Bigfork School District #38

STUDENTS 3125

Education of Homeless Children

Each child of a homeless individual and each homeless child has equal access to the same free, appropriate public education as provided to other students. The trustees must assign and admit a child who is homeless to a school in the District regardless of residence and irrespective of whether the homeless child is able to produce records normally required for enrollment. The trustees may not require an out-of-District attendance agreement and tuition for a homeless child.

The Superintendent or designee shall review and revise rules or procedures that may act as barriers to the enrollment of homeless children and youths. In reviewing and revising such procedures, consideration shall be given to issues concerning transportation, immunization, residence, birth certificates, school records, and other documentation.

Homeless students shall have access to services comparable to services offered to other students, including but not limited to:

I. Transportation services;
II. Educational services for which the student meets eligibility criteria (e.g., Title I);
III. Educational programs for children with disabilities and limited English proficiency;
IV. Programs in vocational and technical education, as well as programs for gifted and talented students; and
V. School nutrition program.

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

A “homeless child” is defined as provided in the McKinney Homeless Assistance Act.

A complaint regarding the placement or education of a homeless child shall first be presented orally and informally to the District’s homeless liaison/coordinator. Thereafter a written complaint must be filed with the Superintendent.

Note: This policy is required for a district receiving federal funds under Title I.

Cross Reference: 3215 Uniform Grievance Procedure

Legal Reference:	42 U.S.C. § 11431, et seq.	McKinney Homeless Assistance Act
	§ 20-5-101, MCA	Admittance of child to school

Policy History:
Adopted on: January 13, 2005