

# Identifying & Supporting Foster and McKinney-Vento Students

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# Presentation Outline

- Appreciations
- Definitions
- Foster and McKinney-Vento Youth
  - Identification Process
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  - Regulations and Rights
- Outreach and Ongoing Communication
- Explicit Supports
- Questions

# Appreciations

- Leadership Support
  - Board Members
  - Dr. McLaughlin
  - Directors and Coordinators
  - School Site Administration and Foster/McKinney-Vento Liaisons
- Conejo Schools Foundation
- Ventura County Office of Education
- Community Partners

# Definitions

## Foster Youth

- An individual under the age of 18 that has been removed from their home as the result of child welfare concerns, emergency circumstances related to custody, out-of-home probation, or voluntary placement agreement

## McKinney-Vento Youth

- Students who lack a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence
- Doubled-Up
- Living in hotels/motels
- Living in transitional shelters
- Living in a public or private place not designed for or regularly used as sleeping accommodations (unsheltered)
- Unaccompanied youth who are not in the physical custody of a parent/guardian

# Identification Process

- Foster Youth
  - Resource Families identified by the County provide evidence of student's current Foster status and placement at the time of enrollment
  - Student Support Services is alerted and identifies the Educational Rights holder
  - Foster program status remains unless/until the student has a legal guardian appointed, is legally adopted, or turns 21
- McKinney-Vento Youth
  - A student Residency Questionnaire (SRQ) is embedded within the online Pre-Enroll process, is included in the paper enrollment packets, and is a part of Annual Updates
  - If any of the qualifiers are met through the SRQ, Student Support Services is immediately alerted
  - McKinney-Vento status can change at any point in the school year, and resets at the end of each year, which is why the information must be captured annually

# CVUSD Foster Youth

School Year	Number of Students
2017-2018	42
2018-2019	40
2019-2020	37
2020-2021	23
2021-2022	27

# CVUSD McKinney-Vento Youth

School Year	Number of Students
2017-2018	101
2018-2019	154
2019-2020	237
2020-2021	227
2021-2022	296

# Rights of Foster and McKinney-Vento Youth

- Board Policy and Administrative Regulations 6173, 6173.1
  - Right to immediate enrollment in school, even if records are incomplete
  - Right to remain in school of origin when a move takes place, if it is in the student's best interest
    - School of origin can be the last school attended, or the school attended when permanently housed
    - If homeless status changes midyear, right to remain in their current school through the completion of the school year
  - Right to matriculate to the next school in the attendance area



# Additional Rights of Foster and McKinney-Vento Youth

- Board Policy and Administrative Regulations 6173, 6173.1
  - Access to the same educational resources and opportunities as all others
  - Opportunity to meet the same challenging state academic standards established for all students
  - Receive partial credit for work completed at other schools, when a school change is made during a semester
  - Right to reduced graduation requirements through Assembly Bills 167/216

# Outreach and Ongoing Communication

- Upon learning of a Foster or McKinney-Vento student enrolling, Student Support Services staff reaches out directly to the family to establish a positive, supportive relationship and to determine if the student or family has any immediate needs
- Families are also directly connected to the school site Foster/McKinney-Vento Liaison, who reaches out every two weeks thereafter to check on attendance, academics, well-being and needs
- The Conejo Closet Needs Assessment Form is shared and assists us in providing clothing, shoes, toiletries and school supplies to students and their families
  - Items are delivered to the student's school, or directly to the home if preferred

# Explicit Supports

- Conejo Closet
  - 172 Foster and McKinney-Vento students have accessed the Conejo Closet this year
- Wifi/Hotspots
- Transportation for McKinney-Vento students
- Direct connection to community partners
  - Harbor House
  - Adelante Comunidad
  - Safe Passage
  - Food Share
  - Conejo Free Clinic
  - Westminster Free Clinic

# Additional Supports

- Early-Back Intervention
  - Held in August before the start of the new school year
  - Half-day program offered at three school campuses
  - Transportation included
  - Taught by CVUSD teachers with the support of bilingual and special education paraeducators
- Approximately 205 Foster and McKinney-Vento students are currently accessing site-based interventions
- Welcome Back School Supply Event
- Holiday Toy Distribution Event
- Spring Prom Dress Event

# QUESTIONS?