

ADMISSION OF HOMELESS STUDENTS

The Board believes that all school-aged students, including homeless students, have a basic right to equal educational opportunities. Accordingly, the District must enroll each homeless student located in the District in the school determined to be in the student's best interest. A homeless student or individual is defined as an individual who lacks fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence and who has a primary nighttime residence that is:

1. a supervised, publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations (including welfare hotels, congregate shelters and transitional housing for the mentally ill);
2. an institution that provides a temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized;
3. a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings;
4. a motel, car, campground or
5. a "doubling up" with another family because of inability to afford housing otherwise.

In compliance with the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, the District must make school placement determination on the basis of the best interest of the student. To the extent feasible, homeless students are kept in the school of origin unless doing so is contrary to the wishes of the student's parent or guardian.

The board ensures that:

1. it reviews and revises Board policies and regulations to eliminate barriers to the enrollment and retention in school of homeless students;
2. the District does not segregate homeless students into separate schools or separate programs within a school based on the student's status as homeless;
3. it appoints a District liaison for homeless children who shall be responsible for implementing this policy;
4. homeless students are provided with transportation services that are at least comparable to the service provided to non-homeless students.

The liaison ensures compliance with the sub grant and coordinates services for homeless students with local social services agencies and programs, including those funded under the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act.

To the extent feasible, the District complies with the request made by a parent(s) regarding school placement regardless of whether the student lives with the homeless parent(s) or is temporarily residing elsewhere.

A student who ceases to be homeless may continue to receive services until the end of the period of time for which the service was originally intended to be provided, which may be the end of the school year or the end of a program cycle.

The District complies with the Ohio Department of Education's Plan and State and Federal laws for the education of homeless children and youth.

ADOPTED: January 2007