# AGENDA

# **BOARD OF EDUCATION • LEVITTOWN, NEW YORK**

LEVITTOWN UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT • TOWN OF HEMPSTEAD • LEVITTOWN, NEW YORK www.levittownschools.com

PLANNING SESSION

LEVITTOWN MEMORIAL EDUCATION CENTER Wednesday, November 16, 2016

Immediately following the Special Meeting

Success for Every Student

(Note: Items on this Planning Session appear in order of intended discussion. As per previous understanding with the Board, any items which are not reached during the meeting will be carried forward to subsequent Planning Sessions or Ad Hoc portion of Regular Meetings.)

# I. <u>INFORMATIONAL ITEMS</u>

- A. Division Avenue High School Academic Presentation
- B. Budget Development Calendar and Procedures

Budget Development Calendar

C. Traffic Study: East Broadway and Salk Middle School

D. Foreign Language at Elementary Schools (FLES)

E. Policies - First Read

First Read

Policy No. 7616 Prereferral Invention Strategies

Policy No. 7618 Response to Intervention (RTI) Process

Policy No. 7131 Education of Homeless Children and Youth

II. MOTION TO ADJOURN

Enclosure

Enclosure

# Levittown Union Free School District

**Board of Education Agenda** 

Budget Topics By Month For The 2017-2018 School Year Budget

Budget Topics

Budget Topics

Athletics Budget

November 2016 Budget Topics

Meet with Central Office team and budget builders to discuss developing initiatives and budget parameters.

January 11, 2017 - Regular Meeting	
udget Topics	
st Draft of 2016-17 Rollover Budget	
cilities Budget	
ansportation Budget	

December 2016

January 25, 2017 - Budget Planning Session #1

February 15, 2017 - Budget Planning Session #2

Meet with Principals & Directors Begin formulating and calculating new budget

Curriculum and Instruction Budget

January 11, 2017 - Regular Meeting
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Draft of 2016-17 Rollover Budget
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# February 8, 2017 - Regular Meeting

Budget Topics

Special Education Budget

March 1, 2017 - Budget Planning Session #3
Budget Topics
Secondary Staffing and Enrollment
5-Year Projections
Fund Balance Projection

# March 29, 2017 - Budget Planning Session #4 & Special Meeting Budget Topics

Revenue Budget Review Final Budget Board Adopts Budget

# April 2017

Budget Topics

Meet with the PTA's and Community Groups

# May 3, 2017 - Public Budget Hearing & **Regular Meeting**

Budget Topics

Public Hearing of Proposed 2016-17 Budget

Note: Dates and Topics to be Presented Subject to Change.

# March 15, 2017 - Regular Meeting Budget Topics No Scheduled Budget Discussion - open for questions

and comments

# May 16, 2017 - Budget Vote and Annual Election 7:00 A. M. - 8:00 P. M. **Board of Education Special Meeting To Certify The Vote**

Budget Topics Tax Cap Calculation Capital Projects PTA Advisory Committee on the Budget

Attachment: 7616 Prereferral Intervention Strategies in General Education (2482 : Board Policies - First Read)

# SUBJECT: PREREFERRAL INTERVENTION STRATEGIES IN GENERAL EDUCATION (PRIOR TO A REFERRAL FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION)

The School District shall establish a plan for implementing school wide approaches and prereferral interventions in order to remediate a student's performance *prior to referral* for special education. This plan may include a Response to Intervention (RTI) process.

The provision of programs and/or services for students starts with consideration/implementation of instruction in the general education curriculum, with appropriate supports and/or modifications as may be necessary. In implementing pre-referral intervention strategies, the District may utilize resources/strategies already in place for qualified students including, but not limited to, services available through Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and Educationally Related Support Services and Academic Intervention Services as defined in Education Law and/or Commissioner's Regulations. All of these programs may be considered as possible components of Pre-referral/Intervention Instructional Support Plans. The District will ensure that they have a system in place, with appropriate personnel, for developing, implementing and evaluating pre-referral intervention strategies.

The District will provide general education support services, instructional modifications, alternative instructional approaches, or alternative program options to address a student's performance prior to a referral to a Committee on Special Education (CSE). Formal Instructional Support Teams (IST) will be formed in accordance with law and/or regulations as may be applicable as well as District guidelines. The IST will include representatives from general and special education as well as other disciplines and include individuals with classroom experience. Parents/persons in parental relation to students will be involved in developing pre-referral strategies to address the educational needs of their child. Additionally, the District will seek collaboration between outside agencies and the school prior to a referral of the student to the CSE in order to address necessary student support services.

Administration shall ensure that appropriate opportunities exist for collaboration between general educators and special educators, and that consultation and support are available to teachers and other school personnel to assist parents/persons in parental relation to students and teachers in exploring alternative approaches for meeting the individual needs of any student prior to formal referral for special education.

The determination of prevention and pre-referral intervention strategies/services shall consider the student's strengths, environment, social history, language and cultural diversity in addition to the teacher's concerns. The building administrator will further ensure that all staff are familiar with intervention procedures and procedures for operating an IST.

**POLICY # 7616** 

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**STUDENTS** 

# SUBJECT: PREREFERRAL INTERVENTION STRATEGIES IN GENERAL EDUCATION (PRIOR TO A REFERRAL FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION) (Cont'd.)

Pre-referral/Intervention Instructional Support Plans shall be proactive in their strategies to meet the broad range of student needs and to improve student performance. Pre-referral/Intervention strategies and/or Instructional Support Plans are to be reviewed and evaluated to determine their effectiveness, and modified as may be appropriate. Appropriate documentation of the prevention and/or intervention strategies implemented shall be maintained.

However, should a referral be made to the CSE during the course of implementing prereferral/intervention instructional support services, the CSE is obligated in accordance with law to continue its duties and functions, and must meet mandatory time lines in evaluating the student for special education services and implementation of an individualized education program, if applicable.

# **Educational Related Support Services**

*Educational related support services* (ERSS) means curriculum and instructional modification services; direct student support team services; assessment and non-career counseling services; special instruction to eligible students with disabilities as defined in Education Law Section 4401, which does not generate excess cost aid including related services but excluding transportation and transition services; and to eligible, qualified students pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. These services are provided to eligible students, individually or in groups, and may include those related consultation services provided to their families and related school personnel in order to enhance the academic achievement and attendance of such students. Educational related support services shall also mean speech and language improvement services as defined in Commissioner's Regulations.

ERSS may be utilized as a component of any Pre-referral/Intervention Instructional Support Plan.

# Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

For students who are qualified for services pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, but are not classified as students with disabilities as defined in Education Law Section 4401, Section 504 Accommodation Plans may address instructional support services that can be utilized as components of any pre-referral/intervention strategies as deemed necessary and/or appropriate.

# Academic Intervention Services

Academic intervention services means additional instruction which supplements the instruction provided in the general education curriculum and assists students in meeting the State learning standards as defined in Commissioner's Regulations and/or student support services which may include guidance, counseling, attendance, and study skills which are needed to support improved academic performance.

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# STUDENTS

# SUBJECT: PREREFERRAL INTERVENTION STRATEGIES IN GENERAL EDUCATION (PRIOR TO A REFERRAL FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION) (Cont'd.)

However, such services shall not include services provided to students with limited English proficiency pursuant to Commissioner's Regulations or special education services and programs as defined in Education Law Section 4401. Academic intervention services are intended to assist students who are at risk of not achieving the State learning standards in English language arts, mathematics, social studies and/or science, or who are at risk of not gaining the knowledge and skills needed to meet or exceed designated performance levels on State assessments.

The District has developed a description of the academic intervention services offered to grades K through 12 students in need of such services. The District will review and revise this description every two (2) years based on student performance results.

Parental notification of students who have been determined to need academic intervention services will be provided as per Commissioner's Regulations.

In implementing prevention and/or pre-referral intervention support strategies in order to remediate a student's performance prior to referral for special education, the utilization of academic intervention services, as enumerated in Commissioner's Regulations, may be included as a component of any such Pre-referral/Intervention Instructional Support Plan.

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 United States Code (USC) Section 794 et seq. Education Law Sections 3602(32), 4401 and 4401-a 8 New York Code of Rules and Regulations (NYCRR) Sections 100.1(g), 100.1(p), 100.1(r), 100.1(s), 100.1(t),

100.2(v), 100.2(dd)(4), 100.2(ee), 200.2(b)(7), 200.4(a)(2), 200.4(a)(9); 200.4(c) and Part 154

NOTE: Refer also to Policy #7618 -- <u>Response to Intervention (RTI) Process</u>

Re-Adopted: January 25, 2012

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STUDENTS

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The provision of programs and/or services for students starts with consideration/implementation of instruction in the general education curriculum, with appropriate supports and/or modifications as may be necessary. In implementing pre-referral intervention strategies, the District may utilize resources/strategies already in place for qualified students including, but not limited to, services available through Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and Educationally Related Support Services and Academic Intervention Services as defined in Education Law and/or Commissioner's Regulations. All of these programs may be considered as possible components of Pre-referral/Intervention Instructional Support Plans. The District will ensure that they have a system in place, with appropriate personnel, for developing, implementing and evaluating pre-referral intervention strategies.

The District will provide general education support services, instructional modifications, alternative instructional approaches, or alternative program options to address a student's performance prior to a referral to a Committee on Special Education (CSE). Formal Instructional Support Teams (IST) will be formed in accordance with law and/or regulations as may be applicable as well as District guidelines. The IST will include representatives from general and special education as well as other disciplines and include individuals with classroom experience. Parents/persons in parental relation to students will be involved in developing pre-referral strategies to address the educational needs of their child. Additionally, the District will seek collaboration between outside agencies and the school prior to a referral of the student to the CSE in order to address necessary student support services.

Administration shall ensure that appropriate opportunities exist for collaboration between general educators and special educators, and that consultation and support are available to teachers and other school personnel to assist parents/persons in parental relation to students and teachers in exploring alternative approaches for meeting the individual needs of any student prior to formal referral for special education.

The determination of prevention and pre-referral intervention strategies/services shall consider the student's strengths, environment, social history, language and cultural diversity in addition to the teacher's concerns. The building administrator will further ensure that all staff are familiar with intervention procedures and procedures for operating an IST.

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STUDENTS

### SUBJECT: PREREFERRAL INTERVENTION STRATEGIES IN GENERAL EDUCATION (PRIOR TO A REFERRAL FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION) (Cont'd.)

The District will implement school-wide approaches and prereferral interventions in order to remediate a student's performance within the general education setting prior to referral to the Committee on Special Education (CSE) for special education.

The provision of interventions and/or services for students starts with consideration and implementation of instruction in the general education curriculum, with appropriate supports, or accommodations as may be necessary. In implementing prereferral intervention strategies, the District may utilize resources or strategies already in place for qualified students including, but not limited to, services available through Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and Academic Intervention Services (AIS) as defined in Education Law and/or Commissioner's regulations. The District will ensure that there is a system in place, with qualified, appropriately certified personnel, for developing, implementing, and evaluating preferral intervention strategies.

If a student is identified as needing additional instructional support, the District will establish formal Instructional Support Teams (ISTs) in accordance with law, regulations, and District guidelines, as may be applicable, to review information from the student's work, screenings, and assessments. The IST will include representatives from general and special education as well as other disciplines and include individuals with classroom experience, who may then recommend which type of instructional support the student requires and the frequency with which he or she should receive these services or supports. The building administrator will further ensure that all staff are familiar with intervention strategies and procedures for operating an IST. Parents or persons in parental relation to students will be involved in developing prereferral strategies to address the educational needs of the child. Additionally, the District will seek communication between outside agencies and the school prior to a referral of the student to the CSE in order to address necessary student support services, if deemed necessary.

District administration will also ensure that opportunities exist for collaboration between general educators and special educators, and that consultation and support are available to teachers and other school personnel to assist parents or persons in parental relation to students and teachers in exploring alternative approaches for meeting the individual needs of any student prior to formal referral for special education.

Prereferral/Intervention Instructional Support Plans will be designed so as to set forth proactive strategies to meet the broad range of individual student needs and to improve student performance. Prereferral/Intervention strategies and/or Instructional Support Plans will be reviewed and evaluated to determine their effectiveness and modified as appropriate. Appropriate documentation of the prevention and/or intervention strategies implemented will be maintained.

However, should a referral be made to the CSE during the course of implementing preferral/intervention instructional support services, the CSE is obligated to fulfill its duties and functions, and must meet mandatory time lines in evaluating the student for special education services and implementation of an individualized education program (IEP), if applicable.

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STUDENTS

### SUBJECT: PREREFERRAL INTERVENTION STRATEGIES IN GENERAL EDUCATION (PRIOR TO A REFERRAL FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION) (Cont'd.)

The determination of prevention and preferral intervention strategies or services will take into consideration the student's strengths, environment, social history, language and cultural diversity.in addition to the teacher's and parents' concerns. The District may also provide a Response to Intervention (RtI) program to eligible students that is developed in accordance with the Commissioner's regulations as part of its school-wide approach to improve a student's academic performance prior to a referral for special education.

<u>Pre-referral/Intervention Instructional Support Plans shall be proactive in their strategies to meet</u> the broad range of student needs and to improve student performance. Pre-referral/Intervention strategies and/or Instructional Support Plans are to be reviewed and evaluated to determine their effectiveness, and modified as may be appropriate. Appropriate documentation of the prevention and/or intervention strategies implemented shall be maintained.

### **Educational Related Support Services**

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ERSS may be utilized as a component of any Pre-referral/Intervention Instructional Support Plan.

### Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

For students who are qualified for services pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, but are not classified as students with disabilities as defined in Education Law Section 4401, Section 504 Accommodation Plans may address instructional support services that can be utilized as components of any pre referral/intervention strategies as deemed necessary and/or appropriate.

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STUDENTS

### SUBJECT: PREREFERRAL INTERVENTION STRATEGIES IN GENERAL EDUCATION (PRIOR TO A REFERRAL FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION) (Cont'd.)

### **Academic Intervention Services**

The Board will provide to students at risk of not achieving state standards with AIS. AIS means additional instruction which supplements the instruction provided in the general education curriculum and assists students in meeting those state learning standards as defined in Commissioner's regulations and/or student support services which may include guidance, counseling, attendance, and study skills which are needed to support improved academic performance. The District will identify students to receive AIS through a two-step identification process set forth in Commissioner's regulations.

The District will provide AIS to students who are limited English proficient (LEP) and are determined, through uniformly applied District-developed procedures, to be at risk of not achieving state learning standards in English language arts, mathematics, social studies and/or science, through English or the student's native language.

The District has developed a description of the AIS offered to grades K through 12 students in need of these services. The description includes any variations in services in schools within the District and specifically sets forth:

- a) The District-wide procedure(s) used to determine the need for AIS;
- b) Academic intervention instructional and/or student support services to be provided;
- c) Whether instructional services and/or student support services are offered during the regular school day or during an extended school day or year; and
- d) The criteria for ending services, including, if appropriate, performance levels that students <u>must obtain on District-selected assessments.</u>

The District will review and revise this description every two years based on student performance results.

# Parental Notification

a) Commencement of Services: Parents or persons in parental relation to a student who has been determined to need AIS will be notified in writing by the building principal. This notice will be provided in English and translated into the parent's native language or mode of communication, as necessary. The notice will also include a summary of the AIS to be provided to the student, why the student requires these services, and the potential outcomes when students do not achieve expected performance levels.

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STUDENTS

### SUBJECT: PREREFERRAL INTERVENTION STRATEGIES IN GENERAL EDUCATION (PRIOR TO A REFERRAL FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION) (Cont'd.)

b) Ending of AIS: Parents or persons in parental relation will be notified in writing when AIS is no longer needed. This notice will be provided in English and translated to the parent's native language or mode of communication, as necessary.

Parents will be provided with ongoing opportunities to consult with the student's teachers and other professional staff providing AIS, receive reports on the student's progress, and information on ways to work with their child to improve achievement.

§ 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 USC § 794 et seq. Education Law §§ 3602, 4401, and 4401-a 8 NYCRR §§ 100.1(g), 100.1(p), 100.1(r), 100.1(s), 100.1(t), 100.2(v), 100.2(dd)(4), 100.2(ee), \_200.2(b)(7), 200.4(a)(2), 200.4(a)(9); 200.4(c), and Part 154

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STUDENTS

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NOTE: Refer also to Policy #7618 -- Response to Intervention (RTI) Process

Re-Adopted: January 25, 2012

# SUBJECT: PREREFERRAL INTERVENTION STRATEGIES

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Prereferral/Intervention Instructional Support Plans will be designed so as to set forth proactive strategies to meet the broad range of individual student needs and to improve student performance. Prereferral/Intervention strategies and/or Instructional Support Plans will be reviewed and evaluated to determine their effectiveness and modified as appropriate. Appropriate documentation of the prevention and/or intervention strategies implemented will be maintained.

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Attachment: 7616 Prereferral Intervention Strategies in General Education-Final (2482 : Board Policies - First Read)

# 1.E.c

# LEVITTOWN SCHOOLS

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# STUDENTS

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The determination of prevention and preferral intervention strategies or services will take into consideration the student's strengths, environment, social history, language and cultural diversity.in addition to the teacher's and parents' concerns. The District may also provide a Response to Intervention (RtI) program to eligible students that is developed in accordance with the Commissioner's regulations as part of its school-wide approach to improve a student's academic performance prior to a referral for special education.

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- c) Whether instructional services and/or student support services are offered during the regular school day or during an extended school day or year; and
- d) The criteria for ending services, including, if appropriate, performance levels that students must obtain on District-selected assessments.

The District will review and revise this description every two years based on student performance results.

**POLICY #7616** 

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# STUDENTS

# SUBJECT: PREREFERRAL INTERVENTION STRATEGIES IN GENERAL EDUCATION (PRIOR TO A REFERRAL FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION) (Cont'd.)

# Parental Notification

- a) Commencement of Services: Parents or persons in parental relation to a student who has been determined to need AIS will be notified in writing by the building principal. This notice will be provided in English and translated into the parent's native language or mode of communication, as necessary. The notice will also include a summary of the AIS to be provided to the student, why the student requires these services, and the potential outcomes when students do not achieve expected performance levels.
- b) Ending of AIS: Parents or persons in parental relation will be notified in writing when AIS is no longer needed. This notice will be provided in English and translated to the parent's native language or mode of communication, as necessary.

Parents will be provided with ongoing opportunities to consult with the student's teachers and other professional staff providing AIS, receive reports on the student's progress, and information on ways to work with their child to improve achievement.

§ 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 USC § 794 et seq.
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NOTE: Refer also to Policy #7618 -- <u>Response to Intervention (RTI) Process</u>

Re-Adopted: January 25, 2012 Revised:

# STUDENTS

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# SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO INTERVENTION (RTI) PROCESS

In accordance with Commissioner's Regulations, the School District has established administrative practices and procedures for implementing District-wide initiatives that address a Response to Intervention (RTI) process applicable to all students. For students suspected of having a potential learning disability, the District will provide appropriate RTI services pursuant to Commissioner's Regulations prior to a referral to the Committee on Special Education (CSE) for evaluation.

# Minimum Requirements of District's RTI Program

The District's RTI process shall include the following minimum requirements:

- a) Scientific, research-based instruction in reading and mathematics provided to all students in the general education class by qualified personnel. Instruction in reading, per Commissioner's Regulations, shall mean scientific, research-based reading programs that include explicit and systematic instruction in phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary development, reading fluency (including oral reading skills) and reading comprehension strategies;
- b) Screenings shall be provided three times per year to all students in grades K-5 the class to identify those students who are not making academic progress at expected rates.
- c) Scientific, research-based instruction matched to student need with increasingly intensive levels of targeted interventions for those students who do not make satisfactory progress in their levels of performance and/or in their rate of learning to meet age or grade level standards;
- d) Repeated assessments of student achievement which should include curriculum based measures to determine if interventions are resulting in student progress toward age or grade level standards;
- e) The application of information about the student's response to intervention to make educational decisions about changes in goals [i.e., goals for all students, not just Individualized Education Program (IEP) goals], instruction and/or services and the decision to make a referral for special education programs and/or services.

The Instructional Support Team (IST) will be responsible for reviewing such student information and applying same to make decisions concerning student academic progress and further intervention strategies.

f) Written notification to the parents when the student requires an intervention beyond that provided to all students in the general education classroom that provides information about:

# **POLICY # 7618** Page 2 of 5

Attachment: 7618 Response to Intervention (RTI) Process (2482 : Board Policies - First Read)

# LEVITTOWN SCHOOLS

# STUDENTS

# SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO INTERVENTION (RTI) PROCESS (Cont'd.)

- 1. The amount and nature of student performance data that will be collected and the general education services that will be provided as enumerated in Commissioner's Regulations;
- 2. Strategies for increasing the student's rate of learning; and
- 3. The parents' right to request an evaluation for special education programs and/or services.

# **Structure of Response to Intervention Program**

The District's RTI program will consist of three tiers of instruction/assessments to address increasingly intensive levels of targeted intervention to promote early identification of student performance needs and/or rate of learning, and to help raise achievement levels for all students.

The IST, whose members may include, but are not limited to, regular education teachers, special education personnel, the school psychologist, reading and math coordinators, designated administrators, and other individuals deemed appropriate by the District, will be available for each building/grade level classification to address the implementation of the District's RTI process.

The IST's responsibilities shall include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a) Determining the level of interventions/student performance criteria appropriate for each tier of the RTI model;
- b) Analyzing information/assessments concerning a student's response to intervention and making educational decisions about changes in goals, instruction and/or services;
- c) Determining whether to make a referral for special education programs and/or services.

# Criteria for Determining the Levels of Intervention to be Provided to Students

Using AIMSWEB Norms: 100-90% = Above or Well Above 89-75% = Above 74- 25% = Average 24- 10% = Below Average 9-0% = Well Below Average

Attachment: 7618 Response to Intervention (RTI) Process (2482 : Board Policies - First Read)

# LEVITTOWN SCHOOLS

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# SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO INTERVENTION (RTI) PROCESS (Cont'd.)

# **Types of Interventions**

The District will provide multiple tiers of increasingly intensive levels of targeted intervention and instruction for those students who do not make satisfactory progress in their levels of performance and/or in their rate of learning to meet age or grade level standards.

It is expected that use of the Tiered Level of instruction will be specific to each student's needs and will be an ongoing process, with students entering and exiting tiers of intervention according to the analysis of student performance data and progress monitoring.

# **Tier One Instruction**

Tier One instruction is provided to students in the general education setting. The use of scientific, research based instruction in the areas of reading and math will be provided by the general education teacher and/or other qualified personnel as appropriate, and will emphasize proactive, preventative core instructional strategies in the classroom setting. Group and/or individualized instruction, assessment and reinforcement activities will be provided as deemed appropriate by the classroom teacher.

The analysis of Tier One student performance data will be used to identify those students who need additional intervention at the Tier Two Level of instruction.

# Tier Two Instruction

In general, Tier Two instruction will consist of small group, targeted interventions for those students identified as being "at risk" who fail to make adequate progress in the general education classroom. Tier Two instruction will include programs and intervention strategies designed to supplement Tier One interventions provided to all students in the general education setting.

Tier Two instruction may be provided by specialized staff such as reading and math teachers, as determined by the IST.

At the conclusion of Tier Two instruction, the IST will review the student's progress and make a determination as to whether Tier Two interventions should be maintained; the student returned to the general education classroom if satisfactory progress is shown; or referred for Tier Three instruction.

# **Tier Three Instruction**

Tier Three instruction is the provision of more intensive instructional interventions, tailored to the needs of the individual student; and is provided to those students who do not achieve adequate progress after receiving interventions at the Tier Two level. Tier Three instruction may include longer periods of intervention program and services than those provided in the first two Tiers based upon the significant needs of the student.

# Page 4 of 5 STUDENTS

**POLICY #7618** 

# SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO INTERVENTION (RTI) PROCESS (Cont'd.)

Tier Three instruction will be provided by those specialists, as determined by the Student Support Team, best qualified to address the individual student's targeted area(s) of need. If deemed appropriate by the Team, and in accordance with applicable law and regulation, a referral of the student may be made to the Committee on Special Education.

Progress monitoring on a continuous basis is an integral part of Tier Three; and the student's response to the intervention process will determine the need/level of further intervention services and/or educational placement.

# Amount and Nature of Student Performance Data to be Collected

The IST will determine the amount and nature of student performance data that will be collected to assess, on an ongoing basis, student performance results and address ongoing academic needs as warranted. Such data collection will reflect the Tier Level of intervention provided to the student. Student performance data will also be used to review the District's RTI program and make modifications to the program as deemed necessary.

# Manner and Frequency for Progress Monitoring

The IST shall monitor the progress of those students receiving intervention services beyond that provided to all students in the general education classroom. The Team shall meet with the student's teacher(s) and will determine if further adjustments need to be made to the student's current instructional program and/or a change made to the Tier Level of intervention provided. Monitoring of student progress shall be an ongoing part of the RTI program from the initial screening to completion of the RTI process as applicable. Parents may also request that the progress of their child be reviewed by the IST.

Fidelity measures (e.g., an observational checklist of designated teaching behaviors in accordance with the RTI process being implemented) will also be completed by Team members to assess whether the intervention was implemented as intended and uniformly applied. Clear benchmarks will be established for student performance and performance charts will be plotted at the completion of the instructional period/intervention process.

# **Staff Development**

All staff members involved in the development, provision and/or assessment of the District's RTI program, including both general education and special education instructional personnel, shall receive appropriate training necessary to implement the District's RTI program. Staff development will include the criteria for determining the levels of intervention provided to students, the types of interventions, collection of student performance data, and the manner and frequency for monitoring progress.

(Continued)

# LEVITTOWN SCHOOLS

# SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO INTERVENTION (RTI) PROCESS (Cont'd.)

# **Parent Notification**

LEVITTOWN SCHOOLS

Written notification shall be provided to parents when their child requires an intervention beyond that provided to all students in the general education classroom. Such written notice shall include the following information:

- a) The amount and nature of student performance data that will be collected and the general education services that will be provided as part of the RTI process;
- b) Strategies for increasing the child's rate of learning; and
- c) The parents' right to request an evaluation for special education programs and/or services.

34 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Sections 300.309 and 300.311 Education Law Sections 3208, 4002, 4401, 4401-a, 4402, 4402, and 4410 8 New York Code of Rules and Regulations (NYCRR) Sections 100.2(ii), 200.2(b)(7), 200.4(a), 200.4(j)(3)(i), and 200.4(j)(5)(i)(g)

# Re-Adopted: January 25, 2012

**POLICY # 7618** Page 1 of 5

# **STUDENTS**

# SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO INTERVENTION (RTI) PROCESS

In accordance with Commissioner's Regulations, the School District has established administrative practices and procedures for implementing District-wide initiatives that address a Response to Intervention (RTI) process applicable to all students. For students suspected of having a potential learning disability, the District will provide appropriate RTI services pursuant to Commissioner's Regulations prior to a referral to the Committee on Special Education (CSE) for evaluation.

### Minimum Requirements of District's RTI Program

The District's RTI process shall include the following minimum requirements:

- a) Scientific, research-based instruction in reading and mathematics provided to all students in the general education class by qualified personnel. Instruction in reading, per Commissioner's Regulations, shall mean scientific, research-based reading programs that include explicit and systematic instruction in phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary development, reading fluency (including oral reading skills) and reading comprehension strategies;
- b) Screenings shall be provided three times per year to all students in grades K-5 the class to identify those students who are not making academic progress at expected rates.
- c) Scientific, research-based instruction matched to student need with increasingly intensive levels of targeted interventions for those students who do not make satisfactory progress in their levels of performance and/or in their rate of learning to meet age or grade level standards;
- d) Repeated assessments of student achievement which should include curriculum based measures to determine if interventions are resulting in student progress toward age or grade level standards;
- e) The application of information about the student's response to intervention to make educational decisions about changes in goals [i.e., goals for all students, not just Individualized Education Program (IEP) goals], instruction and/or services and the decision to make a referral for special education programs and/or services.

The Instructional Support Team (IST) or the Grade Level Data Teams will be responsible for reviewing such student information and applying same to make decisions concerning student academic progress and further intervention strategies.

f) Written notification to the parents when the student requires an intervention beyond that provided to all students in the general education classroom that provides information about:

**POLICY # 7618** Page 2 of 5

**STUDENTS** 

# SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO INTERVENTION (RTI) PROCESS (Cont'd.)

- 1. The amount and nature of student performance data that will be collected and the general education services that will be provided as enumerated in Commissioner's Regulations;
- 2. Strategies for increasing the student's rate of learning; and
- 3. The parents' right to request an evaluation for special education programs and/or services.

### Structure of Response to Intervention Program

The District's RTI program will consist of three tiers of instruction/assessments to address increasingly intensive levels of targeted intervention to promote early identification of student performance needs and/or rate of learning, and to help raise achievement levels for all students.

The IST, whose members may include, but are not limited to, regular education teachers, special education personnel, the school psychologist, reading and math coordinators, designated administrators, and other individuals deemed appropriate by the District, will be available for each building/grade level classification to address the implementation of the District's RTI process.

The IST's responsibilities shall include, but are not limited to, the following:

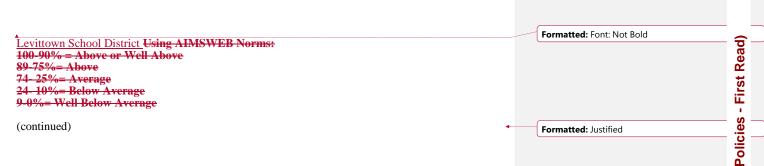
- a) Determining the level of interventions/student performance criteria appropriate for each tier of the RTI model;
- b) Analyzing information/assessments concerning a student's response to intervention and making educational decisions about changes in goals, instruction and/or services;
- c) Determining whether to make a referral for special education programs and/or services.

### Criteria for Determining the Levels of Intervention to be Provided to Students

Levittown School District will use multiple measures to identify supports for students. Grade Level Data teams will review student's scores on multiple measures of student performance and determine the appropriate student program to support student need. The multiple measures may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 1) Benchmark and lesson embedded assessments for reading and math in grades K-5 based on teacher designed and selected assessments;
- 2) curriculum-based measurements (CBM), used for universal screening;
- 3) formative assessments that provide information about student's skills
- 4) unit and lesson assessments

1.E.e



**POLICY # 7618** Page 3 of 5

STUDENTS

# SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO INTERVENTION (RTI) PROCESS (Cont'd.)

## **Types of Interventions**

The District will provide multiple tiers of increasingly intensive levels of targeted intervention and instruction for those students who do not make satisfactory progress in their levels of performance and/or in their rate of learning to meet age or grade level standards.

It is expected that use of the Tiered Level of instruction will be specific to each student's needs and will be an ongoing process, with students entering and exiting tiers of intervention according to the analysis of student performance data and progress monitoring.

### Tier One Instruction

Tier One instruction is provided to students in the general education setting. The use of scientific, research based instruction in the areas of reading and math will be provided by the general education teacher and/or other qualified personnel as appropriate, and will emphasize proactive, preventative core instructional strategies in the classroom setting. Group and/or individualized instruction, assessment and reinforcement activities will be provided as deemed appropriate by the classroom teacher.

The analysis of Tier One student performance data will be used to identify those students who need additional intervention at the Tier Two Level of instruction.

### **Tier Two Instruction**

In general, Tier Two instruction will consist of small group, targeted interventions for those students identified as being "at risk" who fail to make adequate progress in the general education classroom. Tier Two instruction will include programs and intervention strategies designed to supplement Tier One interventions provided to all students in the general education setting.

Tier Two instruction may be provided by specialized staff such as reading and math teachers, as determined by the IST/<u>Data Teams</u>.

At the conclusion of Tier Two instruction, the IST/ <u>Grade Level Data Teams</u> will review the student's progress and make a determination as to whether Tier Two interventions should be maintained; the student returned to the general education classroom if satisfactory progress is shown; or referred for Tier Three instruction.

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Tier Three instruction is the provision of more intensive instructional interventions, tailored to the needs of the individual student; and is provided to those students who do not achieve adequate progress after receiving interventions at the Tier Two level. Tier Three instruction may include longer periods of intervention program and services than those provided in the first two Tiers based upon the significant needs of the student.

(continued)

1.E.e

**POLICY # 7618** Page 4 of 5

# STUDENTS

# SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO INTERVENTION (RTI) PROCESS (Cont'd.)

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Progress monitoring on a continuous basis is an integral part of Tier Three; and the student's response to the intervention process will determine the need/level of further intervention services and/or educational placement.

### Amount and Nature of Student Performance Data to be Collected

The IST/ Grade Level Data Teams will determine the amount and nature of student performance data that will be collected to assess, on an ongoing basis, student performance results and address ongoing academic needs as warranted. Such data collection will reflect the Tier Level of intervention provided to the student. Student performance data will also be used to review the District's RTI program and make modifications to the program as deemed necessary.

### Manner and Frequency for Progress Monitoring

The IST/<u>Data Teams</u>-shall monitor the progress of those students receiving intervention services beyond that provided to all students in the general education classroom. The Team shall meet with the student's teacher(s) and will determine if further adjustments need to be made to the student's current instructional program and/or a change made to the Tier Level of intervention provided. Monitoring of student progress shall be an ongoing part of the RTI program from the initial screening to completion of the RTI process as applicable. Parents may also request that the progress of their child be reviewed by the IST/<u>Data Teams</u>.

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**POLICY # 7618** Page 5 of 5

STUDENTS

# SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO INTERVENTION (RTI) PROCESS (Cont'd.)

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Re-Adopted: January 25, 2012 **Revised:** 

# **POLICY #7618** Page 1 of 5

# **STUDENTS**

1.E.f

### **SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO INTERVENTION (RTI) PROCESS**

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# **POLICY # 7618** Page 2 of 5

# STUDENTS

# SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO INTERVENTION (RTI) PROCESS (Cont'd.)

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The IST's responsibilities shall include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a) Determining the level of interventions/student performance criteria appropriate for each tier of the RTI model;
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# Attachment: Revised 7618 Response to Intervention (RTI) Process-FINAL (2482 : Board Policies - First Read)

# LEVITTOWN SCHOOLS

Page 3 of 5

# SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO INTERVENTION (RTI) PROCESS (Cont'd.)

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# 1.E.f

# LEVITTOWN SCHOOLS

**POLICY # 7618** Page 4 of 5

# **STUDENTS**

# SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO INTERVENTION (RTI) PROCESS (Cont'd.)

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# **POLICY #7618**

Page 5 of 5

# STUDENTS

# SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO INTERVENTION (RTI) PROCESS (Cont'd.)

# **Parent Notification**

Written notification shall be provided to parents when their child requires an intervention beyond that provided to all students in the general education classroom. Such written notice shall include the following information:

- a) The amount and nature of student performance data that will be collected and the general education services that will be provided as part of the RTI process;
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**Re-Adopted:** 

1.E.g

# LEVITTOWN SCHOOLS

# **POLICY # 7131** Page 1 of 5

# STUDENTS

### SUBJECT: EDUCATION OF HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH

The parent/person in parental relation to a homeless child; or the homeless child, together with the homeless liaison designated by the School District in the case of an unaccompanied youth; or the director of a residential program for runaway and homeless youth established pursuant to Executive Law Article 19-H, in consultation with the homeless child, where such homeless child is living in such program, may designate either the school district of current location, the school district of origin, or a school district participating in a regional placement plan as the district the homeless child shall attend.

Pursuant to Commissioner's Regulations, a "homeless child" means a child or youth who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, including a child who is:

- a) Sharing the housing of other persons due to a loss of housing, economic hardship or a similar reason;
- b) Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations;
- c) Abandoned in hospitals;
- d) Awaiting foster care placement; or
- e) A migratory child who qualifies as homeless in accordance with Commissioner's Regulations. As defined in the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, the term "migratory child" *includes* a child who is, or whose parent or spouse is, a migratory agricultural worker, including a migratory dairy worker, or a migratory fisher, and who has moved from one school district to another in the preceding 36 months, in order to obtain, or accompanies such parent or spouse in order to obtain, temporary or seasonal employment in agricultural or fishing work.
- f) A child or youth who has a primary nighttime location that is:
  - 1. A supervised, publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations including, but not limited to, shelters operated or approved by the state or local department of social services, and residential programs for runaway and homeless youth established pursuant to Executive Law Article 19-H; or
  - 2. A public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings; including a child or youth who is living in a car, park, public space, abandoned building, substandard housing, bus or train station or similar setting.
- g) Considered an "unaccompanied youth":
  - 1. An unaccompanied youth is a homeless child (for whom no parent or person in parental relation is available) or youth not in the physical custody of a parent or legal guardian.

# STUDENTS

1.E.g

#### SUBJECT: EDUCATION OF HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH (Cont'd.)

2. An unaccompanied youth **shall not include** a child or youth who is residing with someone other than a parent or legal guardian for the sole reason of taking advantage of the schools of the district.

The **term "homeless child" shall not include** a child in foster care or receiving educational services pursuant to Education Law Sections 3202(4), (5), (6), (6a) or (7) or pursuant to Articles 81, 85, 87 or 88. For example, a child in a family home at board, a school for the mentally retarded, a hospital or other institution for the care, custody and treatment of children; youths under the direction of the Division for Youth incarcerated in county correctional facilities or youth shelters; or children residing in child care institutions or schools for the deaf or blind would not be considered "homeless."

#### **Enrollment, Retention and Participation in the Educational Program**

Enrollment of homeless children shall not be delayed and their ability to continue or participate in the educational program shall not be restricted due to issues such as:

- a) Transportation;
- b) Immunization requirements;

LEVITTOWN SCHOOLS

- c) Residency requirements;
- d) Birth certificates, medical records, individualized education programs (IEPs), school records and other documentation;
- e) Guardianship issues;
- f) Comprehensive assessment and advocacy referral processes;
- g) Resolution of disputes regarding school selection;
- h) Proof of social security numbers;
- i) Attendance requirements;
- j) Sports participation rules;
- k) Inability to pay fees associated with extracurricular activities such as club dues and sports uniforms; or
- 1) Other enrollment issues.

Attachment: 7131 Education of Homeless Children and Youth (2482 : Board Policies - First Read)

# LEVITTOWN SCHOOLS

**POLICY # 7131** Page 3 of 5

# STUDENTS

### SUBJECT: EDUCATION OF HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH (Cont'd.)

### **Educational Programs and Services**

The School District shall provide homeless children and youth with access to all of its programs, activities and services to the same extent that they are provided to resident students.

Homeless children and youth shall be educated as part of the school's regular academic program. Services must be provided to homeless children and youth through programs and mechanisms that integrate homeless children and youth with their non-homeless counterparts, including programs for special education, vocational and technical education, gifted and talented students, before and after school, English language learners/limited English proficiency, Head Start, Even Start, and school nutrition. Services provided with McKinney-Vento funds must expand upon or improve services provided as part of the regular school program. Consequently, the School District shall ensure that homeless children and youth are not segregated in a separate school, or in a separate program within the school, based on their status as homeless; and to the extent feasible consistent with the requirements of Commissioner's Regulations, keep a homeless child or youth in the school of origin except when doing so is contrary to the wishes of the child's or youth's parent or guardian. Further, the School District shall review and revise policies and practices, including transportation guidelines, that may act as barriers to the enrollment, attendance, school success, and retention of homeless children and youth in the School District.

All homeless children and youth are automatically eligible for Title I Part A services whether or not they meet the academic standards or live in a Title I school attendance area. Homeless students may receive Title I educational or support services from schoolwide and targeted-assistance school programs.

### Transportation

If the local social service district or the Office of Children and Family Services is not required to provide transportation, the designated district is responsible for the provision and the cost of the student's transportation. Where a homeless student designates the school district of current location as the district the student will attend, then that district shall provide transportation to the student on the same basis as a resident student. Where the homeless student designates the school district of origin or a school district participating in a regional placement plan, then that district must provide transportation to and from the homeless child's temporary housing and school- not to exceed 50 miles each way unless the Commissioner certifies that the transportation is in the best interests of the child.

Transportation responsibilities apply to all school districts regardless of whether or not they receive McKinney-Vento funds. Transportation must be provided during the pendency of enrollment disputes. If the designated district provides transportation for non-homeless preschool children, it must also provide comparable transportation services for homeless preschool children.

### **STUDENTS**

#### EDUCATION OF HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH (Cont'd.) SUBJECT:

#### School District Liaison for Homeless Children and Youth

LEVITTOWN SCHOOLS

The School District shall designate an appropriate staff person, who may also be a coordinator for other federal programs, as the local educational agency liaison for homeless children and youth to carry out the duties as enumerated in law, Commissioner's Regulations and applicable guidance issued by the U.S. and New York State Education Departments. The District will inform school personnel, local service providers and advocates of the office and duties of the local homeless liaison.

#### Training

The District will train all school enrollment staff, secretaries, school counselors, school social workers, and Principals on the legal requirements for enrollment. School nutrition staff, school registered professional nurses, teachers, and bus drivers will receive training on homelessness that is specific to their field.

#### Outreach

The District will make every effort to inform the parents or guardians of homeless children and youth of the education, transportation and related opportunities available to their children including transportation to the school of origin. The parent(s)/guardian(s) will be assisted in accessing transportation to the school they select, and will be provided with meaningful opportunities to participate in the education of their children. Public notice of educational rights of homeless children and youth will be disseminated by the District in places where families and youth are likely to be present (e.g., schools, shelters, soup kitchens), and in comprehensible formats (e.g., geared for low literacy or other community needs).

#### **Dispute Resolution**

The District shall establish procedures for the prompt resolution of disputes regarding school selection or enrollment of a homeless child or youth and provide a written explanation, including a statement regarding the right to appeal to the parent or guardian if the School District sends the student to a school other than the school of origin or the school requested by the parent or guardian. These disputes shall include, but are not limited to, disputes regarding transportation and/or a child's or youth's status as a homeless child or unaccompanied youth.

If there is a factual dispute over whether a student is homeless, the District will immediately enroll the student and then provide the parent/guardian the opportunity to submit verification of homelessness. The student will remain enrolled until a final determination is made by the District and for a minimum of thirty (30) days after the final determination to allow the parent/guardian opportunity to appeal to the Commissioner of Education. If the student files an appeal that contains a request for a stay within thirty (30) days of such final determination, the District must continue to enroll the student until the Commissioner rules on the stay request.

# **POLICY #7131** Page 4 of 5

# LEVITTOWN SCHOOLS

# **POLICY # 7131** Page 5 of 5

# STUDENTS

## SUBJECT: EDUCATION OF HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH (Cont'd.)

#### **Record and Reporting Requirements**

If the District, as the school district of origin, receives a request to forward student records to a receiving district, the records must be forwarded within five (5) days.

The School District shall maintain documentation regarding all aspects of the District's contact with and services provided to homeless students and youth for possible on-site monitoring by the State Education Department.

The District shall collect and transmit to the Commissioner of Education, at such time and in the manner as the Commissioner may require, a report containing such information as the Commissioner determines is necessary to assess the educational needs of homeless children and youths within the state.

McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act, as reauthorized by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, 42 United States Code (USC) Section 11431 et seq.
Education Law Sections 902(b) and 3209
8 New York Code of Rules and Regulations (NYCRR) Section 100.2(x)

Re- Adopted: January 25, 2012

# **POLICY # 7131** Page 1 of 5

# STUDENTS

# LEVITTOWN SCHOOLS

### SUBJECT: EDUCATION OF HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH

The Board recognizes the unique challenges that face homeless students and will provide these students with access to the same free, appropriate public education, including public preschool education, as other children and youth and access to educational and other services necessary to be successful in school, and will ensure that they are not separated from the mainstream school environment. The Board is also committed to eliminating barriers to the identification, enrollment, attendance, or success of homeless students.

The parent or person in parental relation to a homeless child; or the homeless child, together with the homeless liaison designated by the District in the case of an unaccompanied youth; or the director of a residential program for runaway and homeless youth established in accordance with Executive Law Article 19-H, in consultation with the homeless child, where such homeless child is living in such program, may designate either the school district of current location, the school district of origin, or a school district participating in a regional placement plan as the district the homeless child will attend.

In accordance with As defined in Commissioner's regulations, a "homeless child" means a child or youth who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, including a child who is:

- a) Sharing the housing of other persons due to a loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason;
- b) Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations;
- c) Abandoned in hospitals; or
- d) Awaiting foster care placement;
- d)e) A migratory child who qualifies as homeless in accordance with Commissioner's regulations. The term "migratory child" includes a child who is, or whose parent or spouse is, a migratory agricultural worker, including a migratory dairy worker, or a migratory fisher, and who has moved from one school district to another in the preceding 36 months, in order to obtain, or accompanies such his or her parent or spouse in order to obtain, temporary, or seasonal employment in agricultural or fishing work; or
- e) A child or youth who has a primary nighttime location that is:
  - 1. A supervised, publicly, or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations, including, but not limited to, shelters operated or approved by the state or local department of social services, and residential programs for runaway and homeless youth established in accordance with Executive Law Article 19-H; or
  - 2. A public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings; including a child or youth who is living in a car, park, public space, abandoned building, substandard housing, bus or train station or similar setting.
- g) Considered a An "unaccompanied youth" means:

- 1. An unaccompanied youth is a homeless child (for whom no parent or person in parental relation is available) or youth not in the physical custody of a parent or legal guardian.
- 2. An unaccompanied youth will This term does not include a child or youth who is residing with someone other than a parent or legal guardian for the sole reason of taking advantage of the schools of the District.

Students

#### SUBJECT: EDUCATION OF HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH (Cont'd.)

The term "homeless child" does not include a child in foster care or receiving educational services in accordance with Education Law Sections 3202(4), (5), (6), (6a) or (7) or pursuant to Articles 81, 85, 87 or 88. For example, a child in a family home at board, a school for the intellectually disabled, a hospital or other institution for the care, custody and treatment of children; youths under the direction of the Division for Youth incarcerated in county correctional facilities or youth shelters; or children residing in child care institutions or schools for the deaf or blind would not be considered "homeless."

A designator will decide which school district a homeless child or unaccompanied youth will attend. A designator is:

- a) The parent or person in parental relation to a homeless child; or
- b) The homeless child, together with the homeless liaison designated by the District, in the case of an unaccompanied youth; or
- c) The director of a residential program for runaway and homeless youth, in consultation with the homeless child, where the homeless child is living in that program.

The designator may select either the school district of current location, the school district of origin, or a school district participating in a regional placement plan as the district the homeless child will attend. However, the designated school district must determine whether the designation made by the parent, guardian, or youth, in the case of an unaccompanied youth, is consistent with the best interest of the child by considering certain student-centered factors, including factors related to the impact on education and the health and safety of the child or youth.

A homeless child is entitled to attend the school district of origin for the duration of his or her homelessness and also through the remainder of the school year in which he or she locates permanent housing in accordance with his or her best interest.

The term "school district of origin" includes preschool and feeder schools as defined by applicable law.

#### Enrollment, Retention, and Participation in the Educational Program

The District will immediately enroll children and youth who are homeless even if the child missed any relevant application or enrollment deadlines during any period of homelessness. Enrollment of homeless children will not be delayed and their The ability of a homeless child or youth to continue or participate in the educational program will similarly not be restricted due to issues such as:

- a) Transportation;
- b) Immunization requirements;
- c) Residency requirements;

Attachment: 7131 Education of Homeless Children and Youth Redlined (2482 : Board Policies - First Read)

- d) Birth certificates, medical records, individualized education programs (IEPs), school records and other documentation;
- e) Guardianship issues;

#### SUBJECT: EDUCATION OF HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH (Cont'd.)

- f) Comprehensive assessment and advocacy referral processes;
- g) Resolution of disputes regarding school selection;
- h) Proof of social security numbers;
- i) Attendance requirements;
- j) Sports participation rules;
- k) Inability to pay fees associated with extracurricular activities such as club dues and sports uniforms; or
- l) Other enrollment issues.

#### **Educational Programs and Services**

The District will provide homeless children and youth with access to all of its programs, activities, and services to the same extent that they are provided to resident students.

Homeless children and youth will be educated as part of the school's regular academic program. Services must will be provided to homeless children and youth through programs and mechanisms that integrate homeless children and youth with their non-homeless counterparts, including programs for special education, vocational and technical education, gifted and talented students, before and after school, English language learners, Head Start, Even Start, and school nutrition. Services provided with McKinney-Vento funds must will expand upon or improve services provided as part of the regular school program. Consequently, the District will ensure that homeless children and youth are not segregated in a separate school, or in a separate program within the school, based on their status as homeless; and to the extent feasible consistent with the requirements of Commissioner's regulations, keep a homeless child or youth in the school of origin except when doing so is contrary to the wishes of the child's or youth's parent or guardian. Further, the District will review and revise policies and practices, including transportation guidelines as well as those related to outstanding fees, fines, or absences, that may act as barriers to the enrollment, attendance, school success, and retention of homeless children and youth in the District.

All homeless children and youth are automatically eligible for Title I Part A services regardless of whether they meet the academic standards or live in a Title I school attendance area. Homeless students may receive Title I educational or support services from school wide and targeted assistance school programs.

#### Transportation

In order to ensure immediate enrollment, and so as not to create barriers to the attendance, retention, and success of homeless students, transportation must be promptly provided. If the local social service district or the Office of Children and Family Services is not required to provide transportation,

the designated district is responsible for the provision and the cost of the student's transportation through the remainder of the school year in which the homeless student becomes permanently housed.

Students

#### SUBJECT: EDUCATION OF HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH (Cont'd.)

Where a homeless student designates the school district of current location as the district the student will attend, then that district will provide transportation to the student on the same basis as a resident student. Where the homeless student designates the school district of origin or a school district participating in a regional placement plan, then that district must provide transportation to and from the homeless child's temporary housing and school not to exceed 50 miles each way unless the Commissioner certifies that the transportation is in the best interests of the child.

Transportation is required even if the school of origin is located in another local educational agency (LEA) as long as attendance at the school of origin is in the best interest of the child or youth, even if it requires students to cross district lines. If two school districts are involved, the districts must agree on a method to apportion the cost and responsibility of transportation, or they must split it equally.

Transportation responsibilities apply to all school districts regardless of whether or not they receive McKinney-Vento funds. Transportation must be provided during the pendency pending of final resolution of any enrollment disputes, including any available appeals. If the designated district provides transportation for non-homeless preschool children, it must also provide comparable transportation services for homeless preschool children.

#### School District Liaison for Homeless Children and Youth

The District will designate an appropriate staff person, who may also be a coordinator for other federal programs, as the local educational agency liaison for homeless children and youth to carry out the duties as enumerated described in law, Commissioner's regulations, and applicable guidance issued by the U.S. and New York State Education Departments. The District will inform school personnel, local service providers, and advocates of the office and duties of the local homeless liaison.

#### Training

The District will train a All school enrollment staff, secretaries, school counselors, school social workers, and principals will be trained on the legal requirements for enrollment of homeless students. Other staff members including School nutrition staff, school registered professional nurses, teachers, and bus drivers will receive training on homelessness that is specific to their field.

#### Outreach

The District will make every effort to inform the parents or guardians of homeless children and youth of the education, transportation, and related opportunities available to their children including transportation to the school of origin. The parent(s) or guardian(s) will be assisted in accessing transportation to the school they select, and will be provided with meaningful opportunities to participate in the education of their children. Public notice of educational rights of homeless children and youth will be disseminated by the District in places where families and youth are likely to be present (e.g., schools, shelters, soup kitchens), and in comprehensible formats (e.g., geared for low literacy or other community needs).

Students

#### SUBJECT: EDUCATION OF HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH (Cont'd.)

#### **Dispute Resolution**

The District will establish procedures for the prompt resolution of disputes regarding school selection or enrollment of a homeless child or youth and provide a written explanation, including a statement regarding the right to appeal to the parent or guardian if the District sends the student to a school other than the school of origin or the school requested by the parent or guardian. These disputes will include, but are not limited to, disputes regarding transportation and/or a child's or youth's status as a homeless child or unaccompanied youth.

In the event of a dispute regarding eligibility, school selection, or enrollment, the homeless child or youth will be entitled to immediate or continued enrollment and transportation pending final resolution of the dispute, including all available appeals.

If there is a factual dispute over whether a student is homeless, the District will immediately enroll the student and then provide the parent or guardian the opportunity to submit verification of homelessness. The student will remain enrolled until a final determination is made by the District and for a minimum of 30 days after the final determination to allow the parent or guardian opportunity to appeal to the Commissioner of Education. If the student files an appeal that contains a request for a stay within 30 days of such final determination, the District must continue to enroll the student until the Commissioner rules on the stay request.

#### **Record and Reporting Requirements**

If the District, as the school district of origin, receives a request to forward student records to a receiving district, the records must be forwarded within five days of receipt of the request.

The District will maintain documentation regarding all aspects of the District's contact with and services provided to homeless students and youth for possible on-site monitoring by the State Education Department.

The District will collect and transmit to the Commissioner of Education, at such time and in the manner as the Commissioner may require, a report containing information as the Commissioner determines is necessary to assess the educational needs of homeless children and youths within the state.

#### **Student Privacy**

Any information pertaining to the living situation of a homeless student, such as his or her homeless status or temporary address, is considered a student educational record and is not subject to disclosure as directory information under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act, as reauthorized by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), 42 USC § 11431 et seq. Education Law §§ 902(b) and 3209 Executive Law Article 19-H 8 NYCRR § 100.2(x) Attachment: 7131 Education of Homeless Children and Youth Redlined (2482 : Board Policies - First Read)

### NOTE: Refer also to Policy #7511 -- Immunization of Students

# Adoption Date

# 1.E.i

### **POLICY # 7131** Page 1 of 5

# STUDENTS

#### SUBJECT: EDUCATION OF HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH

The Board recognizes the unique challenges that face homeless students and will provide these students with access to the same free, appropriate public education, including public preschool education, as other children and youth and access to educational and other services necessary to be successful in school, and will ensure that they are not separated from the mainstream school environment. The Board is also committed to eliminating barriers to the identification, enrollment, attendance, or success of homeless students.

As defined in Commissioner's regulations, a "homeless child" means a child or youth who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, including a child who is:

- a) Sharing the housing of other persons due to a loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason;
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LEVITTOWN SCHOOLS

- d) A migratory child who qualifies as homeless in accordance with Commissioner's regulations. The term "migratory child" includes a child who is, or whose parent or spouse is, a migratory agricultural worker, including a migratory dairy worker, or a migratory fisher, and who has moved from one school district to another in the preceding 36 months, in order to obtain, or accompanies his or her parent or spouse in order to obtain, temporary, or seasonal employment in agricultural or fishing work; or
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# LEVITTOWN SCHOOLS

**POLICY # 7131** Page 2 of 5

# STUDENTS

#### SUBJECT: EDUCATION OF HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH (Cont'd.)

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1.E.i

#### SUBJECT: EDUCATION OF HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH (Cont'd.)

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# LEVITTOWN SCHOOLS

**POLICY # 7131** Page 4 of 5

### STUDENTS

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1.E.i

# LEVITTOWN SCHOOLS

### **POLICY # 7131** Page 5 of 5

**STUDENTS** 

#### SUBJECT: EDUCATION OF HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH (Cont'd.)

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NOTE: Refer also to Policy #7511 -- Immunization of Students

Re- Adopted: January 25, 2012 **Revised:**