

Number: 251

Section: Pupils

Title: Homeless Students

Adopted: February 26, 2009

Mifflin County  
School District

Revised:

	<b><u>HOMELESS STUDENTS</u></b>	1
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1. Authority		5
SC 1306	The Board recognizes its obligation to ensure that homeless	6
Title 22	students have access to the same educational programs and services	7
Sec. 11.18	provided to other District students. The Board shall make	8
42 U.S.C.	reasonable efforts to identify homeless children within the District,	9
Sec. 11431	encourage their enrollment, and eliminate existing barriers to their	10
et seq	attendance and education, in compliance with federal and state law	11
	and regulations.	12
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	The Board may waive policies, procedures and administrative	16
	regulations that create barriers for enrollment, attendance,	17
	transportation and success in school of homeless students, based	18
	on the recommendation of the Superintendent.	19
2. Definitions		20
42 U.S.C.		21
Sec.	Homeless students are defined as individuals lacking a fixed,	22
11434a	regular and nighttime residence, which include the following	23
	conditions:	24
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	1. Sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing or	28
	economic hardship.	29
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	2. Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks or camping grounds due	32
	to lack of alternative adequate accommodations.	33
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	3. Living in emergency, transitional or domestic violence shelters.	36
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	4. Abandoned in hospitals.	39
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	5. Awaiting foster care placement.	42
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	6. Living in public or private places not designed for or ordinarily	45
	used as regular sleeping accommodations for human beings.	

<p data-bbox="277 863 483 934">3. Delegation of Responsibility</p> <p data-bbox="310 1060 446 1119">42 U.S.C. Sec. 11432</p> <p data-bbox="305 1497 441 1562">42 U.S.C. Sec. 11432</p>	<p data-bbox="526 205 1299 310">7. Living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, transportation stations or similar settings.</p> <p data-bbox="526 321 553 348">8.</p> <p data-bbox="526 359 1382 428">9. Living as migratory children in conditions described in previous examples.</p> <p data-bbox="526 476 932 506">10. Living as run-away children.</p> <p data-bbox="526 554 1344 623">11. Abandoned or forced out of homes by parents/guardians or caretakers.</p> <p data-bbox="526 672 1307 741">12. Living as school age unwed mothers in houses for unwed mothers if they have no other living accommodations.</p> <p data-bbox="526 789 1382 894">School of origin is defined as the school the student attended when permanently housed or the school in which the student was last enrolled.</p> <p data-bbox="526 942 1354 1012">The Board designates the Director of Middle Level Education to serve as the District's liaison for homeless students and families.</p> <p data-bbox="526 1060 1073 1089">The District's liaison shall coordinate with:</p> <p data-bbox="526 1138 1299 1207">1. Local service agencies that provide services to homeless children and youth and families.</p> <p data-bbox="526 1255 1284 1325">2. Other School Districts on issues of records transfer and transportation.</p> <p data-bbox="526 1373 1195 1442">3. State and local housing agencies responsible for comprehensive housing affordability strategies.</p> <p data-bbox="526 1524 1377 1629">The District's liaison shall provide public notice of the educational rights of homeless students in schools, family shelters, and soup kitchens.</p>	<p data-bbox="1414 205 1442 226">1</p> <p data-bbox="1414 233 1442 254">2</p> <p data-bbox="1414 260 1442 281">3</p> <p data-bbox="1414 287 1442 308">4</p> <p data-bbox="1414 315 1442 336">5</p> <p data-bbox="1414 342 1442 363">6</p> <p data-bbox="1414 369 1442 390">7</p> <p data-bbox="1414 396 1442 417">8</p> <p data-bbox="1414 424 1442 445">9</p> <p data-bbox="1414 451 1442 472">10</p> <p data-bbox="1414 478 1442 499">11</p> <p data-bbox="1414 506 1442 527">12</p> <p data-bbox="1414 533 1442 554">13</p> <p data-bbox="1414 560 1442 581">14</p> <p data-bbox="1414 588 1442 609">15</p> <p data-bbox="1414 615 1442 636">16</p> <p data-bbox="1414 642 1442 663">17</p> <p data-bbox="1414 669 1442 690">18</p> <p data-bbox="1414 697 1442 718">19</p> <p data-bbox="1414 724 1442 745">20</p> <p data-bbox="1414 751 1442 772">21</p> <p data-bbox="1414 779 1442 800">22</p> <p data-bbox="1414 806 1442 827">23</p> <p data-bbox="1414 833 1442 854">24</p> <p data-bbox="1414 861 1442 882">25</p> <p data-bbox="1414 888 1442 909">26</p> <p data-bbox="1414 915 1442 936">27</p> <p data-bbox="1414 942 1442 963">28</p> <p data-bbox="1414 970 1442 991">29</p> <p data-bbox="1414 997 1442 1018">30</p> <p data-bbox="1414 1024 1442 1045">31</p> <p data-bbox="1414 1052 1442 1073">32</p> <p data-bbox="1414 1079 1442 1100">33</p> <p data-bbox="1414 1106 1442 1127">34</p> <p data-bbox="1414 1134 1442 1155">35</p> <p data-bbox="1414 1161 1442 1182">36</p> <p data-bbox="1414 1188 1442 1209">37</p> <p data-bbox="1414 1215 1442 1236">38</p> <p data-bbox="1414 1243 1442 1264">39</p> <p data-bbox="1414 1270 1442 1291">40</p> <p data-bbox="1414 1297 1442 1318">41</p> <p data-bbox="1414 1325 1442 1346">42</p> <p data-bbox="1414 1352 1442 1373">43</p> <p data-bbox="1414 1379 1442 1400">44</p> <p data-bbox="1414 1407 1442 1428">45</p> <p data-bbox="1414 1434 1442 1455">46</p> <p data-bbox="1414 1461 1442 1482">47</p> <p data-bbox="1414 1488 1442 1509">48</p> <p data-bbox="1414 1516 1442 1537">49</p> <p data-bbox="1414 1543 1442 1564">50</p> <p data-bbox="1414 1570 1442 1591">51</p>
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<p>4. Guidelines 42 U.S.C. Sec. 11432</p> <p>42 U.S.C. Sec. 11432</p> <p>42 U.S.C. Sec. 11432 Pol. 200, 201, 203, 204 209, 216</p>	<p>The District's liaison shall ensure that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Homeless students are identified by school personnel and through coordination activities with other agencies.</li> <li>2. Homeless students enroll in, and have an equal opportunity to succeed in the schools of the District.</li> <li>3. Homeless families and students receive educational services to which they are eligible, as well as referrals for health care, dental, mental health, or other appropriate services.</li> <li>4. Parents/Guardians of homeless students are provided meaningful opportunities to participate in the education of their children.</li> </ol> <p>Students shall not be discriminated against, segregated nor stigmatized based on their status as homeless.</p> <p><u>Enrollment/Placement</u></p> <p>To the extent feasible, and in accordance with the student's best interest, a homeless student shall continue to be enrolled in his/her school of origin while s/he remains homeless or until the end of the academic year in which s/he obtains permanent housing. Parents/Guardians of a homeless student may request enrollment in the school in the attendance area where the student is actually living or other schools. If a student is unaccompanied by a parent/guardian, the District liaison will consider the views of the student in determining where s/he will be enrolled. The choice regarding placement shall be made regardless of whether the student lives with the homeless parents/guardians or has been temporarily placed elsewhere.</p> <p>In determining the best interest of the student, the District shall, to the extent feasible, keep a homeless student in the school of origin, except when doing so is contrary to the wishes of the student's parent/guardian. In such a case, the District shall provide a written explanation, including a statement regarding the right to appeal the decision, to the student's parent/guardian.</p>	<p>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51</p>
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	<p>The selected school shall immediately enroll the student and begin instruction, even if the student is unable to produce records normally required for enrollment pursuant to District policies. However, the District may require a parent/guardian to submit contact information. The District liaison may contact the previous school for oral confirmation of immunizations, and the school shall request records from the previous District, pursuant to Board policy.</p>	<p>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11</p>
<p>SC 1306 42 U.S.C. Sec. 11432</p>	<p>If the District is unable to determine the student's grade level due to missing or incomplete records, the District shall administer tests or utilize appropriate means to determine the student's placement.</p>	<p>12 13 14 15 16 17 18</p>
	<p>If a dispute arises over school selection or enrollment, the student shall be immediately enrolled in the school in which enrollment is sought, pending resolution of the dispute. The parents/guardians shall be provided with a written explanation of the District's decision, their right to appeal and the procedures to use for the appeal.</p>	<p>19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26</p>
<p>SC 1306 42 U.S.C. Sec. 11432</p>	<p><u>Services</u></p> <p>Homeless students shall be provided services comparable to those offered to other District students including, but not limited to,</p>	<p>27 28 29 30 31</p>
<p>42 U.S.C. Sec. 11432</p>	<p>transportation services; school nutrition programs; vocational programs and technical education; preschool programs; programs for students with limited English proficiency; and educational services for which students meet eligibility criteria, such as programs for disadvantaged students, students with disabilities, and gifted and talented students.</p>	<p>32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39</p>
	<p><u>Transportation</u></p>	<p>40 41 42</p>
	<p>The District shall provide transportation for homeless students to their school of origin or the school they choose to attend within the School District.</p>	<p>43 44 45 46 47</p>
	<p>If the school of origin is outside District boundaries or homeless students live in another District but will attend their school of origin in this District, the School Districts shall agree upon a method to apportion the responsibility and costs of the transportation.</p>	<p>48 49 50 51 52 53</p>
	<p>References:</p>	<p>54 55</p>

School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 1306	1
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State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 11.18, 403.1	4
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No Child Left Behind Act – 20 U.S.C. Sec. 6301 et seq.	7
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Education For Homeless Children – 42 U.S.C. Sec. 11431 et seq.	10
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Family Educational Rights and Privacy, Title 34, Code of Federal Regulations –	12
34 CFR Part 99	13
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Guidelines for Enrollment of Homeless Children – Federal Register, 67 Fed. Reg. 10698	17
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PA Education for Homeless Children and Youth State Plan	19
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