

RSU 9 MCKINNEY-VENTO BOARD REPORT

Respectfully submitted by Lisa Sinclair

How long are students considered homeless once they are found eligible?

Once found eligible, students are listed as homeless in PowerSchool for the school year. The district liaison contacts all families/students after July 1st of the year to determine if families/students continue to be eligible for the following school year.

Are families who move in with relatives or friends covered by the Act?

In many circumstances, yes. Children and youth who are sharing the housing of others due to loss of housing or economic hardship qualify. However, families who share adequate housing due to cultural preferences, convenience or families who are sharing housing on a permanent basis are unlikely to be covered by the Act.



RSU 9 Current McKinney-Vento Status

Total number= 34 students

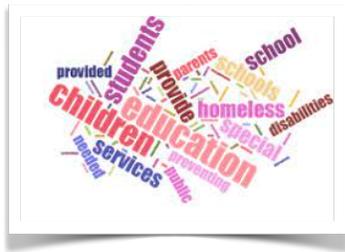
PK-5th = 18 students

6-8th grade = 7 students

9-12th grade= 9 students

The majority of students are 'Doubled Up'.

Available resources to students are: Immediate registration, transportation, school supplies, hygiene products, sneakers, winter wear, emergency housing assistance.



Building Capacity in RSU 9

We are building a stronger network to identify and support our homeless students!

- * We have added three Points of Contact
- * We have added five Systems Navigators

What's New?

Maine Adult Education Launches HiSET

Those Who Complete HiSET Are Eligible for Two Years of Free Community College in Maine

Augusta, ME—The Maine Department of Education’s Office of Adult Education launched a campaign to encourage adult learners to complete the HiSET, Maine’s high school equivalency test. Those who complete the HiSET are eligible for two years of free community college in Maine.



In an effort to increase knowledge of the existing services and supports for individuals and families in Maine, the Office of Child and Family Services (OCFS) worked closely with other state agency partners to develop a **Family Services Resource Guide**, also known as Access Maine.

Points of Contact will assist in the identification of homeless youth by guiding parents/students in the completion of the Housing Questionnaire. They will assure families that completion of these forms does not result in a DHHS call. They will be available to answer McKinney-Vento questions at the building level. They will point families/students in the direction of the District Liaison or Systems Navigators as needed.

Systems Navigators will assist unaccompanied youth and families of homeless youth with accessing local and community support. This team will build a district bank of resources in order to streamline support for families. The systems navigator will assist the district and school homeless liaisons in meeting the urgent needs of children and youth experiencing homelessness—including academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs. The systems navigator will work closely with the District Homeless Liaison to ensure the district is in compliance with the McKinney-Vento Education for Homeless Children and Youth.

Our goal is to meet bi-monthly to review progress and needs.



In an effort to support McKinney-Vento Liaisons, the ME DOE has begun Regional support meetings. Topics at these meetings

are:

- * McKinney-Vento Federal and State Updates
- * Community Supports Speakers
- * Upcoming Training Opportunities
- * DOE Resources