Definition of Homeless

Students who are eligible to receive services under McKinney-Vento include children and youth who:

- Do not have a permanent home
- Live in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds
- Are in state care or custody
- Live in cars, parks, public places, abandoned buildings, or similar settings
- Share housing with other people due to the loss of housing, economic hardship, or similar reason
- Are considered an unaccompanied youth (youth not in physical custody of a parent or guardian)

What Families Experiencing Homelessness Need to Know

- Children and youth experiencing homelessness have the right to attend school
- You do not need a permanent address to enroll your child in school.
- Children in homeless situations have the right to stay in the school they attended before becoming homeless (school of origin) should the parent or guardian choose.
- Children in homeless situations have the right to receive free transportation to their school of origin.
- Schools must provide a written explanation if a placement dispute occurs, and parents do have a right to appeal.
- Children cannot be denied school enrollment because enrollment documentation is not immediately available.
- Children have the right to participate in extracurricular activities and all federal, state, and local programs they are eligible for.

The Pentucket Regional School District offers:

- Free Breakfast and Lunch Programs
- Assistance with enrollment
- Transportation services
- School Materials
- Crisis Intervention



For more information about the McKinney-Vento Law and Massachusetts advisories, follow these links:

- Massachusetts Department of Education Office of McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance: <u>http://www.doe.mass.edu/mv/</u>
- National Center for Homeless Education: <u>http://www.serve.org/nche</u>
- National Coalition for the Homeless: <u>http://www.nationalhomeless.org</u>

There is Local Help!

The Pettengill House, Inc. Community Social Service Agency PO Box 5551 13 Lafayette Road Salisbury, MA 01952 (978) 463-8743 www.pettengillhouse.org Pentucket Regional School District

McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance

Helping Families During Times of Need



The Pentucket Regional School District gives children and youth experiencing homelessness hope and a chance for a better future.

For more information contact:

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