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August 15, 2017

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The *Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)* was passed by the U.S. Congress late last year 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)*.

Although *NCLB* was designed to make changes in teaching and learning in order to increase students' academic achievement, the Highly Qualified Teacher (HQT) provision under *NCLB was* eliminated from the *ESSA*. Despite this fact, all educators in New Jersey still are required to hold the appropriate state certificate/license for their given position.

Under the *ESSA*, all schools receiving Title I funds must inform parents of their right to ask schools about the professional qualifications of their child's teachers and paraprofessionals. Our school receives Title I funding and we are happy to share this information with you upon your request.

New Jersey has some of the most qualified teachers in the country, and we are extremely proud of the quality of the teaching staff in the Essex County Vocational Technical School District. All our regular teachers have college degrees and many have advanced degrees. In addition, every teacher continues learning through professional development activities and our teachers are evaluated each year to make sure their teaching skills remain at the highest possible level.

I encourage you to support your child's education and communicate with your child's teacher(s) on a regular basis. For more information on *ESSA*, and the role of parents, please visit the United States Department of Education's (USDE) website at
http://www.ed.gov/essa.

By partnering, families and educators can provide your child with the best education possible.

Sincerely,

Ayisha Ingram-Robinson

Principal

620 PASSAIC AVENUE, WEST CALDWELL, NJ 07006
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www.essextech.org

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Parental Objection to Release of Student Information To Military Recruiters, College/University Recruiters or Prospective Employers

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Under the federal "No Child Left Behind" Act, public high schools must give the names, addresses and telephone numbers of students to military recruiters, college/university recruiters and prospective employers if the recruiters request the information (P.L. 107-110, Section 9528; 10 USC 503). However, students or their parents have the right to instruct the school in writing that this information is not to be released.

If you do not consent to the release of this information to 1) military recruiters, 2) colleges/university recruiters and/or 3) prospective employers, please check the appropriate box or boxes below. To be certain your wishes are respected, forms must be signed and returned to student's homeroom teacher by _____. After that date it will be effective upon receipt by the **West Caldwell Tech Guidance Office**:

☐ DO NOT release student contact information to Military Recruiters.
☐ DO NOT release student contact information to College/University Recruiters.
☐ DO NOT release student contact information to prospective employers.

_____
Student's Name

_____
Name of School

_____ _____
Signature of Student or Parent*** Date of Signature

Students have the right to request that their contact information not be released to recruiters. Parents can override a child's decision by notifying the school in writing, only if the student is under age 18. We encourage parents and students to discuss this information.

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