**21/22 Homeless Students Information**

For purposes of Board policies and regulations homeless students include students under age twenty- one (21) who lack a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence and include students who:

 -are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; are living in hotels, motels, or camping grounds due to lack of alternative adequate accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; are abandoned in hospitals;

 -have a primary night time residence that is a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings;

 -are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and

 -Are a migratory child or youth who qualifies as homeless because they are living in circumstances described above.

**School Selection**

Parents, guardians, or unaccompanied youth will be informed of the homeless student’s right to remain in the school of origin. For purposes of this policy, the school of origin means the school that the student last attended when permanently housed, or the school where the student was last enrolled including preschool. In determining the best interest of the student, the Board will consider:

-Keeping the student in the school of origin unless contrary to wishes of parent or guardian;

-Impact of mobility on admission;

-Education, health, safety of the student;

-Consider the views of an unaccompanied student;

-Irrespective of whether the student lives with homeless parents or has been temporarily placed elsewhere.

The District will provide a written explanation, including the right to appeal to the student or parent/guardian if, the Board sends the student to a school other than the school of origin or the school requested by the parent/guardian.

**Enrollment**

A homeless student will be enrolled without undue or unreasonable delay. A homeless student will be enrolled even if their previous academic records, immunization records, proof of residence, or other documents are not immediately available. The District will ensure that homeless students, meeting eligibility standards, do not face barriers in accessing academic and extracurricular activities.

**Transportation**

The District will, upon parent/guardian or unaccompanied youth request, provide transportation to and from the school of origin as follows:

-If the student continues to live in the District, transportation will be arranged to the school of origin.

-If the student continues in their school of origin, but moves into another district, transportation will be arranged upon by the District of origin and the new District of residence.

-Parents, guardians and unaccompanied youth will be fully informed of all transportation services, including transportation to and from the school of origin, and are assisted in accessing transportation services.

**Homeless Liaison**

The Board of Education has appointed Kristy Forrester as liaison for homeless students. For responsibilities and dispute resolution processes please see Policy and Regulation 2260.

All school personnel, District service providers and locally known advocates working with homeless families will be informed of the identity of the Homeless Liaison and the Homeless Liaison duties.

**Identification**

Homeless students will be identified by referrals from community organizations and District personnel and by review of the District's enrollment forms.