Discussion Items:

Why do you think it takes 4-6 months to recover academically from a move?
Answers may be…
- New school has different curriculum
- New school is at a different place in their curriculum
- Settling in to new schedule
- Having hard time making new friends
- New teaching styles
- Upset/rebelling about the move

Have you ever moved? What possessions did/would you miss most during the move?
- Teacher got mad at me because my books were packed at the back of the POD, she said my mom should unpack them.
- We moved in the summer and my winter coat is still in storage.
- My baby book got ruined when the storage building leaked.
- Miss? I still can’t find… or that broke…

Have you ever lived with someone else, alone or as a family? What do you think you’d miss/not like about it?
- Their kids are always in my stuff and won’t let me get my homework done.
- I have to sleep on the floor
- I like my aunt but… it’s just not the same, it’s not my stuff, I don’t know where things are, I feel like an outsider.
- I don’t feel comfortable just hanging out, reading a book or watching TV, grabbing a snack like I did at home.
- I don’t have a space.
- I don’t like their house rules or they don’t have any rules

What do you think you might take for granted being housed?
Answers may be…
- Showers/laundry done
- Bed
- Kitchen table
- Heat/electricity/running water
- My own space
- Television

What incidents have happened recently that may cause homelessness?
Answers may be…
- Housing crisis/foreclosures
- Recession/loss of jobs/lack of jobs
- Katrina is still having her affects
- Unaffordable healthcare

What may be going on locally that may cause homelessness?
Answers may be…
- Lack of affordable housing
- Mills shutting down/job loss
- Drug/alcohol abuse
- Domestic Violence

How many homeless students do you think are identified in Newport School District?
Answer is: 103

How many homeless students do you think are identified in your building?
Answer is: 26

Why is remaining in school, education so important?
Answers may be…
- It’s the only way to get out of this cycle.
- To get a good job, a home, access to college