

Homeless Children and Youth

Board Policy: SA-14
Adopted: February 9, 2004
Revised: January 19, 2011

I. General Policy Statement

The Haywood County Board of Education is committed to providing a free appropriate education for all the students enrolled in the school system. In accordance with the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act and the North Carolina State Plan for Educating Homeless Children, Haywood County Schools shall provide a free appropriate education to each homeless child or youth living within Haywood County. This education will be consistent with the education provided to the children of a resident of Haywood County. Haywood County Schools is committed to creating a climate of acceptance and removing barriers to the enrollment and retention of homeless children and youth and their families.

II. Regulations

- A. Students currently enrolled in Haywood County Schools have a right to continue their education in the school of origin for the duration of the homelessness.
- B. If an enrolling student exhibits characteristics of homelessness, a school shall immediately enroll the student even if he/she is unable to produce records normally required.
- C. The completed Student Services Referral Form will be given to the school's social worker to assist in completing all missing enrollment information.
- D. Students will be permitted to temporarily participate in the Child Nutrition Free-Meal Program while documentation is being collected by the school social worker.
- E. Haywood County Schools ensure that eligible homeless families, children and youth receive educational, transportation and nutrition services for which they are eligible.
- F. Parents or guardians disagreeing with decisions may submit a written request for an appeal to the superintendent. Parents or guardians may appeal the superintendent's decision to the School Board. See Policy A-2 *Appeals to the Board*.