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GUIDANCE MEMORANDUM 20-06

TO: School District Superintendents
State Public Charter School Authority
All District and Charter School Principals

FROM: Jhone M. Ebert, Superintendent of Public Instruction

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jhone M. Ebert".

DATE: July 27, 2020

SUBJECT: Senate Bill 147 – Full/Partial Credit for Foster Care and Homeless Youth

This memorandum and accompanying addendum provide an overview regarding the requirements outlined in [Senate Bill 147](#) (SB 147) as passed during the 2019 Session of the Nevada Legislature.

SB 147 provides school districts and charter schools ways to assist students in foster care and/or experiencing homelessness accrue credits and obtain their high school diploma. SB 147 aligns with existing federal law that requires each state to have procedures which: ensure that homeless children and youths, including unaccompanied youths, are accorded equal access to appropriate secondary education and support services; and remove barriers that prevent such youths from receiving credit for coursework previously completed.¹

The requirements of SB 147 went into effect July 1, 2019, at which time school districts/charter schools began the process of implementation. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, school districts and charter school sponsors are currently navigating unprecedented shifts in education; despite this, school districts and charter schools must move toward implementation of SB 147 in an expeditious manner that removes barriers for homeless pupils, unaccompanied pupils, or pupils who live in foster care, so they may obtain a high school diploma. As part of continuing guidance, the Nevada Department of Education (NDE) will be convening a working group of stakeholders to collaborate on guidance for the implementation of SB 147 across the State amidst COVID-19.

Please see the attached addendum for more information regarding SB 147. If you have questions regarding McKinney-Vento Homeless Youth Education, please contact Chris James, Education Programs Professional at: chrisjames@doe.nv.gov; questions may also be directed to Colin Usher, Education Programs Professional and Foster Care State Point of Contact at: cusher@doe.nv.gov.

Attachment(s): Addendum to Guidance Memorandum 20-06

¹ McKinney-Vento Act, as amended by ESSA (2015). Retrieved from <https://www.schoolhouseconnection.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/TextofMV.pdf>