



Long Valley Charter School

Imagine-Achieve-Inspire

Education for Homeless Children and Youth Policy (McKinney-Vento)

Approved by: Board of Directors

Date: Sept 10, 2013

Number: 6009

Purpose: To ensure that homeless children and youth are provided with equal access to Long Valley Charter School's educational program, have an opportunity to meet the same challenging state of California academic standards, are provided a free and appropriate public education, are not stigmatized or segregated on the basis of their status as homeless, and to establish safeguards that protect homeless students from discrimination on the basis of their homelessness.

Definitions: For the purposes of this administrative regulation, "eligible students" refers to children or youth, including unaccompanied youth, who qualify as homeless and whose enrollment in the juvenile court school or community school is authorized by Education Code section 1981, or other provision of law.

"Homeless" means students who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence and includes:

1. Children and youths who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; are abandoned in hospitals; or are awaiting foster care placement.

2. Children and youths who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as regular sleeping accommodations for human beings.

3. Children and youths who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings.

4. Migratory children who qualify as homeless because the children are living in conditions described in (1)-(3) above.

"School of origin" means the school that the student attended when permanently housed or the school in which the student was last enrolled. (42 USC 11432).

"Unaccompanied youth" means a youth not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian. (42 USC 11434(a))

Procedures:

All local educational agencies (LEAs) must ensure that each homeless child and youth has equal access to the same free, appropriate public education as other children and youth.

It is the intent of Long Valley Charter School to ensure that each homeless child and youth has equal access to the same free, appropriate public education other children and youth.

Homeless students shall not be segregated into a separate school or program based on their status as homeless and shall not be stigmatized in any way.

The Director or designee shall ensure that placement decisions for homeless students are based on the student's best interest as defined in law and administrative regulation.

Dispute Resolution Process

Below are the components for resolving disputes regarding school selection and enrollment for homeless children and youth:

1. If a dispute arises over school selection or enrollment, the child/youth must be immediately enrolled in the school in which he/she is seeking enrollment, pending resolution of the dispute (PL 107-110, Section 722(g)(3)(E)(iv)).
2. The school shall refer the student, parent, or guardian to the LEA's homeless liaison to carry out the dispute resolution process as expeditiously as possible. The homeless liaison shall ensure that the dispute resolution process is also followed for unaccompanied youth.
3. A written explanation of the school's decision regarding school selection or enrollment must be provided if a parent, guardian, or unaccompanied youth disputes such a school selection or enrollment decision, including the right to appeal (PL 107-110, Section 722(g)(3)(E)(ii)).
 - The written explanation shall be complete, as brief as possible, simply stated, and provided in a language that the parent, guardian, or unaccompanied youth can understand.
 - The explanation should include contact information for the Homeless Liaison, a description of the decision, notice of the right to immediately enroll in the school of choice pending resolution of the dispute, notice that enrollment includes full participation in all school activities, notice of right to present oral or written documentation, notice of the right to appeal the decision to the county office of education and, if the dispute remains unresolved, to the California Department of Education, and contact information.
4. If the dispute remains unresolved at the district level, or is appealed, then the homeless liaison shall forward all written documentation and related paperwork to the Lassen County Superintendent of Schools Homeless Liaison. The Homeless Liaison will review these materials and make the school enrollment decision within five (5) working days of receipt of the materials. The Homeless Liaison will notify the school and parent of the decision.
5. If the dispute remains unresolved or is appealed, the Homeless Liaison shall forward all written documentation and related paperwork to the State Homeless Coordinator.

