

BOARD AGENDA ITEM

MAY 10, 2011

SUBJECT:

McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act Grant Award - FY12

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The South Carolina Department of Education makes grants subject to available funds to local educational agencies (LEAs) for the purpose of facilitating the enrollment, attendance, and success of homeless children and youths in schools. In January 2002, the No Child Left Behind Act reauthorized the McKinney Act, now the McKinney-Vento Act, which provides grants of up to \$60,000 to assist LEAs in providing services to the more than 6,500 homeless school-aged children in South Carolina as reported in an October 2000 survey. Many of these children live in shelters or transitional housing; some stay with relatives; others may live in cars, abandoned buildings, or other precarious accommodations.

ADMINISTRATIVE CONSIDERATION:

The Aiken County School District is proposing to submit a grant for up to \$60,000 to serve identified homeless students for the 2011-2012 school year which may be used to provide school supplies, clothing and personal items, and books. School guidance counselors and Title I Student Service Workers will assist in identifying and serving homeless students who meet the McKinney-Vento guidelines. If awarded, the agencies anticipated to collaborate in the FY12 grant will be Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club, Cumbee Center, Salvation Army Shelter, and the Graniteville Recreation Center. Collaborating agencies may provide after-school/summer tutoring and other services to identified students.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the submission of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act Grant of \$60,000; adjustments to the FY12 Fund 2 Budget to reflect the amount of the grant and the expenditures; and implementation of the program.

PREPARED BY:

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