

## Student Rights

- The right to immediately enroll in school even if you are lacking paper-work normally required
- The right to attend school in his/her school of origin or the school in the attendance zone where currently live
- Continue to attend the school you are in even if you move out of your school's attendance zone
- The right to receive transportation from your current residence to your school of origin
- The right to automatically qualify for free breakfast and lunch at school
- The right to participate fully in all school activities and programs for which you are eligible

## Every Child has the Right to an Education

### Charlotte County Public Schools District Vision

#### *Student Success!*

Steve Dionisio  
Superintendent of Schools

It is the policy of the Board that no one shall, on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, age, gender, marital status, disability, or legally-protected characteristic, be discriminated against, excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to, discrimination in any program or activity for which the Board is responsible or for which it receives financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Education. SBP 1122, 3122, 4122

The School Board declares it to be the policy of this District to provide an equal opportunity for all students, regardless of race, color, creed, disability, religion, gender, ancestry, age, national origin, place of residence with the boundaries of the District, or social or economic background, to learn through the curriculum offered in this District. SBP 2260



## Homeless Education Project

**Renee Rebhan, LCSW**  
**Homeless Education Liaison**  
**3131 Lakeview Blvd.**  
**Port Charlotte, FL 33948**  
**(941) 255-7480**

## Program Purpose

The McKinney-Vento Education for Homeless Children and Youth Program addresses the problems that youth face in enrolling, attending and succeeding in school. A Homeless Education Liaison is designated by Charlotte County Public Schools to ensure homeless students have equal access to the same free, appropriate public education.

## Referral Process

Referrals to the Education for Homeless Children and Unaccompanied Youth Project can be made by classroom teachers, school administrators, student services personnel, parents, students, service providers or the community at large.

To make a referral or for any inquiries regarding school enrollment procedures and services for homeless students, please contact the Homeless Education Liaison.

## Eligibility

Students from pre-kindergarten through grade 12 who lack a regular permanent nighttime residence as defined by the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Act.

- ✗ Living in emergency or transitional shelters, FEMA trailers, abandoned in hospitals.
- ✗ Sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship or similar reason; doubled up.
- ✗ Living in cars, parks, temporary trailer parks or campgrounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, public or private place not designated for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings or similar settings.
- ✗ Living in hotels or motels.

If you are living in any of the above situations as a result of a natural disaster (hurricane, flood, fire), domestic violence, foreclosure, eviction, or other financial crisis, please contact the Homeless Education Liaison at (941) 255-7480.

## Program Services

- ✗ Identification of homeless children and unaccompanied youth.
- ✗ Assistance in obtaining the documents required for school enrollment.
- ✗ Assistance with transportation to and from school, including arranging special transportation to the school of origin whenever feasible.
- ✗ Provision of services and assistance in retaining homeless children and unaccompanied youth in school.
- ✗ Referrals and assistance for medical, dental and mental health services to promote school success.
- ✗ Referrals for tutoring, supplemental instruction, before and after school programs and summer enrichment programs.
- ✗ Referrals to community social service providers for housing, food and economic assistance.
- ✗ Assistance to parents in obtaining educational resources for their children and facilitate parent involvement.
- ✗ Assistance with enrollment in the free and reduced meals program.
- ✗ Assistance with payment of school activity and program fees.
- ✗ Monitoring student academic progress and coordination of services as necessary.
- ✗ Professional development for school personnel and community members to increase the awareness of the needs of homeless children and unaccompanied youth under the McKinney-Vento Act.