



Board Report-Prepared by Lisa Sinclair 1/10/2023

COMMUNITY | CULTURE | CURRICULUM

Working together to provide high-quality educational opportunities for all

RSU 9 Current Snapshot

38 students identified: CBS=8, CCHS=5, FTC=1, MBHS=5, MBMS=8, WGMS=7, AHS=4

Services provided: Immediate enrollment, Choice of the school of origin, Emergency housing, School Supplies, Clothing, Jackets, Sneakers, Referral to local resources

Programs worked with: Western Maine Community Action, Safe Voices, New Beginnings, Healthy Community Coalition, Farmington Motel

Support: Maine Dept of Education liaison meetings, DOE newsletters, resources, regional support groups for MV Liaisons

Liaison: Completed required ME DOE training in Nov. 22

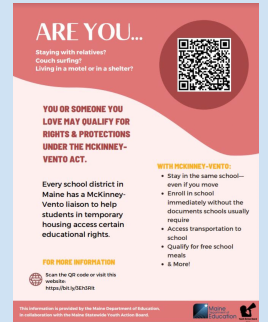
Building Capacity

Our Points of Contact have used the district screening form to help identify 25 students! This has increased our identification of students in RSU 9 which was one of our goals for the 22/23 school year.

McKinney Vento and Higher Education

Students in RSU 9 who are or have been eligible for McKinney-Vento in high school may have additional support available from their college or university including:

- Priority for Housing
- Financial Assistance
- Help completing FAFSA
- School Counseling Supports
- Tutoring and Academic Support



The Maine DOE and Youth Action Board partnered to create new outreach materials

MBC's Free Store

Mt. Blue High School Employability Skills teacher, Kyle Minear, has used generous donations from members of the community to start the Free Store on campus.

Available at the Free Store is a variety of different items to fulfill needs, including shoes, boots, hats, gloves, jackets, and every other item of clothing imaginable as well as toiletries and school supplies.



RSU 9 Current Snapshot

- 129 students with a 504 plan
PK-5=31
Grades 6-8=39
Grades 9-12=59
- 17 Case Managers
PK-5=7
Grades 6-8=3
Grades 9-12=7

Who Qualifies for a 504 Plan?

There are three prongs the 504 team must consider when determining eligibility for a 504 Plan. The first prong is a diagnosed mental or physical impairment/disability. The diagnosis can come from a physician, or the school can evaluate. Section 504 defines a person with a disability as any person who: 1) Has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities; or 2) Has a record of such an impairment; or 3) Be regarded as having such impairment.

What's in a 504 plan?

504 plans often include accommodations. These can include:

- Changes to the environment (like taking tests in a quiet space)
- Changes to instruction (like checking in frequently on key concepts)
- Changes to how curriculum is presented (like getting outlines of lessons)

Accommodations don't change what students learn, just how they learn it.

SECTION 504

*The law as
it relates to
educators*



- Attend 504 meetings
- Review 504 plans yearly
- Legally responsible for implementing the accommodations
- Monitor accommodation effectiveness
- Make sure accommodation materials are always available

Discriminatory Practices

- Penalizing a student whose absence is related to disability
- Suspending a student for behavior related to disability
- Not permitting 504 students to participate in intramural activities
- Not providing accommodations for student to attend field trips