THE APPEAL

Homeless Students Dispute Resolution
(722(g) (1) C) of the McKinney –Vento Act)

- If a verbal or written dispute arises over eligibility, school selection, or enrollment, the LEA must immediately enroll the homeless student in the school in which enrollment is sought.
- The School Liaison must immediately provide a written copy of the dispute resolution policy to the unaccompanied youth, parent, or guardian and notify his/her school administrator.
- Within three business days of providing the unaccompanied youth, parent, or guardian with a written copy of the dispute resolution policy, the school principal or school homeless liaison must notify and the District Homeless Liaison of the dispute in writing.
- The District homeless liaison will consult with the Superintendent and must render a decision in writing within five (5) business days to the unaccompanied youth, parent, or guardian. The written decision must include a clear explanation of the decision regarding eligibility, school selection or enrollment including the rights of the parent, guardian or unaccompanied homeless youth to appeal the decision at the local level with a final appeal to the state level.
- If the unaccompanied youth, parent, or guardian appeals the District Homeless Liaison's decision to the LEA's Superintendent, the Superintendent shall issue the District's decision within 5 business days of second dispute appeal. The Superintendent's decision must be provided to the unaccompanied youth, parent, or guardian in writing and include clear explanation of the decision regarding eligibility, school selection or enrollment including the rights of the parent, guardian or unaccompanied homeless youth to appeal the decision at the state level.



Butler County Schools

W.O. Parmer Elementary
334-382-8720

Greenville Elementary School
334-382-7614

Greenville Middle School
334-382-3450

Greenville High School
334-382-2608

Georgiana School
334-376-9130

McKenzie High School
334-374-2711

Butler County Board of Education
McKinney-Vento Office
334-382-2665 extension 1208
Lisa Adair, District Homeless Liaison
334-382-2665 Ext 1219

Fifth Revision

The McKinney-Vento Program

Butler County Board of Education



Rights, Responsibilities & Resources

McKinney-Vento

Serving Students In Transition

The McKinney-Vento Act

If you lost your housing and now live in a shelter, motel, vehicle, park, abandoned building, on the street, or doubled-up with family/friends, your child may be able to receive help through a federal law called the McKinney-Vento Act.

Educational Rights

Under the McKinney-Vento Act, homeless children and youth have the right to

- receive a free, appropriate public education.
- enroll in school immediately, even if lacking documents normally required for enrollment.
- enroll in school and attend classes while the school gathers needed documents.
- enroll in the local school; or continue attending the school of origin (the school they attended when permanently housed or the school in which they were last enrolled), according to each student's best interest.
- If the school district believes that the school selected is not in the student's best interest, the district must provide the parent, guardian, or unaccompanied youth with a written explanation of its position and inform the parent, guardian, or youth of the right to appeal its decision.
- receive transportation to and from the school of origin, if requested.
- receive educational services comparable to those provided to other students, according to each student's needs.

Who is Homeless?

The term "homeless children and youth" is defined as individuals who lack a fixed, regular, AND adequate nighttime residence.

Fixed- stationary, permanent, and not subject to change.

Regular- Used on a predictable, routine, or consistent basis (nightly); consider the relative permanence of the living arrangement.

Adequate- Sufficient for meeting both the physical and psychological needs typically met in home environments.

Length of Service

Once identified as homeless, the homeless child or youth will continue this status (at minimum) for the remainder of the school year even if permanent (fixed, regular, and adequate) housing is secured.

Automatic Eligibility for Free School Meals

The CNP & WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004 includes the provision that homeless children, youth, & unaccompanied youth automatically become eligible for free school breakfast & lunch.



Unaccompanied Youth

A student is considered an unaccompanied homeless youth if he or she is under the age of 18, experiencing homelessness, *and* not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian. Unaccompanied homeless youth are protected under the McKinney-Vento Act and entitled to the same rights.

Specific considerations include the following: current living conditions and/or situations such as, the youth chose to leave home or was asked to leave home.



What will I need to enroll my child?

The McKinney-Vento Act requires that children experiencing homelessness be enrolled in school without delay. When registering, parents will be asked for school records, birth certificate, and immunization records. If the parent does not have all of these items, the child will be enrolled and the school will work with you to obtain these documents.

How will my child get to school?

Transportation will be provided for students to the school of origin or the school within the residential boundaries.

How do I ensure my child receives services provided by the MVP office?

Parents must complete the Butler County School System **Student Residency Survey** form each year that the child continues to live in temporary housing. Failure to complete this form prior to the start of each school year can result in a delay of services, to include a delay in transportation services.

Whom do I call if there is a delay in enrollment?

First, speak with the school's principal. If the matter is still not resolved, and you have questions or concerns regarding enrollment, call the Butler County Board of Education at (334)-382-2665 EXT 1208 and request to speak to a McKinney Vento representative.