

Education for Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness (ECYEH)

The Southern York County School District works diligently to identify and support homeless students and families. Under the Federal McKinney Vento Act, students who are experiencing homelessness have specific rights to reduce barriers to education. The homeless liaison in each district is tasked with assisting students in these situations and ensuring they have the same opportunities to succeed in school as others.

Southern York County School District's Homeless Liaison is Ms. Jill Platts.

Please contact Ms. Platts at the phone number or email below if you feel your child meets the qualifications of a student experiencing homelessness. ([McKinney Vento Board Policy 251](#))([BEC 42 U.S.C& 11431 et seq.](#))

Homeless Liaison: Ms. Jill L. Platts, Social Services Coordinator/Attendance Officer
Phone: (717) 235-4811 ext. 4571
Email: jill.platts@sycsd.org

We can help with the following:

- School enrollment/placement
- Agency referrals (clothing, food, shelter, counseling)
- Tracking/transferring school records
- Accessing educational programs
- School supplies/clothing
- Transportation
- Coordination of services with community agencies
- Increasing public awareness of homelessness

Our goals:

- Ensure that all children and youth experiencing homelessness enroll, participate, and have the opportunity to succeed in school
- Ensure children and youth experiencing homelessness receive a free and appropriate public education on an equal basis
- Eliminate and/or reduce educational barriers through the use of local "best practices" and the authorized activities of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act
- Reduce the disruption in the educational lives of children and youth experiencing homelessness
- Increase awareness about the nature and extent of the problems children and youth experiencing homelessness have enrolling in and gaining access to educational programs
- Explain the laws and policies to students, families, staff, and the community

Student's Rights

- The right to immediate enrollment in school, even if lacking paperwork normally required
- The right to attend school in his/her school of origin (if this is requested by the parent and is feasible) or in the school in the attendance area where the family or youth is currently residing
- The right to receive transportation to his/her school of origin, if this is requested by the parent/student
- The right to services comparable to those received by housed schoolmates, including transportation and supplemental educational services
- The right to attend school along with children not experiencing homelessness. Segregation based on a student's status as homeless is strictly prohibited