

Dear Riverview Parents,

**Please take time to read this email carefully, and reference the linked materials as well:**

In compliance with the federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, as reauthorized in 2015 by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), Riverview School District must attempt to identify all children within the district that may be experiencing homelessness. The term homeless children and youth is defined as individuals who lack a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence.

***This includes individuals:***

- Sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship or a similar reason
- Living in a hotel, motel, trailer park or campground due to lack of alternative adequate accommodations
- Living in emergency or transitional shelters
- Living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, bus or train stations or similar settings
- Living in substandard housing (no running water or working utilities, infestations, etc.)
- "migratory children" who qualify as homeless under federal law because the children are living in circumstances described above
- "Unaccompanied homeless youth" including any child who is "not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian." This includes youth who have run away from home, been thrown out of their home, been abandoned by parents or guardians, or separated from their parents for any other reason.

Children who are experiencing homelessness may qualify for assistance with free school lunches, school supplies/materials, tutoring and transportation so that they can remain in their school of origin throughout the duration of their homeless episode. If you believe your child(ren) may qualify for this service, please contact myself, your child's school counselor, or your building principal. If your living situation changes during the school year, and you and your child(ren) become homeless, please be sure to contact the school. We will work with you so that your child(ren)'s education is disrupted as little as possible.

**For more information, please visit PDE Education for Homeless Youth at:**

<https://www.education.pa.gov/Documents/Codes%20and%20Regulations/Basic%20Education%20Circulars/US%20Code/Education%20for%20Homeless%20Youth.pdf>

Below is the district policy on homeless children, in case you need to refer to it.

***Homeless Students Policy***

**#251:** <http://www.rsd.k12.pa.us/Downloads/BoardDocs%20C2%20AE%20Policy%20251%20Homeless%20Students.pdf>

Sincerely,

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