastal Carolina University. Prior to joining Coastal High School, she worked as a reporter for MyHorryNews, gaining professional experience in media and communications. Coastal High School is working to support her enrollment in a teacher certification program.

Marquez Drayton currently teaches Entrepreneurship and Business Principles & Management at Coastal High School. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Southern New Hampshire University. His previous educational experience includes working as a substitute teacher and serving as a middle school head basketball coach. He is currently enrolled in the Teachers of Tomorrow alternative teacher certification program as he works toward meeting South Carolina's teacher certification requirements.

Please know that the school's leadership team closely monitors all your children's classes to ensure quality instruction and student achievement. Should you have any questions or concerns about your child's educational progress or any of their teacher's qualifications you may contact us at 843.788.9898 or email Annie Hickerson, Dean of Students, at ahickerson@coastalhs.org or Ms. Oskin, Principal, at soskin@coastalhs.org. For additional information, please visit the South Carolina Department of Education's website at: <https://ed.sc.gov/educators/certification/>

Sincerely

Sherri Oskin
Principal

Annie Hickerson
Dean of Students

