

POLICY ON ENROLLMENT, TRANSPORTATION, SCHOOL OF ORIGIN,
AND THE ELIMINATION OF BARRIERS FOR CHILDREN OR YOUTH
EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS INCLUDING UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH

Homelessness is the condition of lacking fixed housing, usually because people cannot afford a regular, safe, and adequate shelter. The term "homelessness" may also include people whose primary nighttime residence is in a homeless shelter, in an institution that provides a temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized, or in a public or private place not designed for use as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.

The School Board shall make reasonable efforts to identify homeless children within the Montrose School District, encourage their enrollment, and eliminate barriers to their education which may exist in District policies or practices, in compliance with all applicable federal and state laws.

Homeless students, as defined by federal and state statutes, residing within the District or residing in temporary shelters in the District, are entitled to free school privileges. No child or youth in the public schools shall be discriminated against or stigmatized because of homelessness.

A parent, student, employee, or patron who has a complaint regarding the use of federal NCLB funds and is unable to solve an issue regarding the enrollment, transportation (including inter-district disputes), and other barriers to the education of children and youth experiencing homelessness may file a complaint pursuant to Policy ACA. Parents, guardians, and unaccompanied youth may initiate the dispute resolution process directly at the school they choose, as well as at the district or district's homeless liaison's office. The parent or guardian or unaccompanied youth shall be provided with a written explanation of the school's decision including the rights of the parent, guardian, or youth to appeal the decision. Students should be provided with all services for which they are eligible while disputes are resolved.

Adoption Date: June 8, 2009

Reviewed _____

Amended: 2012, 2014