

# Big Journeys; Small Steps: Taking Early Childhood Education to the Next Level



**Washoe County School District- Reno, NV**

Jenny Espeland- Homeless Liaison

Megan Bronk- Early Childhood Pre-K Teacher



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# Agenda



- ECE Homeless statistics

- Emphasis through ESSA

- Collaboration/ connections

- Effects of Homelessness

- WCSD experiences

- Interview videos



# Early Childhood Homelessness across the Nation

51% of all homeless individuals are under the age of 6; 8% are served in an early childhood program

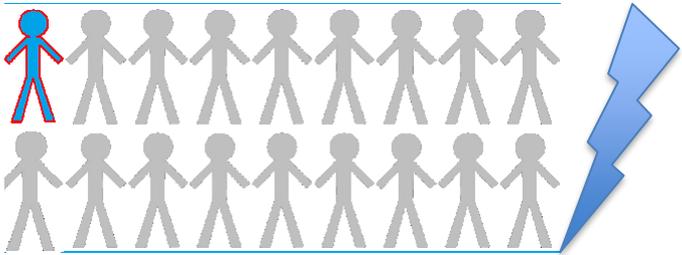


**24,139,090**  
Total  
population  
under

**6**  
Years old

**1,211,348**

Number of children  
under 6 identified as  
homeless



**1 in 20** children



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# Early Childhood Homelessness in Nevada

Total population  
under 6

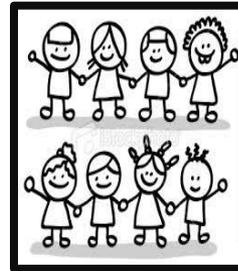
214,028



16,068

Identified  
as  
homeless

1 in 13 children in  
Nevada  
experience  
homelessness



7% are served in  
an ECE program



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# Early Childhood Homelessness in ILLINOIS

944,173

Total  
population  
under 6



1 in 19 experience homelessness

Identified  
as  
Homeless

49,305

10%

Served in  
an ECE  
program



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# Tucker



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# ESSA & Early Childhood Education

State McKinney-Vento plans must describe procedures that ensure that homeless children have access to public preschool programs administered by the SEA or LEAs.

Liaisons must ensure access to Head Start

Preschools are included in the school of origin definition.

Liaisons must ensure access to Head Start, **early intervention (IDEA Part C)**, and other preschool programs administered by the LEA



# ESSA & Early Childhood Education- Strategies

Facilitate enrollment: include homelessness in needs assessments and priorities; put McKinney-Vento families at the top of waiting lists; provide enrollment forms on-site at shelters and motels.

Expedite records by working together: joint release forms; share records within a family.

Develop joint/streamlined procedures and forms: joint intake forms; provide uninterrupted services as children move.

Work with families and providers to meet school of origin and comparable transportation requirements appropriately for young children.

Cross-train preschool, school, and service providers..

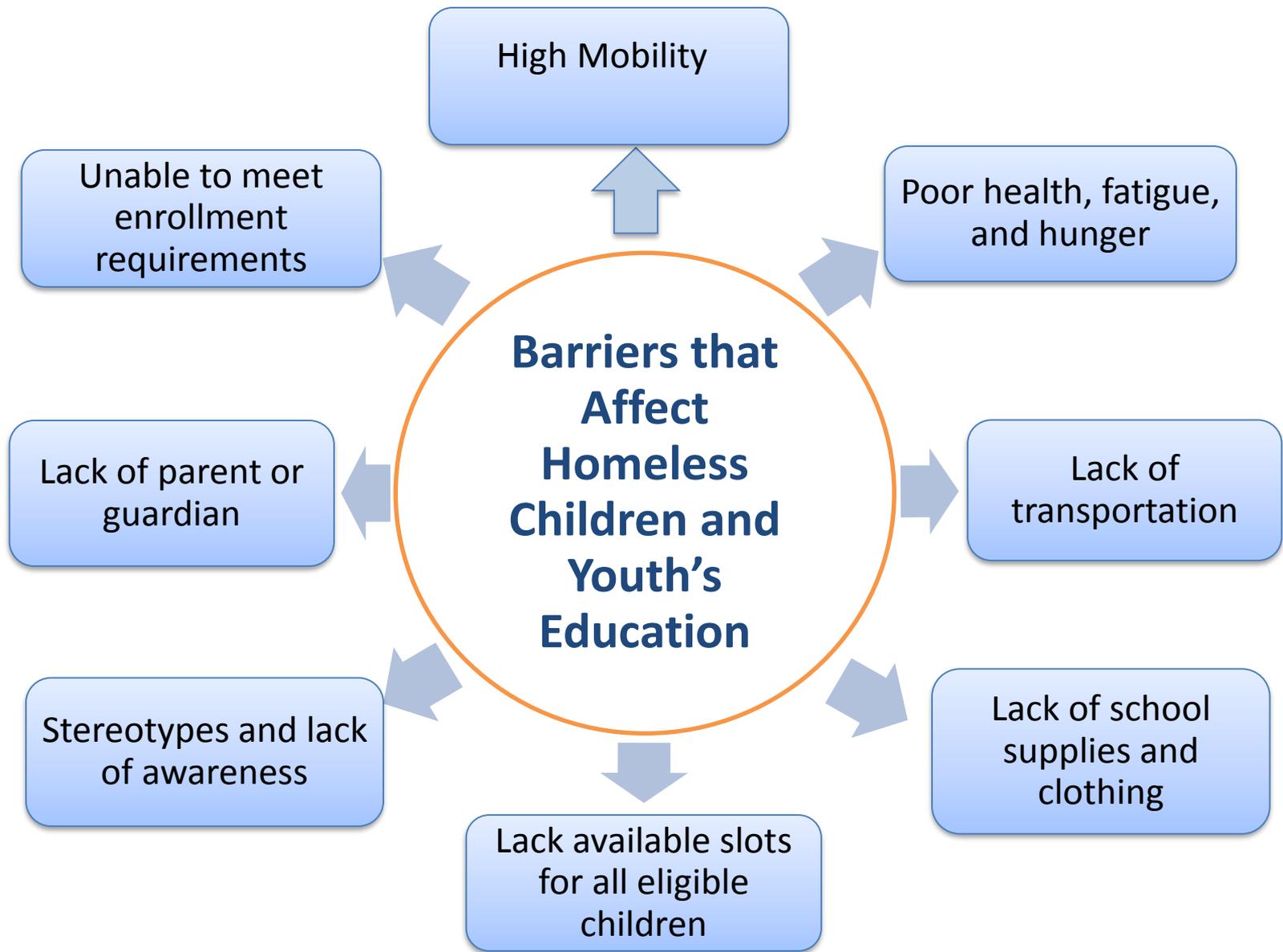


# Cole



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# Why Should You Collaborate

Because you have to! (thank you ESSA)

Over 80% of all homeless children under 6 do not have the privilege to go to school

Consistency in education helps overcome academic barriers



# Who Should You Collaborate With?

Head Start



Early Head Start



Public Pre-Ks



School District Pre-Ks



Child Find



Community Agencies

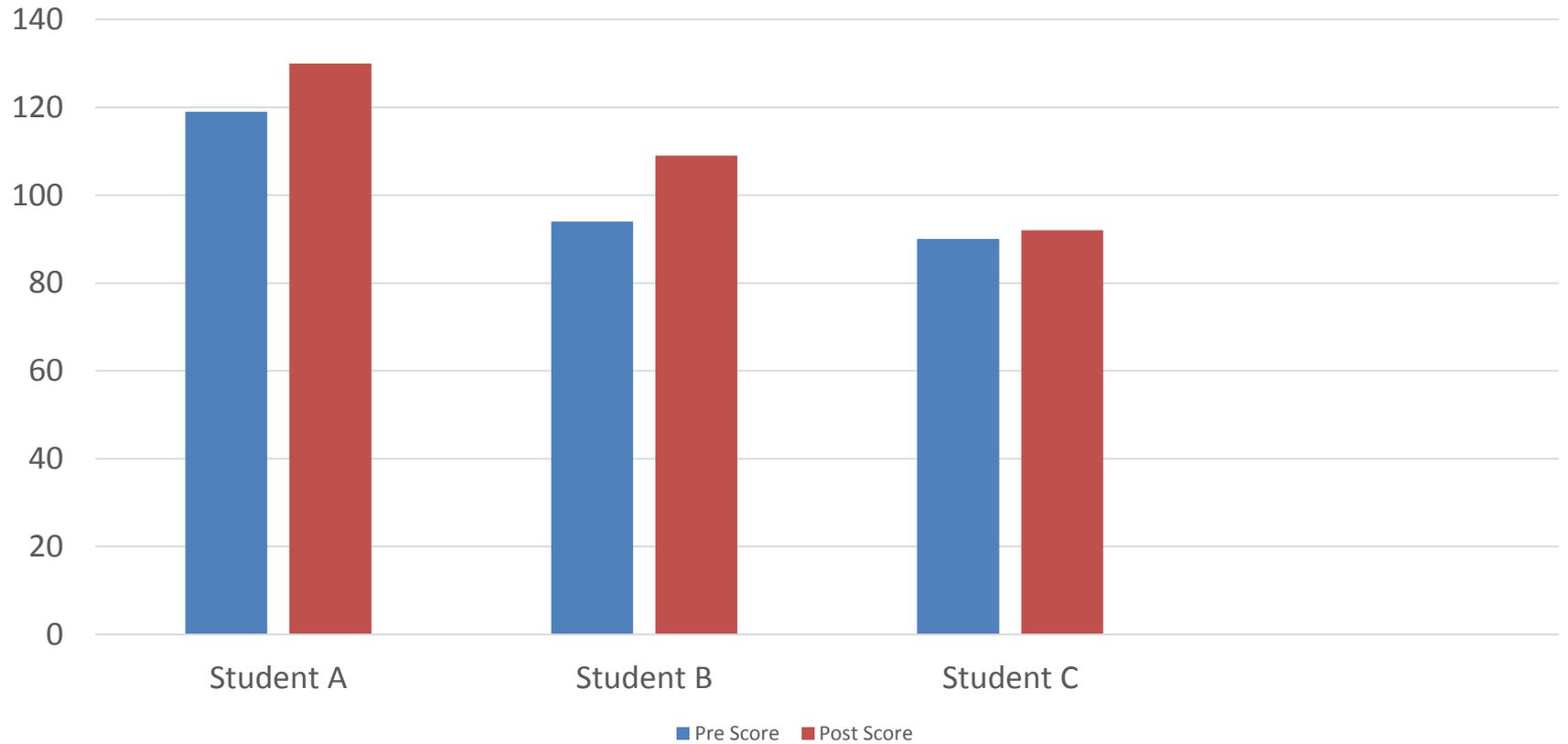


# Effects of Homelessness on Preschoolers

- 75% - at least one major developmental delay
- 40% - two or more major developmental delays
- More than half of all homeless preschoolers tested were at or below the first percentile for speech
- 35% - emotional or behavioral problems
  - Cry more easily
  - Intense reactions to “minor events”
  - Anxiety
  - Withdrawal
  - Aggression and hostility
  - Hoarding of food and possessions



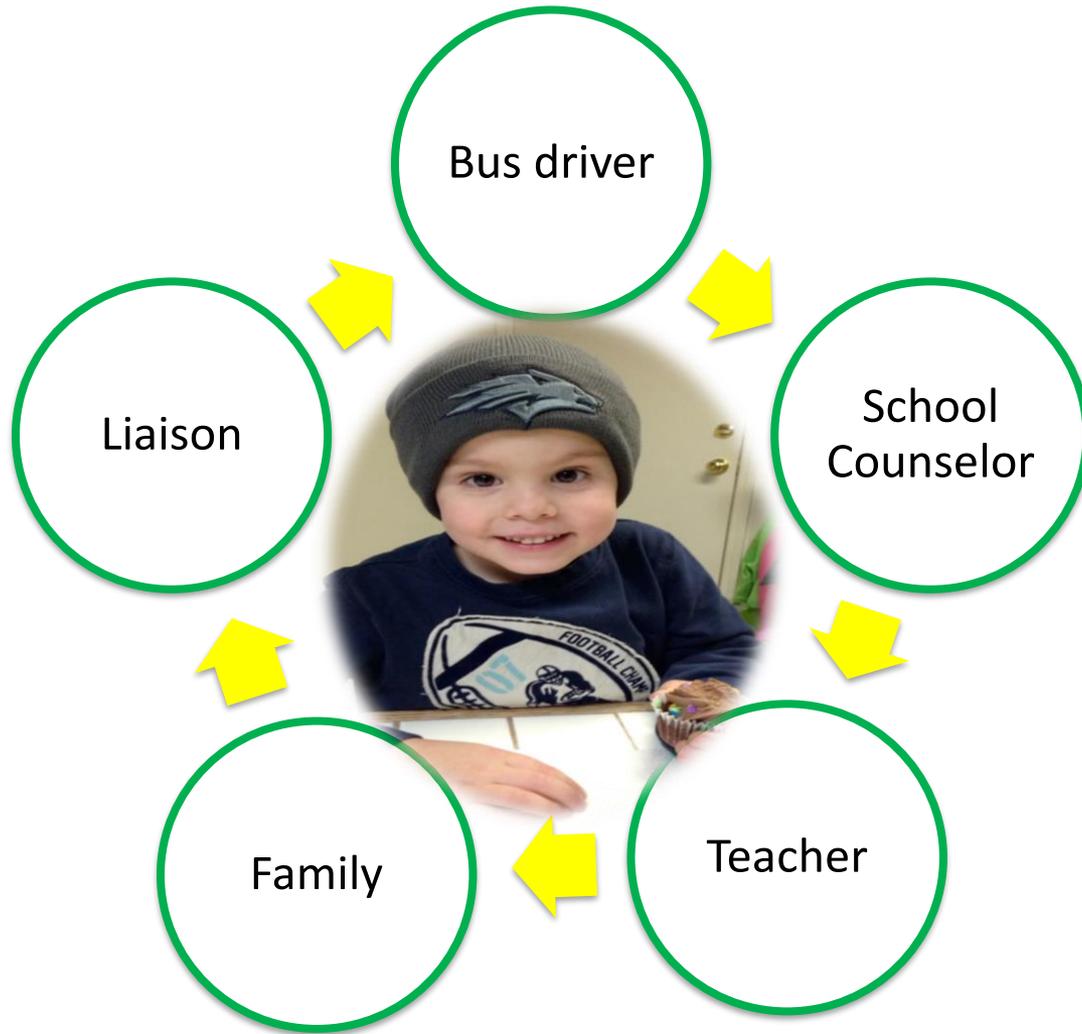
## EOW Vocabulary Scores



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# Building a Team



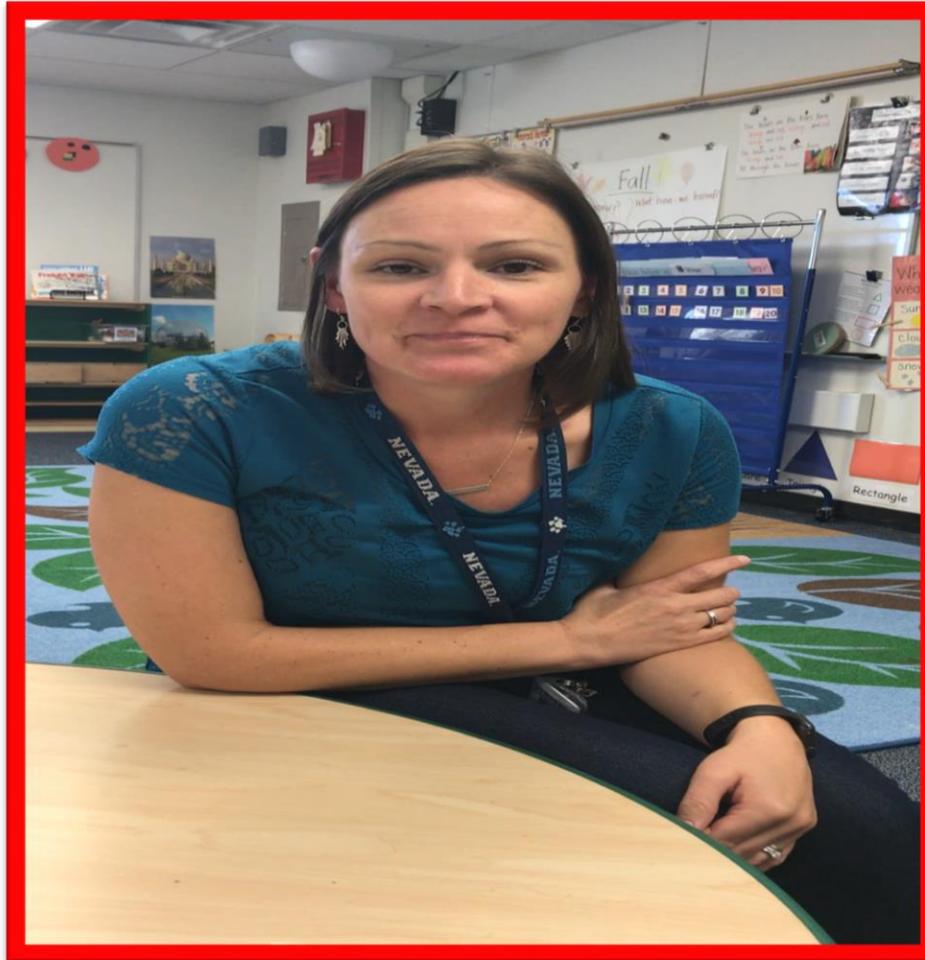
# One Teacher's Journey: Liaison

**Scenario:** Pre-K teacher is meeting with parents for parent teacher conferences. She is trying to find the best way to meet with a family that live at the shelter and do not have transportation. The teacher is also trying to make contact with the family, who she does not see because the student is transported by bus and the family does not have a personal phone.

**Question:** Who can the teacher collaborate with and get help from? How can they work together to communicate with the family, as well as arrange a conference? What is the best case scenario?



# Personal Experience



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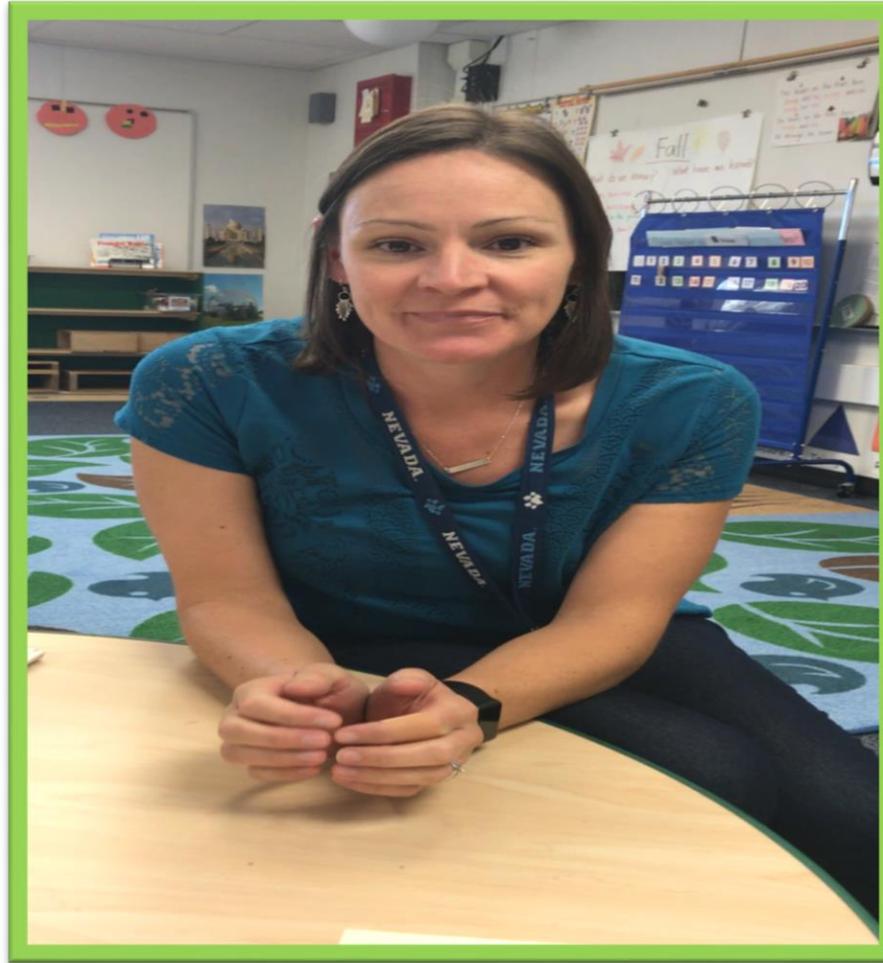
# One Teacher's Journey: Kitchen Manager

**Scenario:** Students experiencing homelessness, living at a shelter are in Pre-K all day and need breakfast and lunch at school.

**Question:** How can the teacher, school kitchen manager, and other school personnel collaborate to ensure students are receiving meals at school? What is the best case scenario?



# Personal Experience



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# One Teacher's Journey: Counselor

**Scenario:** A Pre-K student and her family are living in a hotel and need assistance with meals. The school counselor works with a local food bank that provides food for the weekends to students in need. The family has to pick the food up from the school, but do not have transportation.

**Question:** How can the school counselor, teacher, and family collaborate to find a solution for getting food to the family? What is the best case scenario?



# Personal Experience



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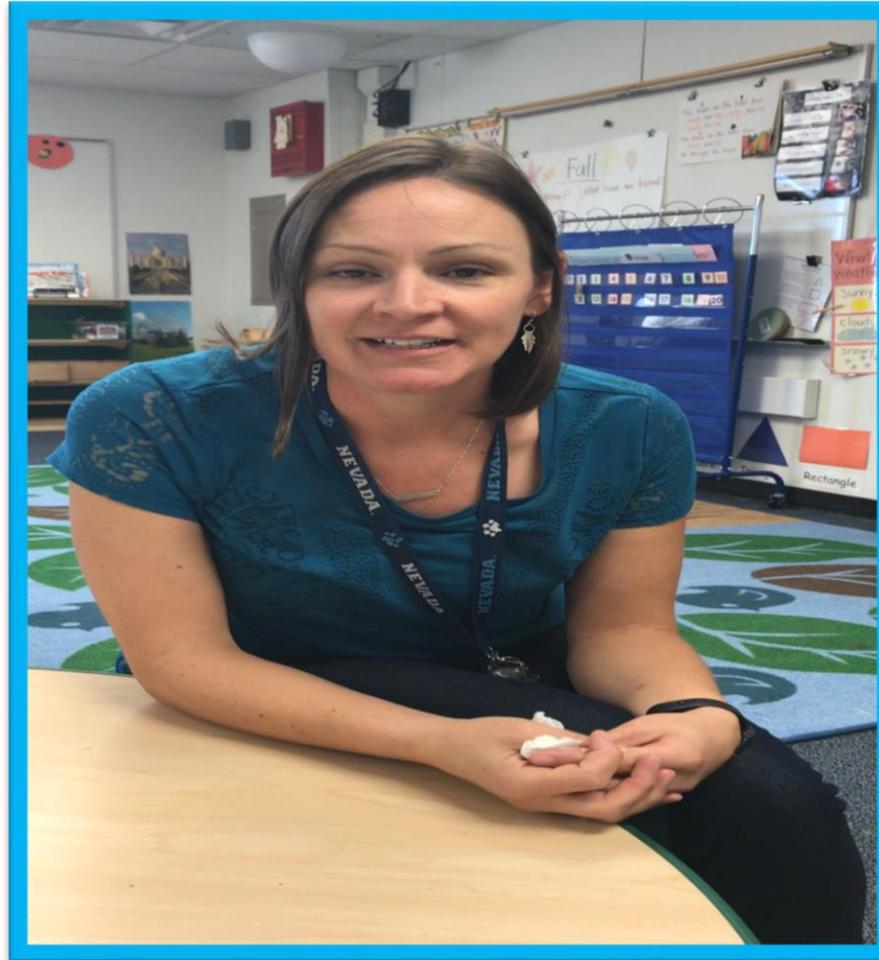
# One Teacher's Journey: Bus Driver

**Scenario:** A four year old boy is picked up at the family shelter at 6:30 am by school bus. He is taken to school where his teacher is waiting for him to be dropped off at 7:00.

**Question:** How can the teacher and bus driver collaborate to provide a successful and positive morning routine for this child? What is the best case scenario?



# Personal Experience



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# Communication Log

Student: ~~J. A. [redacted]~~

Mother: Jessica	Father:
Email:	Email:
Cell #: <del>[redacted]</del>	Cell #:
Work #: <del>[redacted]</del>	Work #:

Other: per sister and mom 5/2

## Communication:

Date:	Person:	Method:	Concern:	Notes:
10/2	mom	<input type="checkbox"/> Email <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Phone Call <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Note Home <input type="checkbox"/> Meeting	<input type="checkbox"/> Behavior <input type="checkbox"/> Academic <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Routines <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other	Friday Folder - notes home-picture day
10/9	mom	<input type="checkbox"/> Email <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Phone Call <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Note Home <input type="checkbox"/> Meeting	<input type="checkbox"/> Behavior <input type="checkbox"/> Academic <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Routines <input type="checkbox"/> Other	Friday Folder info. conference week
Oct. 23	mom	<input type="checkbox"/> Email <input type="checkbox"/> Phone Call <input type="checkbox"/> Note Home <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Meeting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Behavior <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Academic <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Routines <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other	Fall Conference - check in additional resource
11/6	mom	<input type="checkbox"/> Email <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Phone Call <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Note Home <input type="checkbox"/> Meeting	<input type="checkbox"/> Behavior <input type="checkbox"/> Academic <input type="checkbox"/> Routines <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other	Bus schedule
11/13	mom	<input type="checkbox"/> Email <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Phone Call <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Note Home <input type="checkbox"/> Meeting	<input type="checkbox"/> Behavior <input type="checkbox"/> Academic <input type="checkbox"/> Routines <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other	-holiday needs food/x-mas -holiday school schedule

# Communication Log

Student: ~~[redacted]~~

## Communication:

Date:	Person:	Method:	Concern:	Notes:
12/4	mom	<input type="checkbox"/> Email <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Phone Call <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Note Home <input type="checkbox"/> Meeting	<input type="checkbox"/> Behavior <input type="checkbox"/> Academic <input type="checkbox"/> Routines <input type="checkbox"/> Other	-update on holiday resources
12/11	mom	<input type="checkbox"/> Email <input type="checkbox"/> Phone Call <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Note Home <input type="checkbox"/> Meeting	<input type="checkbox"/> Behavior <input type="checkbox"/> Academic <input type="checkbox"/> Routines <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other	holiday school events & schedule
Jan. 15	mom	<input type="checkbox"/> Email <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Phone Call <input type="checkbox"/> Note Home <input type="checkbox"/> Meeting	<input type="checkbox"/> Behavior <input type="checkbox"/> Academic <input type="checkbox"/> Routines <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other	Check in
Feb. 12	mom	<input type="checkbox"/> Email <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Phone Call <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Note Home <input type="checkbox"/> Meeting	<input type="checkbox"/> Behavior <input type="checkbox"/> Academic <input type="checkbox"/> Routines <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other	School Schedule
March 18	mom	<input type="checkbox"/> Email <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Phone Call <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Note Home <input type="checkbox"/> Meeting	<input type="checkbox"/> Behavior <input type="checkbox"/> Academic <input type="checkbox"/> Routines <input type="checkbox"/> Other	Check in - new shoes other needs?
4/15	mom	<input type="checkbox"/> Email <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Phone Call <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Note Home <input type="checkbox"/> Meeting	<input type="checkbox"/> Behavior <input type="checkbox"/> Academic <input type="checkbox"/> Routines <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other	Spring calendar events Spring conference
5/2	sister & mom	<input type="checkbox"/> Email <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Phone Call <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Note Home <input type="checkbox"/> Meeting	<input type="checkbox"/> Behavior <input type="checkbox"/> Academic <input type="checkbox"/> Routines <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other	New contact info: cell phone not working call hotel
5/24	mom	<input type="checkbox"/> Email <input type="checkbox"/> Phone Call <input type="checkbox"/> Note Home <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Meeting	<input type="checkbox"/> Behavior <input type="checkbox"/> Academic <input type="checkbox"/> Routines <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other	Spring conference

TeacherKarma.com

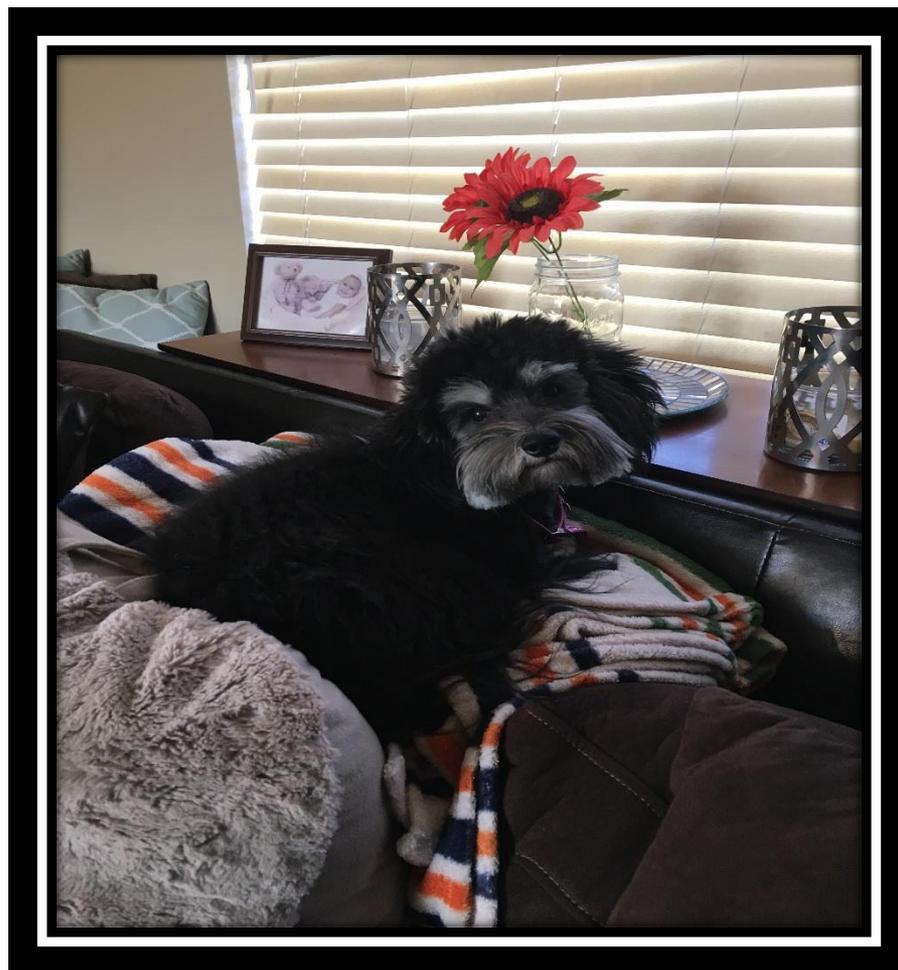


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# Lucy



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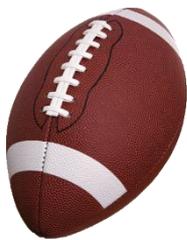


# Thank you!!!!!!!

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# Happy Sunday



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<https://www.acf.hhs.gov>



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