

Applying the Educational Stability Provisions for Students in Foster Care: Lessons Learned

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Quick review of the process

- Within your group
 - Review the flowcharts and talk through the process
 - What parts are clear and working?
 - What questions does your group have?
 - Be ready to report out

Reporting Out

- What's working?
- What are the questions?
- What are the challenges?

What's Working

- Gatekeepers (registrars) know to contact liaison (due to registrar raining)
- Centralized registration has helped - co-located with liaison
- Having the Toolkit – others can look up answers when liaison is not available
- Notice of Need for BID when used makes the process seamless
- Liaisons are getting more requests for BIDs – the word is making it to caseworkers
- Talking and gathering information BEFORE changing school allows schools to put proper supports in place – BID facilitates the conversation
- Freeconferencecall.com good sound with calls
- More dedicated position - more students being served appropriately
- School/DSS communication has improved – there are relationships

Questions?

- BID can be a “process” not always a “meeting” - asynchronous is OK with email and phone calls – meetings may be needed for complex cases
- Clarify – student with IEP MUST have a special ed representative (IEP team member for current school division); highly recommend special ed rep for new school division
- Clarify parental rights for signing IEPs – bio parent should sign unless rights are terminated; DSS caseworker cannot sign an IEP
- DSS caseworker must sign immediate enrollment
- Clarify caseworker is responsible for setting up and running BID process
 - Promising practice: Alexandria has a one pager sign by both LEA and DSS liaisons
- Best practice to complete BID in 3 days (Guidance vs. law)
- Clarify DSS responsibility for non-special ed transportation

Challenges

- Staff turnover
- LCPA – haven't built relationships
- State special education regulations don't fit with school of origin which leads to more steps than should be needed
 - Stafford has a sample MOU when student stays in SOO LEA while sleeping in a different LEA – make it generic as a resource
 - Look at possible steps that are allowed to avoid multiple steps
- Special ed placements and who pays
 - Write up scenarios
- Still delays with immediate enrollment (can be schools or caseworkers)
- Sense of urgency is sometimes lacking
- Still missing some educational stability liaisons
- When children are taken into care, schools are not always notified

Group Cases

- Assign a facilitator, time keeper, recorder, and reporter
- Read your case
- Answer the questions posed
- Be ready to report out by summarizing the case and discussion

What supports
are needed?

- On the horizon
 - Updated liaison lists will be emailed
 - Registrar/school secretary checklist
 - ? Judges Checklist (see MD sample)
- Your thoughts?



**Unity is strength... when there is
teamwork and collaboration,
wonderful things can be
achieved.**

Mattie Stepanek