



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA

KEITH OSWALD
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

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CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER

DEPARTMENT OF SAFE SCHOOLS
STUDENT INTERVENTION SERVICES
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April 12, 2012

Bulletin #P-14184-SCLE/SS

Contact Persons:

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ACTION BY:
June 30, 2012

TO: All Principals

FROM: Janis Andrews, Ed.D *JA*
Chief Academic Officer

SUBJECT: *MCKINNEY-VENTO ACT IN OUR SCHOOLS- SERVING HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH REQUIRED TRAINU*

Under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, homeless youth have certain rights. To ensure that our students are granted the rights afforded by law, the Department of Safe Schools/Student Intervention Services has developed a TrainU course. All principals are required to take the following 30-minute TrainU course by June 30, 2012. Based upon funding requirements that schools are informed about the law, this training is mandatory. Please click the link below to take the course:

<http://trainu.palmbeach.k12.fl.us/course?id=1418>.

According to the Act, homeless children and youth are individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence and include:

- children and youth sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing (doubled up), economic hardship, or a similar reason; are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds; are living in emergency or transitional shelters, are abandoned in hospitals, or are awaiting foster care placement;
- children and youth who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings;
- children and youth who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and
- migratory children who qualify as homeless because they are living in circumstances described above.

Students in homeless situations have the right to:

- go to school, no matter where they live or how long they have lived there;
- continue in the school they attended before they became homeless;
- receive transportation to the school they attended before their family became homeless, if feasible;
- receive the same programs and services that are provided to all other children;
- automatically qualify for free breakfast and lunch;
- enroll in a new school without immunization, proof of residential status, school records, proof of guardianship, or other documents;
- go to school with children who are not homeless;
- receive information and referrals to health, mental health, dental, and other services; and
- have disagreements settled quickly and go to school while disagreements are settled

Please refer to *Policy 5.74 Students Experiencing Homelessness* and Bulletin # P-13911-CAO STUDENT REGISTRATION DOCUMENTATION for more information.

EWG:JA:KO:KW:mk

Approved:



E. Wayne Gent, Superintendent