ADMISSION OF HOMELESS STUDENTS

The Board believes that all school-aged students, including homeless students and unaccompanied youth, have a basic right to equal educational opportunities. Accordingly, the District must enroll each homeless student or unaccompanied youth in the District in the school determined to be in the student’s best interest. A homeless student is defined as an individual who lacks fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence including:

1. sharing the housing with other people due to loss of housing, economic hardship or a similar reason;

2. living in a motel, hotel, trailer park or campground due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations;

3. living in emergency or transitional shelters;

4. abandonment in hospitals;

5. a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings;

6. living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations or similar settings;

7. migratory students living in circumstances described above and

8. an unaccompanied youth who is homeless and not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian.

In compliance with the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, the District must make school placement determinations on the basis of the best interest of the student. The District presumes that keeping the homeless child or youth in the school of origin is in the child or youth’s best interest, unless doing so is contrary to the request of the student’s parent or guardian, or the unaccompanied youth. When considering the school of best interest, the District considers student centered factors related to the homeless child or youth’s best interest including factors related to the impact of mobility on achievement, education, health and safety of the child or youth and gives priority to the homeless child or youth’s parent or guardian or the unaccompanied youth.
Information about a homeless child or youth’s living situation is part of the student education record and is not considered directory information.

The District complies with the Ohio Department of Education’s Plan and State and Federal laws for the education of homeless students.

[Adoption date: December 18, 2001]
[Re-adoption date: June 17, 2003]
[Re-adoption date: July 23, 2007]
[Re-adoption date: April 19, 2010]
[Re-adoption date: February 27, 2017]

LEGAL REFS.: The Elementary and Secondary Education Act; 20 USC 1221 et seq.
42 USC Sections 11431 et seq.
ORC 9.60 through 9.62
3313.64(F)(13)
OAC 3301-35-02; 3301-35-04; 3301-35-06

CROSS REFS.: AC, Nondiscrimination
JB, Equal Educational Opportunities
JEC, School Admission
JHCB, Immunizations
JO, Student Records