



Union Local School District



66779 Belmont-Morristown Road; Belmont, Ohio 43718
Phone: (740)782-1978 fax: (740)782-1212

Public Notice of Educational Rights of the Homeless

Homeless students are defined as lacking a fixed, regular and/or adequate nighttime residence, including:

- sharing the housing of others due to loss of housing or economic hardship
- living in motels, hotels, trailer parks or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations
- living in emergency or transitional shelters
- abandoned in hospitals
- awaiting foster care placement
- living in public or private places not designed for or ordinarily used as regular sleeping accommodations for human beings
- living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, transportation stations or similar settings
- migratory children living in conditions described above

Homeless children have a right to be enrolled in their school of origin or to attend school in the area where they are living. A child cannot be denied enrollment due to lack of immunization records. A homeless student is entitled to transportation to his school of origin if that is what his parent or guardian requests. A homeless student is entitled to all the educational services and extracurricular opportunities that would be available to any other student living in the district.

For help coordinating services for homeless youth within the Union Local School District please contact: Ben Porter Superintendent/Homeless Liaison for the Union Local School District.

Ben Porter
66779 Belmont Morristown Road
Belmont, Ohio 43719

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740-782-1978 X 2501

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Union Local School District **Homeless Protocol**

I. Assign a building homeless liaison

- A. Elementary K-2- Dana Kendziorski- Receives referrals from K-2 Staff....Refers to District Liaison**
- B. Elementary 3-5- Zach Powell- Receives referrals from 3-5 staff.....refers to District Liaison**
- C. Middle School- Rick Barnhouse- Receives referrals from 6-8 staff....refers to District Liaison**
- D. High School- Joel Davia- Receives referrals from 9-12 staff....refers to District Liaison**
- E. Food Service/Transportation- Bill West- Receives referrals from Food Service and Transportation Department.....refers to District Liaison**

II. Assign a district homeless liaison

- A. Ben Porter- Superintendent**

III. Present the McKinney-Vento Definition of Homeless

IV. Identify Outreach Activities

- A. Annual Notification Sent Home In All Buildings**
- B. Annual Notification Posted on District Webpage**
- C. Annual Notification Sent to Local Media**
- D. Annual Staff Training on Homeless Education including Local Liaison responsibilities**
- E. Other Agency Coordination notifications sent to present to families**

V. Identification of Homeless Youth Leads to the Following:

- A. Access to educational services for which they are eligible**
- B. Referrals to appropriate School Personnel (Counselor/Social Worker)**
- C. Referrals to services through Head Start and Early Child Head Start Programs, Early Intervention Services Under Part C**
- D. Referrals to health care, dental, mental health, substance abuse, housing, and other appropriate services**

E. Public Notice of Educational Rights of children and youth experiencing homelessness is disseminated

VI. Enrollment Dispute Resolutions

A. Policy JECAA-R Admission of Homeless Students (Enrollment Dispute Resolution Process)

B. Steps to take when a dispute arises

- 1. The Union Local School District will provide the parent/guardian or unaccompanied youth with a written explanation of the school's decision regarding school selection or enrollment**
- 2. The Union Local School District will inform the parent/guardian or unaccompanied youth in writing of their right to appeal the decision**
- 3. The Union Local School District will refer the parent/guardian or unaccompanied youth to the district homeless liaison who will review the complaint and issue an opinion in writing to the parent/guardian of the unaccompanied youth**
- 4. The Union Local School District homeless liaison assists the involved parties in presenting the situation to the Ohio Department Homeless Education Coordinator**
- 5. The Ohio State Homeless Coordinator recommends a decision for distribution to the parent/guardian or unaccompanied youth, local Superintendent and District Liaison**
- 6. Should the dispute continue, the final appeal is made to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction for Review and Disposition**

***(While any dispute exists, the student will receive education, to the extent feasible, in the school of origin, unless doing so is contrary to the wishes of the parent or guardian. The placement determination should be student-centered)**

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Your answers will help determine if the student meets eligibility requirements for services under the McKinney-Vento Act.

Student _____ Parent/Guardian _____

School _____ Phone _____

Age _____ Grade _____ D.O.B. _____

Address _____ City _____

Zip Code _____ Is this address Temporary or Permanent? (circle one)

Please choose which of the following situations the student currently resides in (you can choose more than one):

- _____ House or apartment with parent or guardian
- _____ Motel, car, or campsite
- _____ Shelter or other temporary housing
- _____ With friends or family members (other than or in addition to parent/guardian)

If you are living in shared housing, please check all of the following reasons that apply:

- _____ Loss of housing
- _____ Economic situation
- _____ Temporarily waiting for house or apartment
- _____ Provide care for a family member
- _____ Living with boyfriend/girlfriend
- _____ Loss of employment
- _____ Parent/Guardian is deployed
- _____ Other (Please explain)

Are you a student under the age of 18 and living apart from your parents or guardians? Yes

No

Housing and Educational Rights

Students without fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residences have the following rights:

Immediate enrollment in the school they last attended or the local school where they are currently staying even if they do not have all of the documents normally required at the time of enrollment without fear of being separated or treated differently due to their housing situations;

Transportation to the school of origin for the regular school day;

Access to free meals, Title I and other educational programs, and transportation to extra-curricular activities to the same extent that it is offered to other students.

Any questions about these rights can be directed to the local McKinney-Vento liaison at 740-782-1978 Extension 2501- Ben Porter Superintendent Union Local School District

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have received and understand the above rights.

Signature of Parent/Guardian/Unattached Youth *Date*

Signature of McKinney-Vento Liaison *Date*