

SNOHOMISH COUNTY SCHOOLS
MCKINNEY-VENTO MEETING 08/12/16

IN ATTENDANCE: 15 staff from 6 districts/ 2 Representatives from OSPI

District	First name	Last Name	Title
Edmonds	Leanne	Brisbois	McKinney-Vento Liaison
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	Gina	Key	McKinney-Vento Admin. Assistant.
Marysville	Deanna	Bashour	Secretary, Categorical Programs
Marysville	Stephanie	Zikopoulos	Director of Categorical Programs
Monroe	Barb	Baanrud	Transportation Router Days
Monroe	Lisa	Carlson	Transportation Router Afternoons
Mukilteo	Karen	Heying	Dispatcher Route Specialist
Mukilteo	Tricia	Thomas	Dispatcher/Router
Mukilteo	Beth	VanderVeen	Director of Student Services
OSPI	Ella	DeVerse	Program Specialist Education of Homeless Children & Youth
OSPI	Jess	Lewis	Foster Care Education, Program Supervisor
Snohomish	Gayle	Knisley	Transportation
Snohomish	Sarah	Korhler	Transportation

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INTRODUCTION

Amy welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Cynthia Jones, Director of Categorical Programs, EPS. Cynthia welcomed special guests, Jess Lewis and Ella DeVerse from OSPI. Amy presented a brief overview of [statistics of homeless students in Snohomish County Public Schools for 2014-15](#).

COCOON HOUSE (ELYSA HOVARD)

Elysa Hovard of [Cocoon House](#) gave an overview of services offered through Cocoon House.



- **Safe Place:** A youth in crisis can go to a designated “Safe Place” or **Get Help 24/7:** Call or text 425.877.5171 or email safeplace@cocoonhouse.org. An advocate will help figure out the next steps to making sure the youth has a safe place to go, and can meet with them within 45 minutes anywhere in the county if needed. “Safe Places” in the county include public libraries and public transportation buses.
- **Housing Navigators:** Cocoon House offers housing navigation services for youth 13-24 years old.
- **Advocates:** Mobile advocates have the ability to meet with youth where they’re at, including within the schools if needed.
- **U-Turn drop-in center:** Located at 1421 Broadway, is a place where youth can go for support services, i.e.; food, housing navigator, basic necessities, and a Peer Mentor Program.
- **Shelters:** Cocoon House operates 4 shelters in Snohomish County (Monroe, Arlington, and two in Everett) they also have a regional collaboration with other counties’ youth shelters. Youth who are staying at a shelter, must agree to engage in the program expectations, attend school, and abide by curfew. If successful at the interim shelter, participants can get into long term housing.
- **Prevention Services:** Cocoon House also provides prevention services to intervene before loss of housing occurs [click here for more information](#).

McKinney-Vento staff requested that Elysa look into amending CH Release of Information Form to include the physical address of the shelter where the student resides so transportation needs can be clearly determined.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MAY MINUTES –

Minutes were approved as distributed. View/Print May Minutes [HERE](#)

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FOSTER CARE UPDATE (JESS LEWIS)

Jess explained the new Foster Care provisions and gave a brief overview of the [OSPI website](#), the best place to find current information and upcoming changes to the Foster Care Education Program. New Foster rules go into effect on December 10, 2016 and are intended to keep Foster Kids educationally stable with similar provisions to McKinney-Vento. Jess works closely with Shanna McBride mcbrism@dshs.wa.gov 360-902-8474, the Statewide Education Program Manager at Children's Administration. Donna LaFrance is the Regional Education Program Manager for Snohomish County/Region 2.

- DSHS can pay education related fines and fees for Foster Children.
- Children in the Foster System can enroll in school without the usually required documents for registration.
- OSPI will identify Foster status with schools through Cedars.
- Foster Care Dispute Resolution process which can be accessed on the OSPI website.
- There are 9,000 kids in McKinney Vento throughout the state and about 4,500 of them are in Foster care.
- Funding can come from DSHS and the Children's Administration to meet the transportation needs of children in Foster care. Other sources such as volunteer drivers or payment of direct transport services like cab fare, may be available.
- Title 1 funds can be used for transportation of Foster kids when resources from DSHS and foster parents have been exhausted. Jess explained that DSHS has mandate to cooperate with schools.

For additional information and resources contact Donna LaFrance, Educational Lead for Snohomish County Donna.LaFrance@dshs.wa.gov 206-639-6207

ACTION ITEM REPORTS AND UPDATES (ALL):

Announcement: Jerry Jenkins has retired and Larry Francois has taken his place as Superintendent of NWESD 189.

Transportation Operation Allocation:

Action Item: Sue Cheffer of Everett transportation, will look into whether or not Terrie Debolt drafted a letter drafted to Allan Jones regarding funding issues surrounding cars/vans and contracted services.

Note: Allan Jones of OSPI is retiring.

Standardized MV Transportation Request Form:

Arlet Gess (Edmonds) has a Google Document available on Google Drive. It can be used and edited by logging into Google Drive, for those who are interested. Ella DeVerse, Program Specialist for Education of Homeless Children and Youth Department, [OSPI has a standardized transport document](#). Ella said she would be happy to go over [forms that are available on OSPI](#) at a future Meeting.

Action Item: Arlet will send the link for the Google Document(s).

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Snohomish County districts coordination of Homeless Transportation: Mike Sullivan was going to pursue a co-op venture of fleet buses & drivers for an extensive service area by gathering information about the logistics and financial arrangements and impact. Mike Sullivan moved from Granite Falls to Marysville in the new role of Executive Director of Finance and Operations.

Action Item: Stephanie will see if Mike is still interested in taking the lead on the planning for a cooperative.

SHARED FORM LETTER TEMPLATES: Amy presented some of the letters used by Everett Public Schools for feedback and suggestions. Jess recommended condensing the letter and using easier terminology. The longer more detailed the letter is the chances are they won't read it.

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: Cynthia and Amy will review EPS Templates and edit them to make them easier to read/understand.

NEXT STEPS – FUTURE MEETINGS AND FOCUS:

- Ella DeVerse will send a survey for Q&A following the Sept MKV training.
- Donna LaFrance, DSHS Education Lead, invited to a future meeting.
- Review standardized templates
- Follow up on Transportation action items
- Review scheduling and need for future meetings

General requests for these meetings were:

- Centrally located at the Everett Public Schools Community Resource 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:

Friday November 18th: Edmonds School District Office 20420 68th Ave W Lynnwood, 98036
Friday February 10th Everett Public Schools Community Resource Center

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