

Da Vinci Schools

Board Policy

EDUCATION FOR STUDENTS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

The following policy reflects the intent of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 USC 11431-11435), as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (P.L. 114-95), that each students experiencing homelessness should have equal access to the same free, appropriate public education and services as other students.

The Board of Trustees desires to ensure that homeless students have access to the same free and appropriate public education provided to other students within Da Vinci Schools. Da Vinci Schools shall provide students experiencing homelessness with access to education and other services necessary for them to meet the same challenging academic standards as other students.

(cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)

The Chief Executive Officer or designee shall identify and remove any barriers to the identification and enrollment of homeless students and to the retention of students experiencing homelessness due to absences or outstanding fees or fines. (42 USC 11432)

(cf. 3250 - Transportation Fees)

(cf. 3260 - Fees and Charges)

(cf. 5113.1 - Chronic Absence and Truancy)

When there are at least 15 students experiencing homelessness within each LEA, that site's local control and accountability plan (LCAP) shall include goals and specific actions to improve student achievement and other outcomes of students experiencing homelessness. (Education Code 52052, 52060)

(cf. 0460 - Local Control and Accountability Plan)

The Chief Executive Officer or designee shall designate an appropriate staff person to serve as Da Vinci School's liaison for children and youth experiencing homelessness. The Da Vinci School's liaison shall fulfill the duties specified in 42 USC 11432 to assist in identifying and supporting students experiencing homeless to succeed in school.

In order to identify students experiencing homelessness, the Chief Executive Officer or designee will include a housing questionnaire to all parents/guardians during school registration, make referral forms readily available, include the Da Vinci School's liaison's contact information on the Da Vinci Schools and site specific web sites, provide materials in a language easily understood by families and students, provide school staff with professional development on the definition and signs of homelessness, and contact appropriate local agencies to coordinate referrals for children and youth experiencing homelessness and unaccompanied youth.

(cf. 1113 - District and School Web Sites)

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)

Information about a student's living situation shall be considered part of a student's educational record, subject to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act and shall not be deemed to be directory information as defined in 20 USC 1232g. (42 USC 11432)

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)
(cf. 5125.1 - Release of Directory Information)

Each student experiencing homelessness shall be provided services that are comparable to services offered to other students in the school, including, but not limited to, transportation, educational programs for which the student meets the eligibility criteria (such as federal Title I services or similar state or local programs, programs for students with disabilities, and educational programs for English learners), career and technical education programs, programs for gifted and talented students, and school nutrition programs. (42 USC 11432)

(cf. 3550 - Food Service/Child Nutrition Program)
(cf. 3553 - Free and Reduced Price Meals)
(cf. 5148.2 - Before/After School Programs)
(cf. 5148.3 - Preschool/Early Childhood Education)
(cf. 6159 - Individualized Education Program)
(cf. 6164.2 - Guidance/Counseling Services)
(cf. 6171 - Title I Programs)
(cf. 6172 - Gifted and Talented Student Program)
(cf. 6174 - Education for English Language Learners)
(cf. 6177 - Summer Learning Programs)
(cf. 6178 - Career and Technical Education)
(cf. 6179 - Supplemental Instruction)

Students experiencing homelessness shall not be segregated into a separate school or program based on their status as homeless and shall not be stigmatized in any way. However, the Chief Executive Officer or designee may separate homeless students on school grounds as necessary for short periods of time for health and safety emergencies or to provide temporary, special, and supplementary services to meet the unique needs of students experiencing homelessness. (42 USC 11432, 11433)

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)
(cf. 3553 - Free and Reduced Price Meals)

The Da Vinci Schools liaison and other appropriate staff shall participate in professional development and other technical assistance activities to assist them in identifying and meeting the needs of students experiencing homelessness and to provide training on the federal definitions of terms related to homelessness. (42 USC 11432)

At least annually, the Chief Executive Officer or designee shall report to the Board on outcomes for students experiencing homelessness, which may include, but are not limited to, school attendance, student achievement test results, promotion and retention rates by grade level, graduation rates, suspension/expulsion rates, and other outcomes related to any goals and specific actions identified in the LCAP. Based on the evaluation data, Da Vinci Schools shall revise its strategies as needed to better support the education of students experiencing homelessness.

(cf. 0500 - Accountability)
(cf. 6162.51 - State Academic Achievement Tests)
(cf. 6190 - Evaluation of the Instructional Program)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

2558.2 Use of revenue limits to determine average daily attendance of homeless children

39807.5 Payment of transportation costs by parents

48850 Educational rights of homeless and foster youth

48852.5 Notice of educational rights of homeless students

48852.7 Enrollment of homeless students

48915.5 Recommended expulsion, homeless student with disabilities

48918.1 Notice of recommended expulsion

51225.1-51225.3 Graduation requirements

52060-52077 Local control and accountability plan

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5 4600-4687

Uniform complaint procedures

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1087vv Free Application for Federal Student Aid; definitions

1232g Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act

6311 Title I state plan; state and local educational agency report cards

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

11431-11435 McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act

12705 Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act; state and local strategies

Update to the policy approved on June 25, 2013.

Update Approved by the Da Vinci Schools Board on October 26, 2022.