

Andes Central School District	NEPN Code: JLG-R
School Rules and Regulations	

STUDENT INSTRUCTION/PROGRAMS FOR HOMELESS STUDENTS

All potential and identified homeless students or unaccompanied youth will be informed of their rights.

School of Origin

It is the School District's responsibility to provide continued education services for homeless students. Such services for the child may be:

- continuation in the school of origin that the student attended when permanently housed or the school of last enrollment; or
- provided in the school that is attended by other students living in the same attendance area where the homeless child lives.

The District considers the best interest of the homeless student, with parental involvement, in determining placement.

Enrollment

The school shall immediately enroll the homeless student even if he or she is unable to produce records normally required for enrollment, including academic records, immunization records, proof of residency or other documentation. The District shall make a reasonable effort to locate immunization records from information available. The District shall arrange for students to receive immunizations through health agencies and at District expense if no other recourse is available. Immunizations may, however, be waived for homeless youth only in accordance with provision of the School Board's policy on immunizations. The District may require a parent or guardian of a homeless student to submit contact information.

Transportation

Transportation services will be comparable to those provided other students in the selected schools. Transportation shall be provided to the student's school of origin in compliance with federal and state regulations.

Elimination of Segregated Services

Homeless students shall be provided services comparable to services offered to other students in the District including, but not limited to, transportation services; educational services for which the student meets the eligibility criteria, such as education programs for disadvantaged students, students with disabilities and gifted students; vocational programs and technical education; school nutrition programs; preschool programs; before and after school care programs; and programs for students with limited English proficiency.

Homeless students will not be segregated in a separate school or in a separate program within a school based on the students' status as homeless.

Elimination of Identified Barriers

The District administration shall attempt to remove existing barriers to school attendance. Enrollment requirements or fees and charges that may constitute a barrier to the enrollment or education of a homeless child or youth may be waived at the discretion of the Superintendent. In the event a fee or charge are a barrier, parents/guardians of homeless children should contact the District's Homeless Coordinator to report the barrier. The Coordinator will communicate with the Superintendent for removal of the fee or charge.

Disputes regarding enrollment of, or services for, homeless students shall be referred in writing to the superintendent. Parents/guardians or other adult or an unaccompanied youth must provide written documentation to support their position within 10 district business days after receiving written notice of the eligibility, enrollment or school placement decision by the McKinney-Vento liaison. Students shall be provided with all services for which they are eligible while disputes are being resolved. The superintendent will provide a written statement of his/her decision within 10 district business days of receiving the written dispute and any accompanying written documentation. An additional 5 days may be granted for the superintendent's decision if exceptional conditions exist.

If a dispute is not resolved at the superintendent level, the individual may file a written appeal with the school board within 10 district business days of receipt of the written decision of the superintendent. If a dispute is not resolved at the district level, it may be forwarded within 15 business days to the South Dakota Department of Education for review.

At any time this dispute process requires a written appeal, the parents/guardians, other adult, or unaccompanied youth may make this formal request orally to the homeless liaison; that person will transcribe the oral report into writing.

While maintaining confidentiality, written dispute findings and resolutions will be shared with all parties involved in the dispute including the district school board.

Legal References: McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Improvement Acts of 2001

42 USC § 11431 et seq.

Adopted: July 8, 2019

Revised: April 12, 2021, 8.8.22