



OLD FORGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

“Home of the Blue Devils”

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Erin Keating, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Brian Rinaldi
Business Manager

TO: All Principals, School Counselors, Secretaries, Nurses, & Homeless Service Providers

FROM: Christopher Gatto, Pupil Personnel Coordinator

DATE: November 1, 2020

SUBJECT: ADMISSION/TRANSFER POLICY FOR HOMELESS STUDENTS

The McKinney–Vento Homeless Act, now a part of the Improving America’s Schools Act, (Public Law

103-382), and the Every Student Succeeds Act, guarantees a free and appropriate public education for all homeless children and youth. BEC 42 U.S.C. &11301 outlines procedures for deciding school placement, enrolling students, and determining fiscal responsibility. Federal and state laws make our responsibility clear. With over 250 estimated homeless children currently attending Scranton schools, we must provide appropriate academic support and services. Please familiarize yourself and your staff, including counselors, teachers, secretaries, nurses, and others with the following school admission and transfer procedures.

- A child whose family becomes homeless may remain in the school he/she was attending prior to becoming homeless for the duration of the school year.
- If it is feasible, a student may transfer to a school if it is closer to his/her transitional housing.
- The receiving school may not prevent or delay the enrollment of a homeless child by requiring proof of residency or lack of documentation such as immunization records. The school may seek written confirmation of shelter residency from the shelter director, but may not refuse a child admission pending such confirmation.
- The building principal, or designee, should contact the Director of Transportation for any homeless child requiring transportation. The transportation must begin within 5 school days, but sooner if possible.
- The school nurse may use the state reporting system to gain immunization records.

Christopher J. Gatto
High School Principal

Michelle Hopkins
Special Education Supervisor

Shelly Egan
Elementary Principal