

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Presentation
November 28, 2017

SUBJECT: Homeless and Foster Care

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

N/A

AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION

N/A

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Florida's school districts and their schools are working consistently to identify homeless children and youth and address their unique needs in support of their academic progress. As many as 10% or more of children living in poverty in the United States experience homelessness each year. Several Florida school districts identified more than 10% in the 2015-2016 school year. The Department continues to work with school districts to examine their practices for identifying these children.

Children and youth experiencing homelessness perform substantially lower on standardized tests than those who are housed. In fact, homeless children and youth score substantially lower on standardized tests than those who are housed and living in poverty.

School districts and Florida Colleges are implementing policies, strategies, and practices to assist their homeless students to perform better academically. They build strong collaborative relationships with other programs in their districts and with community service providers to remove barriers to attendance and high performance.

Along with professional development and support for school districts, the Department's three primary education offices – Division of Public Schools, Florida College System, Career and Adult Education –and the State University System are collaborating on efforts to increase the number of homeless high school graduates who enroll in and complete technical, industrial, and college programs.

Supporting Documentation Included: Homeless and Foster Care presentation (to be provided)

Facilitators/Presenters: Hershel Lyons, Chancellor, K-12 Public Schools and Madeline Pumariega, Chancellor, Florida College System