VOICE

charter school

All students will learn. All students will sing.

Homeless Student Policy

- The student population at VOICE Charter School ("VOICE") comes from a number of community school districts within New York City. The identification and accommodation of homeless children, children in temporary housing and unaccompanied youth is an important part of ensuring appropriate services and transportation is provided to these students.

- VOICE is not responsible for identifying homeless children, children in temporary housing and unaccompanied youth who are <u>not</u> enrolled in the school. The identification and accommodation of these students is, in the first instance, the New York City Department of Education's ("DOE") responsibility. However, if and when students who are homeless, in temporary housing or are unaccompanied youth enroll in VOICE, the School applies available Title I funds for all applicable services so as to provide these students with appropriate accommodation and aid.

- As part of the initial registration at VOICE, and annually thereafter, VOICE offers each student a residency questionnaire to describe his or her living arrangements, which is intended to identify students who are homeless, in temporary housing or are unaccompanied youth under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act. The residency questionnaire is attached to this policy as Appendix A.

- Transportation of VOICE students remains the DOE's responsibility and VOICE will refer all suspected homeless or unaccompanied children to the DOE for their transportation needs.

- VOICE has a Homeless Liaison who is responsible for overseeing and identifying the needs of VOICE's homeless students and families as well as coordinating the resources that are available to such students and families through VOICE and the DOE. The Homeless Liaison will be able to define the resources with which VOICE can support the homeless student and family and refer them to the DOE for all other services. VOICE's designated Homeless Liaison is Karina Chalas.