



WASHINGTON MATHEMATICS SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY PUBLIC CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL

Mr. John Zimmerman
Vice Principal
Student Affairs

N'Deye Diagne, Ph.D.
Head of School

Mr. Enrique Watson
Director, Student-Teacher Services
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SY 2012-2013

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act was authorized by Congress, December 2001, as a part of the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Legislation. The purpose of the McKinney-Vento Act is to remove barriers to education for homeless/transitional students and provide educational stability.

Who is considered McKinney-Vento eligible?

Any child or youth who lacks a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence is considered homeless, and includes those who are temporarily sharing housing with others due to loss of housing or economic hardship. It also includes children and youth who are living in hotels, camping grounds, emergency shelters, cars, bus, or train stations, or other similar settings, unaccompanied youth, transitional housing programs and children in foster or temporary placements.

What are the educational rights of homeless children and youth?

The District of Columbia school system, public as well as charter, are required to provide equal and comparable access to all students regardless of their home living situation. McKinney-Vento eligible children and youth have specific rights that include:

1. Maintain attendance at the school of origin (if this is in the child's best interest), or enroll in the local school where currently residing
2. Assistance with transportation
3. Assistance obtaining needed records and documentation
4. Appropriate support services and programs for which they are eligible.
5. Academic assistance through the district's federally funded Title I program
6. Parent or guardian involvement in school activities
7. Maintain enrollment in the current school for the remainder of the school year (transportation assistance if needed)

If you have a student/child who may qualify for McKinney-Vento services or would like more information, please contact the McKinney-Vento liaison at 202.636.8011.

Sincerely,

Dr. N'Deye Diagne
Head of School and McKinney-Vento Liaison