

Harrisburg School District	NEPN Code: JFB
Policy Manual	

EDUCATION OF HOMELESS CHILDREN

Every child of a homeless individual and every homeless child is entitled to equal access to the same free, appropriate public education as provided to other students. The District must assign and admit a child who is homeless to a District school regardless of residence and irrespective of whether the homeless child is able to produce records normally required for enrollment. The District may not require an out-of-District attendance agreement and tuition for a homeless child.

The Superintendent will review and revise as necessary rules or procedures that may be barriers to enrollment of homeless children and youths. In reviewing and revising such procedures, the Superintendent will consider issues of transportation, immunization, residence, birth certificates, school records, and other documentation.

Homeless students will have access to services comparable those offered to other students, including but not limited to:

1. Transportation services;
2. Educational services for which a student meets eligibility criteria (e.g., Title I);
3. Educational programs for children with disabilities and limited English proficiency;
4. Programs in vocational and technical education;
5. Programs for gifted and talented students;
6. School nutrition program and
7. Before and after school care programs.

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. The Superintendent will give special attention to ensuring the enrollment and attendance of homeless children and youths not currently attending school. The Superintendent will appoint a liaison for homeless children.

A "homeless individual" is defined as provided in the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.

Resolution of Disputes Regarding Homeless Education

Disputes regarding enrollment of or services for homeless students shall be referred in writing to the District Homeless Liaison and the District HR Manager. Parents/guardians or other adult supporting an unaccompanied youth can provide written or oral documentation to support their position. Students shall be provided with all services for which they are eligible while disputes are being resolved. The District Homeless Liaison will provide a written statement of his/her decision within 10 student days of receiving the written dispute and any accompanying documentation.

If a dispute is not resolved at the District Homeless Liaison level, the individual may file a written appeal with the Superintendent within 10 student days of receipt of the written decision of the District Homeless Liaison. If a dispute is not resolved at the District level, it

may be forwarded by the individual to the South Dakota Department of Education for review.

When inter-district disputes arise, the individual, all involved districts, and the South Dakota Department of Education shall be present to resolve the dispute.

Legal References: ESSA 2015; McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act

Cross References:

Adopted:

Revised: November 2018