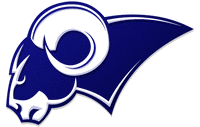
**Bret Ryan**

*Principal*

*bryan@bathcsd.org*



#### Vernon E. Wightman Primary School

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**Koby Hahn**

*Assistant Principal*

*khahn@bathcsd.org*

Dear Parent/Caregiver/Guardian:

Every *Student Succeeds Act* (ESSA) was 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 student’s academic achievement, the *Highly Qualified Teacher* (HQT) provision

under NCLB was eliminated from the ESSA. Despite this fact, all educators in New York

still are required to hold the appropriate state certificate/license for their given position.

Under the ESSA, all schools received Title I funds; must inform caregivers of their rights to ask schools about the professional qualification of their student(s) teachers and paraprofessionals. Our school receives Title I funding and we are happy to share this

information with you upon your request.

New York has some of the most qualified teachers in the country, and we are extremely

proud of the quality of teaching staff in the Bath Central School District. All of the

regular teachers have college degrees and many have advanced degrees. In addition, every

teacher continues learning through professional development activities and the teachers

are evaluated each year to make sure their teaching skills remain at the highest possible

level.

I encourage you to support your student(s) education and communicate with your student(s)

teacher(s) on a regular basis. For more information on ESSA, and the role of caretakers,

please visit the *United States Department of Education* (USDE) website at

<http://www.ed.gov/essa>.

By partnering, families and educators can provide your student(s) with the best

education possible.

Sincerely,

Bret Ryan

Principal