Dupree School District	NEPN Code: JFB
Policy Manual	

Education of Homeless Students

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act guarantees rights and services to remove educational barriers for homeless children and youth.

A homeless child is a child without permanent housing who:

- lives on the streets;
- stays in a shelter, mission, single room occupancy facilities, abandoned building or vehicle; or
- is in any other unstable or non-permanent situation.

The Board will appoint a liaison for homeless children.

Every homeless child is entitled to equal access to the same free, appropriate public education as provided to other students. The District will strive to ensure the enrollment and attendance of homeless children not currently attending school. The District will enroll a child who is homeless regardless of residence and irrespective of whether the homeless child is able to produce records normally required for enrollment.

Homeless children 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 students with disabilities and limited English proficiency;
4. Programs in vocational and technical education;
5. Programs for gifted and talented students; and
6. School nutrition program.

The District will strive to ensure the enrollment and attendance of homeless children not currently attending school.

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

Dispute Resolution Process

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act guarantees rights and services to remove educational barriers for homeless children and youth. The District has developed a dispute resolution process for when parents, guardians, or unaccompanied youth and schools, disagree on the eligibility, enrollment, or educational placement of homeless children and youth. The designated District Homeless Liaison is responsible for carrying out the dispute resolution process in an expeditious manner.

The District will provide a written explanation of the decision to the parent or, in the case of an unaccompanied youth, to the unaccompanied youth. The written explanation must include a description of the parent's or unaccompanied youth's right to appeal the decision. When a dispute arises over eligibility, or enrollment, the child or youth shall be immediately admitted to the school in which enrollment is sought, pending resolution of the dispute.

Should a dispute occur regarding eligibility, enrollment, or school selection of a homeless child or youth, the dispute process as outlined in regulation JFB-R(1) must be used.

Legal References:

USC Title 42 §11431 McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance

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