



Education of Homeless Children and Youth Dispute Resolution Process

If a dispute arises over school selection, enrollment, or transportation feasibility for a student under the McKinney-Vento Act:

- The homeless child or youth (HCY) shall be immediately admitted to the school in which enrollment is sought, pending resolution of the dispute. *Sunnyside Unified School District* will provide its share of the transportation to the school selected for the duration of the dispute resolution process.
- The HCY or parent/guardian shall be referred to district Homeless Liaison, who shall carry out the dispute resolution process as expeditiously as possible upon receiving notice of the dispute. In the case of an unaccompanied youth, the Homeless Liaison shall ensure that the youth is immediately enrolled in school pending the resolution of the dispute.

The Homeless Liaison shall work through the expedited dispute resolution process. For *Sunnyside Unified School District*, that process involves:

1. Upon receipt of a dispute, the Homeless Liaison shall, within 5 workdays, convene a panel of at least 3 Sunnyside Unified School District employees, including the Homeless Liaison, the Principal or his/her designee, and the Director of Federal Programs (or his/her designee).
2. This panel shall review the entire record of the dispute, including any evidence submitted by the school or parent, and make a determination based on the child or youth's best interest.
3. Within 3 workdays of the dispute, *Sunnyside Unified School District* will issue this decision in writing to the parent/guardian or HCY.

***Sunnyside Unified School District* shall provide the parent, guardian, HCY with:**

1. A written explanation of the District's decision regarding school selection or enrollment.
2. Instructions on how to file an appeal at the state level, if dissatisfied with the district's decision.

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