



Royal School District
Roger W. Trail, Superintendent

A tradition of pride and excellence
Una tradición de orgullo y
excelencia

901 Ahlers Ave • P.O. Box 486
Royal City, WA 99357
Phone (509) 346-2222
FAX (509) 346-8746
<http://royal.wednet.edu/>

Education of Homeless Children and Youth Dispute Resolution Process

If a dispute arises over school selection or enrollment, the local education agency (LEA) must immediately enroll the homeless student in either the school of origin or the school of residency, whichever is sought by the parent, guardian, or homeless youth, pending resolution of the dispute. The LEA must also provide transportation to the parent-selected school for the duration of the dispute resolution process. In cases of an inter-district dispute, the LEAs must split the costs associated with this transportation.

With the help of the LEA Liaison, the parent, guardian, or homeless youth will work through the expedited Dispute Resolution Process established by the Local Education Agency. The LEA will provide the parent, guardian, or homeless youth with a written notice of the LEA's decision regarding school selection or enrollment and their right to appeal.

If the parent, guardian, or unaccompanied youth is dissatisfied with the resolution, he/she may appeal the decision to the state level.

The state-level dispute resolution process is available for appeals from district level decisions and inter-district disputes. Parents, guardians, unaccompanied youths, or public school districts and charter holders may file appeals.

To initiate the state-level dispute resolution process, within seven workdays after receiving written notification of the district level or inter-district decision, the appellant must forward to the Washington State Department of Education Homeless Education Coordinator:

- 1) a copy of the Request for State-Level Dispute Resolution (**Form 3**) and
- 2) a copy of the LEA's written decision.

Copies of all paperwork filed with the state's Homeless Education Coordinator will be provided to all other parties to the proceeding.

Upon receipt of a notice of appeal, the Homeless Education Coordinator will, within seven workdays, convene a panel of at least two Washington Department of Education employees, including the Homeless Education Coordinator and the Deputy Associate Superintendent for the Unit, or his/her designee. This panel will review the entire record of the dispute, including any written statements submitted, and make a determination based on the best interest of the child or youth. Within seven workdays of the date the panel convenes, the Washington State Department of Education will issue this decision in writing.

The determination of the panel will be final.

Board of Directors: Justin Brown, Dan Miller, Craig Janett, Michael Nofle, Warren Small