

Wallkill Central School District Procedures For The Education of Homeless Children & Youth

Every Local Educational Agency (LEA) must designate an appropriate staff person as a Local Education Agency liaison for students in homeless situations. The Wallkill Central School District's liaison is Ms. Tara Rounds, Assistant Superintendent for Special Education and Intervention Services. Liaisons must ensure that:

- Children and youth in homeless situations are identified by school personnel and through coordination activities with other entities and agencies;
- Children and youth enroll in and have full and equal opportunity to succeed in the schools of the LEA;
- Families, children and youth receive educational services for which they are eligible, including Head Start, Even Start, and pre-school programs administered by the LEA, and referrals to health, mental health, dental, and other appropriate services;
- Parents and guardians are informed of educational and related opportunities available to their children, and are provided with meaningful opportunities to participate in the education of their children;
- Public notice of the educational rights of students in homeless situations is disseminated where children and youth receive services under the Act (such as schools, family shelters, and soup kitchens);
- Enrollment disputes are mediated in accordance with the Enrollment Disputes section; and
- Parents and guardians, and unaccompanied youth, are fully informed of all transportation services, including transportation to the school of origin, and are assisted in accessing transportation services.

Liaisons must collaborate and coordinate with state coordinators and community and school personnel responsible for the provision of education and related services to children and youth in homeless situations.

LEAs and State coordinators must inform school personnel, service providers, and advocates who work with families in homeless situations of the duties of the liaison.