WEBINAR

IDENTIFYING AND STAYING IN TOUCH WITH HOMELESS STUDENTS DURING THE PANDEMIC: LEARNING FROM THE NAVIGATOR PROGRAM IN NASHVILLE

📅 WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2021 | 4:00 – 5:00PM ET
Housekeeping

HAVE A QUESTION?

This webinar is for you. Enter your questions in the questions pane and click ‘Send’.

RECORDING & HANDOUTS

An archive of this webinar and all materials will be posted here.

This PowerPoint is available in your “Handouts” panel.

If you’ve signed up for this webinar, you will receive a link to the recording in an email after the webinar is over.
About SchoolHouse Connection

SchoolHouse Connection works to overcome homelessness through education. We provide strategic advocacy and practical assistance in partnership with schools, early childhood programs, institutions of higher education, service providers, families, and youth.

- Website: [http://www.schoolhouseconnection.org](http://www.schoolhouseconnection.org)
- Newsletter: [https://www.schoolhouseconnection.org/sign-up/](https://www.schoolhouseconnection.org/sign-up/)
- Federal and state policy advocacy
- Q&A from our inbox
- Webinars and implementation tools
- Youth leadership and scholarships
Key Finding #1: An estimated 420,000 fewer children and youth experiencing homelessness have been identified and enrolled by schools so far this school year.

Key Finding #2: While overall homeless student identification and enrollment is down, the number of children and youth experiencing homelessness has likely increased due to the economic crisis.

Key Finding #3: Children and youth experiencing homelessness face significant unmet needs in their communities, including lack of internet, housing, food, and child care.

Key Finding #4: Only 18% of respondents indicated that federal coronavirus relief education funding provided by the CARES Act is being used to meet the needs of students experiencing homelessness.
NAVIGATOR
Connecting each student to a path of success

Catherine Knowles, HERO Coordinator
Keri Randolph, Exec. Officer of Strategic Investments
WHAT IS A NAVIGATOR?

- **Mentor and advocate** for a small group of students to help them “navigate” a path of success through a personalized system of support
- **Builds relationships** and collects information on basic needs, academic challenges and social-emotional well-being to **connect students to resources and supports**
- Teachers and other school staff members connect one-on-one with a small cohort of students through **10-minute weekly check-ins**
**WHY NOW?**

Strong relationships that provide support for the whole student are at the heart of a great education. A virtual start to the school year is the safest choice for our students and staff, but it also presents challenges. In order to address these challenges, we need strong connections with our students even beyond the classroom teacher.

**NAVIGATOR SUPPORTS**

Heavy-lifting is done for you!
- Handbook of resources
- Scripts for weekly-check-ins
- Data system for tracking needs
- Flexible and supportive PD
- Links to collaborative referral process and supports at school when needs are identified
Why launch Navigator?

To meet the needs of our students and families.
Poll

During the first semester of the 2020-2021 school year, what were your numbers of McKinney-Vento students?

- Less than previous years
- About the same
- More than previous years
- Don’t Know
Launching Navigators

1. Identify Navigators.
2. Form student cohorts.
3. Complete training (handbook and video).
4. Communicate with families and students about Navigator.
5. Conduct weekly check-ins using scripts and survey.
6. Review and act on survey data.
Check-Ins

• Establish a baseline relationship
• Ensure access to a computer and internet connectivity
• Assess and address academic knowledge and needs
• Determine needs for social-emotional support
• Connect students with needs including social services
• Guidance for families on supporting their students’ learning
• Goal-setting and connecting students to enrichment or other opportunities
• Video examples
MNPS Navigator Weekly Student Check-in:
Your School Name

Each week, use this form to take notes and record status updates during each student check-in while following the weekly script (see the Navigator Handbook).

Before clicking “Submit”, remember to check the box (“Send me an email receipt of my responses”) to keep a copy of your submission.

Hi MNPS-RAE, when you submit this form, the owner will be able to see your name and email address.

* Required

1. Student full name: *
   Please enter the student’s first and last name.
   
   Enter your answer

2. MNPS ID number (190#): *
   Please enter the student’s 9-digit ID number. This is important for linking to the student’s record in Infinite Campus. If you are not sure, please look it up in Infinite Campus or contact your school’s Lead Navigator for assistance.
   
   Enter your answer
5. Areas of concern from today’s check-in:

From today’s conversation, please indicate whether this student needs additional support or resources in each of the following areas. Please note: Navigators are not expected to cover all topics listed every week. Refer to the Navigator Handbook for this week’s script.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Yes (needs support)</th>
<th>No (no concern)</th>
<th>Not discussed this week</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Food security or meal services</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
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<tr>
<td>Housing stability</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reliable Internet access</td>
<td>○</td>
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<td>Consistent computer access</td>
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<tr>
<td>Virtual learning conditions/workspace</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
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<tr>
<td>Academic engagement and success</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental/emotional well-being</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enrichment, hobbies, outside activities</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6. Action steps after today's check-in:

- [ ] I will submit a collaborative referral
- [ ] I'm not sure, I need help
- [ ] Other

- [ ] Send me an email receipt of my responses

Submit
MNPS Navigator Weekly Student Check-in: Alex Green Elementary

Each week, use this form to take notes and record status updates during each student check-in while following the weekly script (see the Navigator Handbook).

Before clicking “Submit”, remember to check the box (“Send me an email receipt of my responses”) to keep a copy of your submission.

**Areas of Concern from Navigator Check-ins**

Students may be counted more than once. By default, the Survey Date filter is set to the most recent week. Confidential - MNPS Use Only

1. Student full name: *
   Please enter the student’s first and last name.
   
Enter your answer

Microsoft Power BI

Microsoft Forms
Since August...

226,899 Check-ins
51,500 Students
5,053 Navigators
1,800 Collaborative referrals
Congress passed a second round of emergency coronavirus relief, including $54.3 billion for the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER).

- This supplements the original $13 billion in ESSER funds provided through the CARES Act in March. ESSER funds go directly to state and local educational agencies.

Not later than 6 months after receiving ESSER funds, states must provide a detailed accounting of how they are using funds to measure and address learning loss among students disproportionately affected by the coronavirus and school closures, including specifically, students experiencing homelessness.

The law specifically states that ESSER funds can be used for:

- Activities authorized by the McKinney-Vento Act
- Additional services to address the needs of students experiencing homelessness, including outreach and service delivery
- Mental health services and supports.
- Planning and implementing summer learning and after-school programs addressing the needs of students experiencing homelessness

Tip sheet with strategies coming next week!
SHC Resources

Identifying Students Experiencing Homelessness During School Building Closures

Keeping in Touch with Students and Families Experiencing Homelessness During School Building Closures

Removing Barriers to Online Enrollment for Students Experiencing Homelessness
Upcoming 4-Part Series

**Part I:** Thursday, 2/4 - Dedria M. Harrod, Director of Student Support, LAYC Career Academy, Washington, DC.

**Part II:** Thursday, 2/11 - Fallon Stewart, School-Based Program Supervisor, Maslow Project, Oregon

**Part III:** Thursday, 2/18 - Jacky LeHoullier, Families in Transition Coordinator, Rochester School Department, New Hampshire

**Part IV:** Thursday, 2/25 - Nicole Sequeira, Family Services Coordinator/McKinney-Vento Liaison, Independence School District, Missouri

Link to Register: https://schoolhouseconnection.org/learn/webinars/upcoming-webinars/
Contact Info

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Questions?