

Local Educational Agency

Transportation Plan to Ensure School Stability for Students in Foster Care

Local Educational Agency (LEA): Concho Elementary School District #6 (CESD6)

- LEA Foster Care Point of Contact (Name and Contact Info): Chris Brown, Homeless/Community Liaison
- Transportation Office contact (Name and Contact Info): Bryan Molck, Facilities/Transportation Manager
- Other (Name and Contact Info): Billie Bell, Finance & Business Operations Manager

Duration of Transportation

If transportation to school of origin is required in order to maintain school stability for students in foster care, CESD6, in collaboration with the local child welfare agency (CWA), will ensure that said transportation will be provided for the duration of the child(ren)'s time in foster care.

How Transportation Will Be Provided, Arranged, and Funded

1. Interim transportation should be addressed to ensure no delays for the student in foster care while transportation is being worked out between the parties. Describe how this LEA will promptly provide, arrange, and fund interim transportation for children in foster care as they collaborate with the CWA to institute a child's long-term transportation plan (*be sure to include the duration of transportation, method of transportation, etc*):
 - CESD6 will provide or arrange for interim transportation of foster children as soon as CWA informs CESD6 of the whereabouts of the child(ren) placed in foster care, per guidelines provided by McKinney Vento.
 - CESD6 will provide transportation at no cost to the CWA for an interim period not to exceed two weeks while a determination is made as to the appropriateness of transportation to the district of residence by the CWA.
 - The CWA will make the determination as to the appropriateness of transportation of foster care child(ren) moved outside the school district according to McKinney Vento guidelines.
 - The Homeless/Community Liaison with input from the Transportation Manager will collaborate with CWA/foster parents on the best means of transportation of foster care students to school of residence.
 - Using McKinney Vento guidelines, transportation will, at a minimum, be provided until the end of the school year, but may continue after this time, if it is determined to be in the best interests of the student(s) in foster care.
2. Describe how this LEA will examine existing transportation options available for students in foster care (*i.e. transportation covered by other LEA programs, state contracts, etc.*):
 - CESD6 with input from the CWA will determine the appropriate transportation options on a case-by-case basis. Options will include those that are feasible in rural Apache County . . .
 - The use of school transportation vehicles (buses, vans or cars)
 - Private transportation by CWA or foster parents
 - Other vehicles that afford the safe delivery of students to the CESD6 campus, which may include the use of regional bus lines, if available.

3. Describe how this LEA will ensure that children in foster care will promptly receive transportation to their school of origin in a cost effective manner & in accordance with section 475(4)(A) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 675 (4)(A)) *(be sure to include no or low cost options to pursue, which occurrences this LEA will agree to pay for the cost of transportation, which occurrences this LEA will pursue reimbursement from the local CWA for the cost of transportation, which occurrences this LEA will seek a cost sharing agreement with the local CWA for the cost of transportation, methods of transportation to be used and when such methods would be used, procedures to ensure student safety, etc.):*
- A no-cost option is not available in the area serviced by CESD6, unless the student is within one (1) mile from the school.
 - The most cost effective for CESD6, which is a no-cost option for the foster parents, is for foster parents to transport as a contracted transportation provider who is reimbursed for mileage from CESD6 at .445 per mile. If the CWA and foster parents pursue this arrangement, CESD6 will not request a reimbursement from the CWA for expenses.
 - The most expensive and least desirable transportation option for CESD6 is the use of a school vehicle and staff to transport foster care students. In this scenario, CESD6 would pursue reimbursement from the CWA for half of the cost of transportation, which would include mileage reimbursement at the current Arizona State allowable rate, and half of the hourly wage for the driver.

Concho Elementary School District #6 will pursue the safest and most cost-effective method of transporting foster care students to the district of residence. Decisions will be based on factors provided by McKinney Vento guidance, available resources, and child welfare agency input and cooperation.

These transportation procedures were instituted on the following date: July 1, 2017; updated February 27, 2023.

Authorized Signature for Concho Elementary School District #6



Billie Bell, Finance & Business Operations Manager