

It shall be the policy of the Picayune School District to comply with all admission policies as authorized under Title VII-B of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 USC 11431 et.seq.), (McKinney-Vento Act) as reauthorized by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.

Any homeless child or youth seeking admission or enrollment in the Picayune School District will be afforded every appropriate educational accommodation, free transportation and social services. Every effort will be made to determine each homeless child's best interest and placement educationally, including locating and talking to parents, investigating the causes of homelessness, consulting with other agencies involved, reviewing previous educational records, and testing for specific needs and placement.

The McKinney-Vento Act defines "homeless children and youth" as individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. The term includes:

- Children and youth who are:
  - sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason (sometimes referred to as *doubled-up*);
  - living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to lack of alternative adequate accommodations;
  - living in emergency or transitional shelters;
  - abandoned in hospitals; or
  - awaiting foster care placement;
- Children and youth who have 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;
- Children and youth who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and
- Migratory children who qualify as homeless because they are living in circumstances described above.

The Director of Federal Programs for the Picayune School District is designated as the local liaison for homeless children and youth.

The local liaison will be the primary contact between homeless families and school staff, district personnel, shelter workers, and other service providers. The local liaison will coordinate services to ensure that homeless children and youth enroll in school and have the opportunity to succeed academically.

LEGAL REFERENCE:

Title VII-B of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 USC 11431 et.seq.), (McKinney-Vento Act) as authorized by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001