



HATTIESBURG PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

School District and Community Collaboration for MV Students

*Carrie Hornsby, Kenya Jefferson, Dr. Dena Semmons
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www.HattiesburgPSD.com

Today's Learners, Tomorrow's Leaders



HPSD: Mission & Vision

OUR MISSION

The mission of the Hattiesburg Public School District is to educate all students to become productive citizens of a dynamic, global community.

OUR VISION

The Hattiesburg Public School District is a model teaching and learning community that graduates productive and caring citizens who are prepared to succeed.

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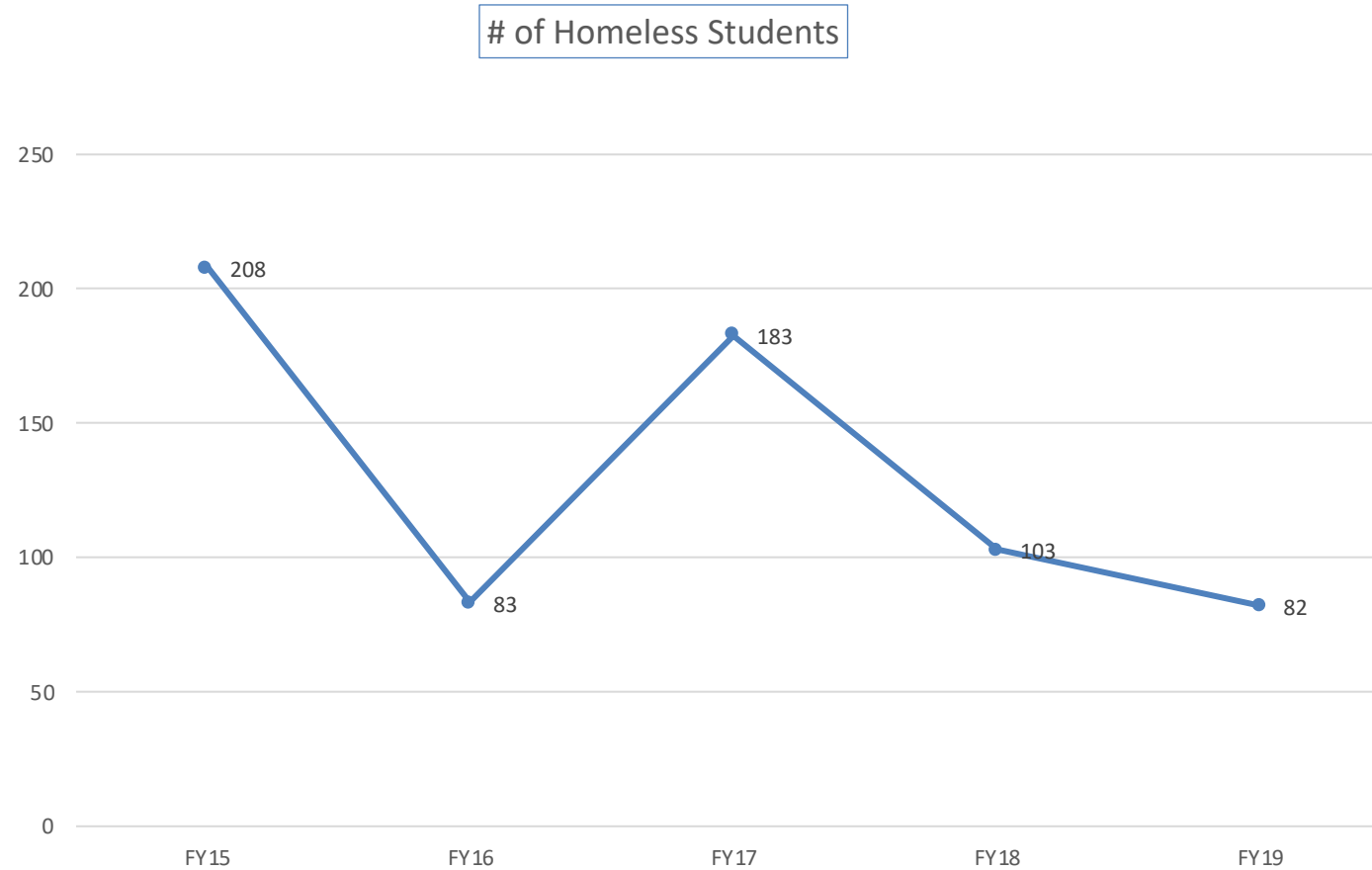
HPSD Goals

1. **Academic Success:** All students proficient and/or showing growth in all academic areas.
2. **Community Support and Engagement:** Foster community partnerships that support student achievement and school success.
3. **Safe and Orderly Schools:** Maintain a positive learning environment.
4. **Fiscal Accountability:** Maintain sound fiscal practices.

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HPSD MV Population



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City of Hattiesburg Homeless Data

REGIONAL COALITION TOTALS

NORTH CENTRAL 47

DELTA 34

NORTHEAST 117

EAST CENTRAL 82

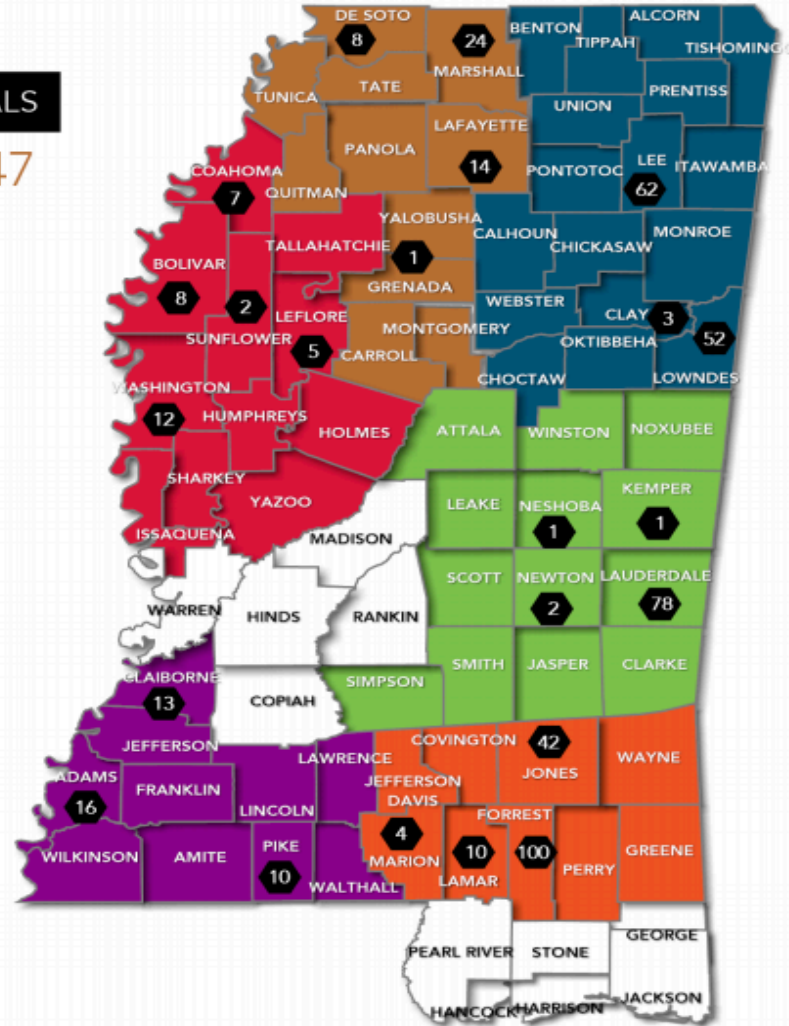
SOUTHWEST 39

PINE BELT 156



KEY

16 = Number of persons counted
(sheltered + unsheltered)



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Use of Funds for MV Students

- Title I Funds
 - Transportation
 - All instructional opportunities that every student receives
- McKinney-Vento Grant
 - Homeless Liaison
 - Supplies
 - Transportation



MV Eligibility

- Who qualifies for McKinney Vento?
- The **McKinney-Vento** Act defines “homeless children and youths” as “individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence.” Lacking any one of these three conditions would make a child **eligible**. In other words, if the residence is not fixed, regular, and adequate, it is considered a homeless situation.
- This includes doubled up, hotels-motels, shelters, unsheltered **Unaccompanied youth** as “a homeless child or **youth** not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian” [42 USC § 11434a(6)].



MV Eligibility Determination

- School districts must determine whether a student's living arrangements meets the McKinney-Vento definition of homeless.
- Establish a district protocol incorporating clear guidance
 - ** Steps to take when working with MV students and families
 - ** Steps to take when information received about a student's living arrangement needs to be confirmed
 - ** Personnel who will be involved in the determination process (e.g. school counselor, district MV Liaison, etc.)
- Guidelines should be established which involve personnel when determining eligibility, included recommended and prohibited practices



MV Eligibility

- Use of an interview questionnaire that incorporates informative, yet non-invasive, questions about a student's living arrangement as part of enrollment paperwork.
- Use the information gathered on this questionnaire to assist with making determination of MV
- This interview should be conducted by the designated McKinney Vento Liaison (school, district, etc.)



MV Determination

- As required by the McKinney –Vento Act, students who qualify will need to be enrolled immediately, even if they are unable to provide the necessary documents normally required for enrollment.
- Train district and school staff on McKinney-Vento Act's definition of homeless and steps to take if working with a student who meets eligibility.



MV Services

- MV students must have access to the educational and other services they need to ensure that they have an opportunity to meet the same challenging state student academic achievement standards to which all students are held.
- School Selection (School of Origin)
- Immediate enrollment
- Transportation
- Local Homeless Education Liaison (must be designated)



MV Services

- Free Breakfast and Lunch
- Clothing and supplies needed to meet school requirements
- Tutoring Services (if necessary)
- After School Services
- Expedited Evaluations
- Early Childhood Programs
- Emergency assistance related to school attendance
- Before/after-school mentoring, summer programs

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MV Services

- Counseling
- Assistance with participation in school programs
- Addressing needs related to domestic violence
- Obtaining or transferring records necessary for enrollment
- Parent education related to rights and resources for children
- Referrals for medical, dental, and other health services
- Referral to other programs and services
- Staff professional development and awareness



Resources

- <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfDQAXsudCFDdx292jB7fTMOVVvR1z4LYuSAoqwhS028qEV2g/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1>

- National Center for Homeless Education

1-800-308-2145

<http://www.serve.org/nche>

National Association for the Education of Children and Youth

<http://www.naehcy.org>

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Homeless Liaison Services

- Initial contact with students identified as MV
- Ensure their basic school needs are met, i.e. uniforms, back packs, school supplies, transportation/bus schedule
- Parent contact if necessary, i.e. Where is the family living?
- Are they in a shelter? Living in a car? Living in a motel/hotel? Do they have personal transportation? Are they working? Food?
- Working closely with counselors, principals, and district office



Community Partners

- Establish relationships with Community Based Organizations and Businesses
 - Churches
 - Project Recovery/Rapid Rehousing
 - Pine Belt Coalition on Homelessness
 - Edwards Street
 - PRVO
 - Boys and Girls Club
 - Local shelters
- Recommendations

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Community Information

- <https://msbos.org/pit/>
- <http://storage.cloversites.com/mississippiunitedtoendhomelessness/documents/Statewide Homeless Resource Directory - rev. 7-2015.pdf>



Contact Information

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