

## HOMELESS STUDENTS

The Harding County School District policy in regard to enrollment, transportation, school of origin, and the elimination of barriers for children or youth experiencing homelessness, including unaccompanied youth, is to:

- Ensure the immediate enrollment of children or youth experiencing homelessness until all enrollment records may be secured (i.e. academic records, medical records, proof of residency or documentation).
- Keep a child or youth experiencing homelessness in the school of origin, except when doing so is contrary to the wishes of the child's or youth's parent or guardian.
- Ensure the elimination of stigmatization or segregated services and the elimination of other identified barriers for homeless children and youth.
- Provide children or youth experiencing homelessness with services comparable to services offered to other students in the school including the following:
  - Transportation services
  - Educational services for which the child or youth meets the eligibility criteria, such as services provided under Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 or similar State or local programs, educational programs for children with disabilities, and educational programs for students with limited English proficiency.
  - Programs in vocational and technical education.
  - Programs for gifted and talented students.
  - School nutrition programs.

The superintendent will give special attention to ensuring the enrollment and attendance of homeless children and youths not currently attending school. The Superintendent will appoint a liaison for homeless children.

A "homeless individual" is defined as provided in the McKinney Homeless Assistance Act.

**Adopted:** 8/12/2014