

# METROPOLITAN SCHOOL DISTRICT OF STEUBEN COUNTY

400 SOUTH MARTHA STREET ♦ ANGOLA, INDIANA 46703 ♦ 260.665.2854 ♦ FAX: 260.665.9155 ♦ [www.msdssteuben.k12.in.us](http://www.msdssteuben.k12.in.us)

Welcome to our school and school district. Your student is eligible to receive services offered by the district based on your answers on the Student Residency Questionnaire. These services are required under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, a federal law that says that children or youth who do not have a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence are classified as homeless. *Fixed means the home is connected to the ground and is not easy to move. Regular means a place where the child sleeps every night. Adequate means the home meets modern standards of living. Students eligible for services under this law must be living in one of the following types of situations; living in a shelter, living in a hotel or motel due to financial hardship, living in an unsheltered situation, or living with friends or family members due to financial hardship.* The district staff member listed here will help introduce you to the educational programs for students that are homeless and make sure you are provided services. This person will also help you to complete forms or request records we may need, such as previous school and immunization records.

District Liaison: Schauna Relue, Ph.D., Director of Curriculum & Instruction  
Phone: 260-665-2854

Our school district actively enrolls and provides services for children and youth who are homeless. We provide the same educational services to all students without regard to their home living situation. Students who are homeless do not have to attend a separate school. They have the right to be in all programs that they qualify for. Children, youths, and unaccompanied youth (a youth that does not live with a parent or guardian) that are homeless also have rights that include:

- Based on what is best for the child or youth, the child or youth can continue to attend the “school of origin” or be immediately enrolled in any public school where the student now lives. This includes any school that students who are not homeless attend that is in the area where the child or youth now lives.
- Being given services without delay, such as transportation and meal programs.
- Other appropriate services and programs, such as programs for:
  - high ability children;
  - children with disabilities;
  - English learners;
  - career and technical education
- Help in school through the district’s federally funded Title I program. A student that is homeless can receive Title I services even if the student is not attending a Title I funded school.
- School activities for parents or guardians and family engagement.
- Participation in athletics, fine arts, or other extra-curricular activities.
- Being treated the same as students who are not homeless by school personnel

Your child or an unaccompanied youth can immediately enroll in school while education records and information are being obtained. The child or unaccompanied youth may attend the school of origin, the last school attended, or the school in the attendance zone where the student is currently living.

“School of origin” means the school the child or youth attended before becoming homeless or the school the child or youth last attended. When the child or youth completes the final grade level of a school of origin, then “school of origin” means the school the child or youth would attend at the next grade level. The district must consider what is best for the child or youth when making a decision about which school the student will attend. Placement at the school of origin must be a choice unless doing so is not what is best for the student or is against the wishes of the parent, guardian or unaccompanied youth.