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Bureau of Special Education FY'14 Memo #8

Date: September 6, 2013

To: Superintendents  
Special Education Directors  
Homeless and Migrant Education Liaisons

From: Office of Commissioner of Education  
Division of Instruction  
Bureau of Special Education  
Bureau of Integrated Programs  
Homeless and Migrant Education Programs

Re: Children with disabilities who are homeless and other highly mobile children

The NH Department of Education (NHDOE) is pleased to share the attached letters from the US Department of Education Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services dated July 19, 2013 and August 5, 2013. The purpose of these letter are, respectively, to "address concerns expressed by stakeholders regarding the unique educational needs of highly mobile children with disabilities under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and to seek assistance in improving the educational stability of, and post-school outcomes for, these highly mobile children" and to respond to questions regarding a child's school of origin and transportation for children who are homeless. Highly mobile children are children "experiencing frequent family moves into new school districts, such as military-connected children, migrant children, children in the foster care system, and children who are homeless."

In addition to providing a list of federal and other resources, the July letter address the following: #1: Highly mobile children should have timely and expedited evaluations and eligibility determinations and #2: Comparable services include services during the summer, such as Extended School Year (ESY) Services. The August 5, 2013 letter addresses questions regarding transportation, school of origin and a free appropriate public education (FAPE).

**New Hampshire Department of Education Resources**

For more information or additional assistance, the Department offers the following:

Homeless Children and Youth

- [http://www.education.nh.gov/instruction/integrated/title\\_x.htm](http://www.education.nh.gov/instruction/integrated/title_x.htm)
- Homeless Education Consultant: Lynda Thistle-Elliott  
Phone: (603) 271-3840 Email: [Lynda.ThistleElliott@doe.nh.gov](mailto:Lynda.ThistleElliott@doe.nh.gov)

Education of Migratory Children

- [http://www.education.nh.gov/instruction/integrated/title\\_i\\_c\\_education.htm](http://www.education.nh.gov/instruction/integrated/title_i_c_education.htm)
- Migrant Education Consultant: Barbara Patch  
Phone: (603) 271-2273 Email: [Barbara.Patch@doe.nh.gov](mailto:Barbara.Patch@doe.nh.gov)

Bureau of Special Education

- [http://www.education.nh.gov/instruction/special\\_ed/index.htm](http://www.education.nh.gov/instruction/special_ed/index.htm)
- Special Education Consultant: Ruth Littlefield  
Phone: (603)-271-2178 Email: [ruth.littlefield@doe.nh.gov](mailto:ruth.littlefield@doe.nh.gov)
- Educational Surrogate Parent Program
  - [http://www.education.nh.gov/instruction/special\\_ed/surrogate.htm](http://www.education.nh.gov/instruction/special_ed/surrogate.htm)
  - Program Coordinator: Amy Jenks, Phone: (603) 271-3842 Email: [Amy.Jenks@doe.nh.gov](mailto:Amy.Jenks@doe.nh.gov)

BSE:BJR

Attachments

USDOE, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, July 19, 2013

USDOE, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, August 5, 2013