

# Dispute Process

If there is a disagreement between the school and family in regards to a) qualifying for McKinney-Vento or b) accessing services, there is a Dispute Resolution Process. The family would be apprised quickly of procedures to appeal each decision in the process. The student would be enrolled immediately in the youth's school of preference during the appeal process and until the dispute is resolved.

**Level I:** The building liaison would assist the family in submitting the appeal request within the (15) fifteen business days. This will commence the dispute resolution process. The merit of their needs would be weighed with the needs of the district to render a decision within (5) five days of receiving the appeal.

**Level II:** The family or youth would be apprised and assisted in filing the appeal to the superintendent/designee within (10) days of receiving the Level I decision. The superintendent/designee would meet with the family or youth within (5) five business days and would provide a decision in writing with supporting evidence within (5) five days.

**Level III:** If the dispute were still unresolved, the family or youth would be apprised and assisted to appeal to OSPI for Level III within (5) business days. of the decision rendered at Level II . The superintendent/designee would forward all documentation to OSPI for review.. OSPI will make a final decision within (15) fifteen business days of receipt of the complaint.

The decision made by OSPI shall be the final resolution for placement or a homeless child or youth in the district.

For more information about the McKinney-Vento Homeless Act or for assistance in enrolling, please contact:

- ~ Your school counselor
- ~ Vincent Pecchia, EdD  
McKinney-Vento Liaison  
Asst. Superintendent of Equity and Instructional Leadership  
email: Pecchivj@puyallup.k12.wa.us  
253-435-6515
- ~ Emily Gates,  
Asst. McKinney-Vento Liaison  
email: GatesE@puyallup.k12.wa.us  
253-864-5513
- ~ Melinda Dyer,  
Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction;  
McKinney-Vento Program Supervisor  
email: melinda.dyer@k12.wa.us  
360-725-6050

Puyallup School District does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following employees have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination:

- Civil Rights Compliance Coordinator: Char Krause  
[krauseca@puyallup.k12.wa.us](mailto:krauseca@puyallup.k12.wa.us), (253) 435-6295
- 504/ADA Coordinator: Char Krause  
[krauseca@puyallup.k12.wa.us](mailto:krauseca@puyallup.k12.wa.us), (253) 435-6295
- Title IX Coordinator **Staff:** Amie Brandmire  
[brandmah@puyallup.k12.wa.us](mailto:brandmah@puyallup.k12.wa.us), (253) 841-8666
- Title IX Coordinator **Students:** Char Krause  
[krauseca@puyallup.k12.wa.us](mailto:krauseca@puyallup.k12.wa.us), (253) 435-6295

Puyallup School District  
302 2nd Street SE  
Puyallup, WA 98372



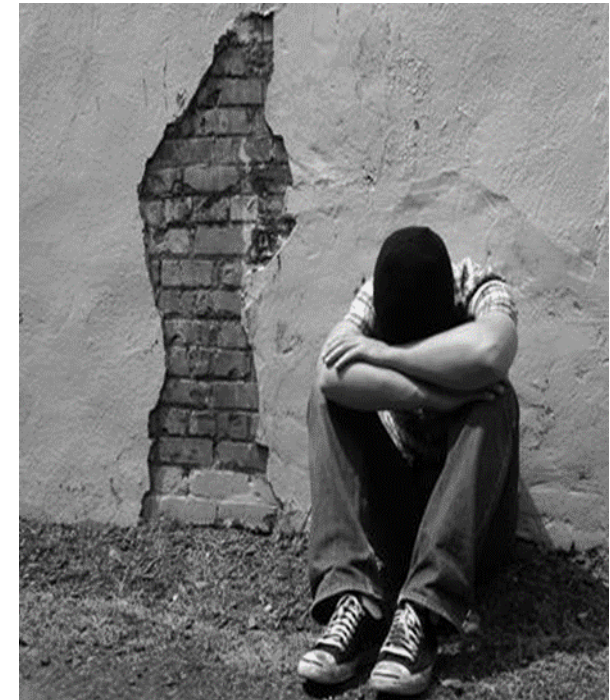
PUYALLUP  
SCHOOL DISTRICT  
*A Tradition of Excellence*

253-841-1301

Revised 10.6.20

## Puyallup School District

### McKinney-Vento Homeless Services



Homelessness has no face; it can strike any family at any time.

The Puyallup School District can provide stable education, resources and academic support.

This pamphlet explains the rights afforded to homeless children and youth and how to access services.

## What is the McKinney-Vento Act?

Homelessness is a condition that can strike any of us. Especially in an economic recession, the loss of a job can lead to the loss of a home. Homelessness has been escalating since the 1980s. The National Center on Family Homelessness estimates that one in 50 American children are homeless. The term "homeless" means individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence.



In 1987 Congress authorized the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act to protect the rights of homeless students. Today's McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act provides that each child of a homeless individual and each unaccompanied youth shall have equal access to the same free public education, including a public preschool education, as provided to other children and youths. It is the policy of the Puyallup School District that homeless children and unaccompanied youth shall have access to the education and other services that they need to ensure that they have an opportunity to

meet the same challenging State academic achievement standards to which all students are held.

At a time when a child's life may be in upheaval, the McKinney-Vento act is designed to provide consistent and stable education. Many families find that they need to move away from their resident school. The protection of this act provides transportation back to the resident school, free breakfast and lunch, school supplies, clothing, and tutoring among other services. The Puyallup School District aims to remove barriers that prevent or hinder homeless children and youth from attending school and excelling.

In an effort to eliminate barriers to school, McKinney-Vento children and youths do not need to have the same documentation as other students. McKinney-Vento students do not need to provide:

- Proof of residency
- Transcript from previous school(s)
- Immunization records
- Birth Certificate

School counselors can help you attain these documents.

In addition, McKinney-Vento students have the right to begin attending school on the day they enroll and receive a free lunch. Required fees can be reduced and/or waived.

If a homeless student becomes permanently housed during the school year, McKinney-Vento rights and services remain in place through the end of the current school year.

## You may qualify for McKinney-Vento Homeless services, if you are:

- Living with someone else because you have lost your home,
- unable to find affordable housing,
- staying in a motel or hotel,
- living in a shelter,
- living in a campground, car, park, abandoned building or train station,
- "couch surfing" night to night,
- experiencing loss due to a natural disaster, or
- considered migrant.

## Your rights as a McKinney-Vento Youth:

- To be enrolled immediately at your school of residence or school of origin
- To receive transportation back to your school of origin
- To receive free breakfast and lunch
- To receive school supplies
- To have required fees reduced or waived
- To receive supplemental tutoring, as needed
- To have full and equal access to education, activities and athletics