IN ATTENDANCE: 26 staff from 11 districts/NW ESD

District	First name	Last Name	Title
Arlington	Christy	Byle	Administrative Assistant
Edmonds	Leanne	Brisbois	McKinney-Vento Liaison
Edmonds	Craig	Christensen	Transportation Director
Edmonds	Arlet	Gess	Transportation Dispatcher/MKV Router
Everett	Nancy	Brown	Routing Specialist
Everett	Cynthia	Jones	Director Of Categorical Programs
Everett	Amy	Perusse	McKinney-Vento Facilitator
Everett	John	Pike	Transportation Director
Granite Falls/ Lake Stevens	Delana	Reeves	Transportation Director
Granite Falls/ Lake Stevens	Bill	Reynolds	Router
Lake	Gina	Anderson	Executive Director of Assessment and
Stevens			Student Services
Lake	Kristi	Morrow	Administrative Support, Business Services
Stevens			
Marysville	Vanessa	Jamison	Route Analyst
Marysville	Amy	Price	Secretary, Categorical Programs
Marysville	Stephanie	Zikopoulos	Director of Categorical Programs
Monroe	Barb	Baanrud	Transportation Router Days
Monroe	Joe	Banach	Transportation Director
Monroe	Lisa	Carlson	Transportation Router Afternoons
Mukilteo	Karen	Heying	Dispatcher Route Specialist
Mukilteo	Cindy	Steigerwald	Transportation Manager
Mukilteo	Beth	VanderVeen	Director of Student Services
NWESD	Anna	Esquibel	NWESD Regional Transportation Coordinator
Snohomish	Gaye	Jones	Mckinney-Vento Liaison
Snohomish	Veronica	Schmidt	Transportation Supervisor
Stanwood- Camano	Lisa	Orton	Transportation Director
Stanwood- Camano	Elisse	Sahlin	Family Support Specialist/Liaison
Stanwood- Camano	Sheri	Sandquist	Transportation Specialist

INTRODUCTION

Cynthia Jones welcomed the group and provided a brief NAEHCY presentation of the highlights of the Homeless Children and Youth in ESEA Reauthorization.

View the slideshow HERE.

CHANGES IN ESSA COMPARED TO ESEA/NCLB

- Summary of Major Amendments on Homelessness and Foster Care in "The Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015
- Considerations for Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) in Developing Transportation Procedures for Students in Foster Care Under the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015
- 1. LEAs must make a **best interest** determination with a *presumption that staying in the school of origin is in the child or youth's best interest.*

Effective July 2016:

- 2. The definition of school of origin *includes* the designated receiving school at the next grade level for all feeder schools, when a student completes the final grade level served by the school of origin. (i.e. elementary to middle, middle to high.)
- 3. When a student obtains permanent housing, (if feasible) transportation to the school of origin must be provided until the end of the academic year. (We already do this.)
- 4. States must have procedures to ensure that homeless children and youth wo meet the relevant eligibility criteria do not face barriers to accessing academic **and** extracurricular activities.
- 5. The definition of school of origin includes preschools.

Title I Part A Amendments: Foster Care – the Short Version

- Creates new Title I, Part A assurances that will provide ALL children in any stage of foster care proceedings with McKinney-Vento-like rights and protections.
- LEAs are not required to provide school of origin transportation, if there are additional costs, unless they are reimbursed by the child welfare agency or agree to provide it.
- Removes awaiting foster care placement from the McKinney-Vento Act one year after enactment. (12/10/16)

Local Title I plans must contain an assurance that the LEA will collaborate with the state or local child welfare agency to:

- designate a point of contact if the corresponding child welfare agencies notifies the LEA, in writing, that it has designated a point of contact for the LEA.
- Within one year of enactment, develop and implement procedures for how transportation to maintain foster youth in their schools of origin, when in their best interest, will be provided, arranged and funded.

From January Minutes: Melinda said there will be grant money associated with ESSA available in the near future. Jerry Jenkins is interested in NWESD accessing funds from that grant to provide training and support for the service area. Attendees showed interest in accessing funds to pursue centralized dispatch of transportation for Snohomish County District's McKinney Vento.

ACTION ITEMS & OUTCOMES

Transportation Operation Allocation

Anna Esquibel presented the STARS transportation costs simulator program, a Microsoft Excel workbook providing a STARS funding simulator is available for <u>download here</u>. The workbook has several worksheets, the <u>first of which provides general instructions</u>. Please note: the simulator is intended to be used to get a general estimate of funding impacts, not an exact predictor of allocation levels. Call Anna if you have questions. Terrie Debolt reiterated the funding issues surrounding cars/vans and contracted service were also brought up. Anna suggested a letter to Allan Jones be drafted summarizing the concerns. Terrie Debolt plans to draft a letter.

Action Item: Terrie Debolt to draft letter.

Standardized MV Transportation Request Form

Sheri Sandquist (now at Lakewood) distributed a form that appears to have all items needed for transportation requests. Any edit suggestions should be reviewed and sent to her to make.

Arlet Gess (Edmonds) Unveiled a google form which auto populates into a shared spreadsheet used by both transportation and the MKV Liaison. Possibilities exist for other staff/parents to submit information as a prescreen/identification tool for MKV students.

<u>Action Items:</u> *All*-please review the standardized request form and give Sherri the suggestions if any. *Arlet* will email the links to district reps to be able to edit google docs for their own use. Will seek feedback at the next meeting.

Snohomish County Districts Coordination of Homeless Transportation

Mike Sullivan reported in January that he will be talking with his counterparts in other county districts. Allan Jones recommended that Mike talk with Linn Grant at ESD 112. That ESD provides a **co-op fleet of buses and drivers** that provide service for an extensive area. Cindy Steigerwald said that she thinks the only way a co-op venture will succeed will be if all routing and dispatching comes out of one place. The group voiced their agreement and discussion turned to the need to form a fleet for the the co-op's use, possibly out of contributions of equipment from member districts.

<u>Action Item:</u> Mike Sullivan will continue to pursue a co-op venture by gathering information about the logistics and financial arrangement and impact. *Tabled to a future meeting*.

Shared Templates for Transportation Notices

It was agreed that having standardized templates for letters to Parents/Students would helpful for:

- Transportation Rules/Behavior Expectations
- Transportation Cancellation Warning Letter
- Transportation Cancellation Letter

Action Item: All-Bring any letter templates you wish to share and we will decide if they need to be merged and decide on sharing process (email, a shared google drive folder, etc...).

Next steps – future meetings and focus

- The group decided these meetings have been very helpful and informative.
- There is a desire to continue on with quarterly meetings with the goal being to share best practices, identify solutions, and offer support to each other
- Still need clarification on implementing the Foster Care changes as districts decide details of this new role.

General requests for these meetings were:

- Centrally located at the Everett Public Schools Community Service Center
- During the 10:00am-12:00pm time slot
- Preferably on a Friday
- Before the start of school
- At least a week after major holiday breaks (thanksgiving, winter, spring)

Upcoming meeting dates: August 12th, November 11th, February 10th

Amy Perusse is contact person to send agenda items to: aperusse@everettsd.org

<u>Action Item</u>: Amy Perusse will wrap up by sending out minutes of the meeting, set up the next meeting, send out an updated contact list for Snohomish Co Contacts