



## ***Addendum to 2016-17 Student and Family Handbook***

### **McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act**

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (MKV) is a federal law that protects the educational rights of homeless students to eliminate barriers to the enrollment, retention, and success of homeless students; and to ensure they receive equal access to the same free, appropriate public education, including a public preschool education, as is provided to other children. Most recently, MKV was reauthorized by the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (ESSA) to ensure that every child achieves and to meet the changing needs in education.

MKV law assures that every student experiencing homelessness has the right to:

- immediate enrollment, even if the child or youth is unable to produce records normally required for enrollment, such as previous academic records, medical records, or proof of residency;
- remain in the school of origin, if in the student's best interest;
- receive transportation to/from the school of origin; and
- receive services and supports to remove barriers so they can achieve academic success.

Center City PCS' MKV program provides students experiencing homelessness with services and supports including, uniform vouchers/assistance, transportation benefits for parents, and fee waivers for before- and after-care. If you are homeless or displaced, you qualify for benefits through this Act. Please see the Campus Operation's Manager for assistance or to learn more about this program.

### **School Placement/Dispute Resolution**

As required by §722(g)(3)(B)(ii) and (iii) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, if a dispute arises over school selection or enrollment, Center City PCS will provide the parent/guardian of said youth, or the unaccompanied youth, with a written explanation, upon enrollment of the child, within three (3) business days, including a statement regarding the right to appeal. If the parent or unaccompanied youth indicates that an appeal will be filed and does so within two (2) business days, Center City PCS must allow the student to remain enrolled and continue to provide transportation assistance and other school services until the dispute is resolved by OSSE. The school will also provide the parent or unaccompanied youth with a copy of the District of Columbia Formal State Complaint Policy & Procedures manual.

All appeal requests should be sent to the Homeless Liaison at the following address:

**Center City Public Charter Schools  
% LEA Homeless Liaison  
900 2nd Street, Suite 221,  
Washington, DC 20002**

### **Barriers to Entry for Homeless Students**

The Board of Directors will review procedures that may act as barriers to the enrollment, retention and success of homeless students during its September meeting (first quarterly meeting). Any findings of noncompliance will be addressed and an update provided to the Board at its second quarterly meeting (January).