Veteran MPS teachers suggest these

# Classroom Strategies

for students who are homeless or highly mobile

## **Classroom Structure**

Routinely review Provide a place student expectations and classroom rules.

for students to keep their possessions safe.

Post a visual daily schedule. Use the different Create structure learning styles for presenting information.

and routine in the classroom. Use written directions as well as verbal.

#### Student Needs

Assign students a buddy to show them around and to foster peers relationships.

Spend time alone with new students for classroom orientation.

Keep students' living situation confidential.

Re-teach skills rather than discipline.

Allow the students to participate in special school activities as a motivator for positive behavior, rather than excluding them due to negative behavior.

Provide a quick assessment of the students' interests and strengths, e.g. reinforcement menu.

Affirm students that they are likable and smart.

Provide leadership opportunities, e.g. weekly jobs, become the buddy for other students.

Ensure equal access to educational services, field trips and after-school activities.

### Give the students a sense of belonging.



#### **Homework Help**

Problem solve with the student ways to complete homework, and provide the students with the necessary supplies.

Be in contact with the shelter staff for on-site homework assistance.

#### Collaboration

Meet with parents soon after students begin school to share strengths.

Communicate with the health office about illnesses that may be related to stress and trauma.

Communicate with School Social Worker regarding pertinent student and family information.

Be aware of basic needs of students, i.e. clothing, food, health, hygiene, and work to meet these needs through the school or shel-

Be in touch with the School Social Worker about resources to address the social emotional issues of students.

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