

	<p align="center">Education for Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness</p>	<p align="center">Students Policy 8003</p>
<p>Policy Statement</p>	<p>The Red Clay Consolidated School District shall adhere to the provisions of the Federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act which aims to minimize the education disruptions experienced by students who are experiencing homelessness. The law ensures immediate enrollment and educational stability for students experiencing homelessness.</p> <p>Red Clay will work with students experiencing homelessness and their families to provide equal access to the same free, appropriate education (including public preschool education) provided to other students. Special attention will be given to ensuring the identification, enrollment, and attendance of students that are homeless and not currently attending school, as well as, mitigating educational barriers to their academic success. Additionally, the district will take reasonable steps to ensure that students that are homeless are not stigmatized or segregated in a separate school or in a separate program within a school on the basis of their homeless status. (Title X, Section 722(g)(1)(J))</p> <p>Students experiencing homelessness will be provided district services for which they are eligible, including Head Start and comparable preschool programs, Title I, special education, bilingual education, career and technical education programs, and school nutrition programs.</p> <p>According to McKinney Vento, “homeless” is defined as an individual who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, including children and youth:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing or economic hardship ● Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks or camping grounds due to the lack of adequate accommodations ● Living in emergency or transitional shelters ● Abandoned in hospitals ● Living in public or private places not designed for or ordinarily used as regular sleeping accommodation ● Living in cars, parks, public spaces, substandard housing, transportation stations or similar settings ● Migratory children meeting the descriptions above 	

	<p>The superintendent will designate an appropriate staff person to be the district’s McKinney-Vento liaison. The liaison must be able to carry out the duties listed in the procedures that accompanies this policy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Children and youth that are homeless are identified by school personnel through outreach and coordination with other entities and agencies. ● Children and youth that are homeless are enrolled and have full and equal opportunity to succeed in school. ● Families, children and youth that are homeless receive educational services for which they are eligible, including Head Start, early intervention (IDEA Part C), and preschool programs administered by the LEA. ● Families, children, and youth that are homeless receive referrals to health, dental, mental health, housing, substance abuse, and other appropriate services ● Parents and guardians are informed of the educational and related opportunities available to their children and are provided with meaningful opportunities to participate ● Public notice of rights for students that are homeless is disseminated in locations frequented by parents, guardians and unaccompanied youth, including schools, shelters, motels and libraries ● Enrollment disputes are mediated ● School personnel providing McKinney-Vento services receive professional development ● Parents, guardians, and unaccompanied youth (UAY) are assisted in accessing transportation services to the school of origin ● Unaccompanied Youth are enrolled in school, have opportunities to meet the same challenging academic standards of other children and youth, and are informed of their independent status for FAFSA and receive verification of that status 	
Responsibility	The Superintendent/Designee shall be responsible for compliance.	
References	Related Policies: 8002 Equal Education Opportunities Federal Law: Title X, Section 722(g)(1)(J)	
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