

BOARD POLICY 420.1

420.1 - Homeless Education

The Board of Education shall ensure that homeless children and youth are provided with equal access to educational programs. Homeless children and youth shall be provided services comparable to services offered other children attending district schools including transportation services and school nutrition programs. Educational services for which children and youth meet eligibility criteria include, but are not limited to special education, ELL services, GATE programming, Title I programming, vocational and technical education, and co-curricular activities.

The term “homeless children and youth” shall be defined as individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence due to economic hardship or other factors. It includes children and youth who:

- a) Are temporarily sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason
- b) Are living in motels, hotels, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations
- c) Are living in emergency shelters
- d) Are abandoned in hospitals; or are awaiting foster care placement
- e) Are runaway children or children who are abandoned
- f) Are living in cars, parks, public space, abandoned buildings, or similar settings

- g) Are Migratory children and unaccompanied youth (youth not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian) may be considered homeless if they are living in the circumstances described above.

Legal Reference: 118.75, Wisconsin State Statues

McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act

Title I of the No Child Left Behind Act

Title X, Part C of the No Child Left Behind Act

Cross Reference: Administrative Rules 420.1 – Homeless Education

Board Policy 342.5 – Title I

Administrative Rule 342.5 – Title I

Exhibit: Title I School-Parent Compact

Board Policy 342.51 – Title I Comparability

Board Policy 420 – Admission

Approved: November 18, 2010

ADMINISTRATIVE RULE 420.1

AR 420.1 - Homeless Education

- a) The District will appoint a local educational liaison for homeless children and youth, who will ensure that:
 - i. The parent/guardian of a homeless child and any unaccompanied homeless youth is informed of the educational and related opportunities available to them.
 - ii. Public notice of the educational rights of homeless children and youth is disseminated where children and youth receive services such as schools and family shelters.
 - iii. Enrollment disputes are mediated in accordance with legal requirements.
 - iv. Building liaisons are provided with the necessary information for homeless children and youth.
- b) The student shall be immediately enrolled even if the student lacks the records normally required for enrollment. Records will immediately be requested from the previous school using the standard records request procedure.
- c) The homeless student should continue in his/her school of origin for the duration of the homelessness except when contrary to the wishes of the parent/guardian. The school of origin is defined as the school the homeless student attended when permanently housed or the school in which the child was last enrolled.
- d) At the request of the parent/guardian, transportation must be provide for homeless students including the unaccompanied student to the student's school of origin for the duration of the homelessness. If the student remains in the School District of Fort Atkinson, the district is responsible for transportation. If the homeless student begins living in an area served by another school district, the two school districts will agree on a method for transportation and share the costs. Specific transportation decisions will be made on a case-by-case basis. The district will provide transportation per established policy and procedure for the duration of the homelessness or until the homeless becomes permanently housed in the district. Permanent housing is defined as a signed lease or long-term approved living situation.
- e) All homeless students shall be provided with free breakfast and lunch through the federal lunch program.
- f) At the time of registration all fees for registration and program participation shall be waived for homeless students.

Legal Reference: 118.75, Wisconsin State Statues

McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act

Title I of the No Child Left Behind Act

Title X, Part C of the No Child Left Behind Act

Cross Reference: Board Policy 420.1 – Homeless Education

Board Policy 342.5 – Title I

Administrative Rule 342.5 – Title I

Exhibit: Title I School-Parent Compact

Board Policy 342.51 – Title I Comparability

Board Policy 420 – Admission