Santa Clara County Office of Education

Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) is a state regional service agency that provides:

– instructional, business, and technology services to the 31 school districts of Santa Clara County;
– directly serves students through special education programs, alternative schools, Head Start and State Preschool programs, migrant education, and Opportunity Youth Academy;
– provides academic and fiscal oversight and monitoring to school districts and the 22 county board authorized charter schools;
– provides essential services and technical assistance throughout the region and statewide.
Safety Announcement

In the event of an emergency evacuation:

• Please notify me if you require assistance exiting
• Follow me as we vacate the room and building
• Proceed to the parking lot evacuation area for roll call
• Do not leave until attendance reporting is completed
• We greatly appreciate your cooperation in the event of an emergency
WELCOME

McKinney-Vento Services
Joann Vaars
Coordinator of Foster & Homeless Youth Educational Services
Outcomes for this session:

1. Review and clarify key legislative protections for students eligible for McKinney-Vento Services

2. Define terms

3. Understand the impact of trauma in the lives of protected youth

4. Begin to identify and discuss gaps within your current system that may not align to legislation or may negatively impact a youth’s trauma
KEY LEGISLATION

• McKinney-Vento Act (1987)
  – Ensures educational rights for homeless students
  • Remain in school of origin (transportation provided)
  • Immediate enrollment without immunization/academic records or proof of guardianship
  • Access to all eligible programs and services on campus

• AB 490 – Youth in Foster Care
  - Foundational Rights for youth in care
  • Right to immediate enrollment.
  • Records requests sent within 2 business days of enrollment.
  • Definition for school of origin (over past 18 months).
Implications

Confidentiality is Key & Everyone’s Responsibility
Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

Every Student Succeeds Act – an expansion of previous legislation which requires child welfare agencies and educational agencies to collaborate on school stability for youth. Specifically in the areas of ‘best interest’ determination for school placement, immediate enrollment, timely records transfers, transportation, and dispute resolution among parties.
MV Eligibility - Who is covered?

*Students who lack a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence.*

*Includes:*

- **Shared housing** due to loss of housing or economic hardships
- **Living in cars**, parks, substandard housing, hotels or motels
- Primary nighttime residence is a **public or private place** not designed for regular sleeping accommodations for a human being
- **Migratory children** living in the above circumstances
- **Unaccompanied Minors**
Santa Clara County Student Count

McKinney-Vento Students
Santa Clara County: 4261

(CALPADS data 8/2018)

Discuss at your table:

What are the Implications for your work?
How many students qualify in your district?
Ease or challenge to check in with each student regularly?
Attentive Language & Confidentiality

When working with families in transition, the label 'homeless' may be perceived negatively.

In an effort to be more sensitive to the trauma and crisis involved in being displaced, many are using terms including 'in transition' when speaking to or about families that meet eligibility requirements for McKinney-Vento.

Recommendation:
1. Try to establish a friendly, kind relationship with the family or individual.
2. Listen for clues that can alert you to these situations such as “We don’t have the house yet.”
AB 652 (Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act: homeless children)

Homelessness is not a crime nor it is a CPS referral in and of itself. However, it is a sensitive situation.
McKinney–Vento Key Provisions

- Immediate enrollment without documents
- Maintain school stability
- Transportation
- Eliminate barriers
- Unaccompanied youth-immediate enrollment
- No discrimination
- Determine needs and access
- District dispute Resolution Process
- Title I services w/access to all services the school provides without cost
District Liaisons

- Every LEA must designate a liaison for students in homeless situations
- Ensure that children and youth in homeless situations are identified and enrolled in school, and have full access to succeed in school
- Link with educational services, including preschool, post-secondary education and health services
- Inform parents, guardians and youth of education, transportation and parent involvement opportunities
- Verify that public notice of educational rights are posted at all sites
- Streamline the process for all stakeholders
- Ensure all discussions are confidential
- Ensure the families rights to access are protected at all times
- Ensure families are have a safe, confidential environment to share.
THINKING ABOUT YOUR SYSTEM & ITS SUPPORTS
Reflect on the Information

• Who is first point of contact for a new student?
• Do those individuals know the requirements?
• Who does the first point of contact notify of a student’s arrival?
• Who else needs notified?
• When and how is the student followed up with?
• Who monitors the student’s progress? How? When?
• What else do we need to do? What else do we need to know?
• How do you know each child who is entitled to support is getting what they need?
In discussing your system’s structure, identify 3-5 of your next steps for systemic optimal service to students?
SCCOE Foster Youth & Homeless Educational Services:  
https://www.sccoe.org/depts/students/foster-homeless/Pages/default.aspx

National Association for Educating Homeless Children and Youth:  
https://naehcy.org/

2017 Santa Clara County Homeless Census Data: 

The National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN): Child Trauma Toolkit for Educators 
https://www.nctsn.org/resources/child-trauma-toolkit-educators

Alliance for Children’s Rights: Foster Youth Education Toolkit 
https://kids-alliance.org/programs/education/educational-equity/edtoolkit/

ESSA Homeless Youth & Foster Youth 
Post-test: TRUE or FALSE

1. The principal will handle student enrollment without help.
2. An Education Plan should be held for any new homeless youth.
3. If answers about residency are unclear, I should stop asking questions.
4. Kindness counts.
5. Our district liaison should be notified of any homeless enrollees.
Future Trainings

Target Audiences: District Teams: LEA Foster & Homeless Liaisons, District Office Administrators, Elementary & Secondary Administrators, Instructional Coaches, Attendance & Registration Clerks, Classified Personnel, School Social Workers and Counselors. Teams of no more than 5 per LEA.

January 17, 2019: Homeless & Foster Youth, A Deep Dive! This 5-hour training will provide an opportunity for district teams to get specific in the analysis, design and structure of their Multi-Tiered System of Supports: http://santaclara.k12oms.org/1549-154209

March 13, 2019: Educational Design for Homeless & Foster Youth: This 3-hour training will answer questions workshop participants have discovered throughout the year by sharing successes and challenges of policies for qualifying students:
AM: http://santaclara.k12oms.org/1549-154212
PM: http://santaclara.k12oms.org/1549-154213
Leadership, Service, & Advocacy

County Superintendent

Dr. Mary Ann Dewan

County Board of Education

Darcie Green, Area 6; Grace Mah, Area 1; Claudia Rossi, Area 7; Rosemary Kamei, Area 3; Joseph Di Salvo, Area 4; Kathleen King, Area 2; Anna Song, Area 5
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