ADMISSION OF HOMELESS STUDENTS

To the extent practical and as required by law, the Salem School District will work with homeless students and their families to provide stability in school attendance and other services. Homeless students will be provided district services for which they are eligible including special education and school nutrition programs.

Homeless students are defined as lacking a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, including students who are:

1. Sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing or economic hardship;
2. Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks or camping grounds due to lack of alternative adequate accommodations;
3. Living in emergency or transitional shelters;
4. Abandoned in hospitals;
5. Awaiting foster care placement;
6. Living in public or private places not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings;
7. Migratory children living in conditions described in previous examples.

Annually, the Superintendent shall designate an appropriate staff person to be the district's liaison for homeless students and their families.

To the extent feasible, homeless students will continue to be enrolled in their school of origin while they remain homeless or until the end of the academic year in which they obtain permanent housing. Alternatively, parents or guardians of homeless students may request enrollment in the school in the attendance area where the student is actually living.

If a dispute should arise, the student shall be immediately enrolled in the school in which enrollment is sought, pending resolution of the dispute. The Salem School District liaison, the Assistant Superintendent of Schools, shall inform the parent or guardian of the district's decision and their appeal rights in writing. Unaccompanied youth will also be enrolled pending resolution of the dispute.

In accordance with the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, Part C, Homeless Education, if the student does not have immediate access to the immunization records, the student shall be admitted under a personal exception. Students and families should be encouraged to obtain current immunization records or immunizations as soon as possible, and the school district liaison will assist this effort. Records from the student's previous school shall be requested. Emergency contact information is required at the time of enrollment consistent with district policies.

Adopted 11/27/07