

EDUCATION FOR HOMELESS YOUTH

The Board recognizes its obligation to ensure that homeless students have access to the same educational programs and services provided to other district students and will make reasonable efforts to identify homeless children within the district. The Board will also waive policies, procedures, and administrative regulations that create barriers for enrollment, attendance, transportation, and the success in school of homeless students, based on the recommendation of the superintendent.

<u>Homeless students</u> are defined as individuals lacking a fixed, regular, and nighttime residence, which include the following conditions:

- 1. Sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing or economic hardship
- 2. Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camp grounds due to lack of alternative or adequate accommodations
- 3. Living in emergency, transitional, or domestic violence shelters
- 4. Living in public or private places not designed for or ordinarily used as regular sleeping accommodations for human beings, or living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, transportation stations or similar settings.
- 5. Awaiting foster care placement
- 6. Living as migratory children in conditions described in previous examples
- 7. Living as run-away children or children who have been abandoned or forced out of homes by parents/guardians or caretakers

Enrollment and placement of a homeless student shall continue to be in accordance with the student's best interests.

Homeless students shall be provided services comparable to those offered to other district students including, but not limited to: transportation services, school nutritional programs, preschool programs, programs for students with limited English proficiency, and educational services for which students meet eligibility criteria (disadvantaged, gifted and talented, or a student with disabilities).

The school district shall provide transportation for homeless students to their school of origin, which is defined as the school the student attended when permanently housed or the school in which the student was last enrolled.