

# Jefferson School District – Foster Care Program Notification Letter

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Date: [       ]

Dear Foster Parent/Guardian,

We are writing to inform you that the school records indicate a child placed with you is currently identified as being in foster care. As a student in foster care, the child is entitled to specific educational rights and protections under the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and the McKinney-Vento Assistance Act.

## **What Rights Does the Child Placed with You Have?**

Students in foster care have the following rights to support their educational stability and success:

- The right to remain in their school of origin if it is determined to be in their best interest, even if they move to a different foster placement.
- Immediate enrollment in a new school if a move occurs, even without the usual required documents (e.g., immunization records, proof of residency).
- Transportation assistance to ensure continued attendance at the school of origin if in the best interest of the child.
- Access to educational services, including free meals, academic support, and extracurricular activities.
- Prompt transfer of school records between districts and schools.
- Coordination between child welfare agencies and school staff to support educational planning and stability.

## **Ongoing Support and Review:**

Our Foster Care Liaison is available to assist in determining the child's best educational placement and to ensure they have the resources needed to thrive in school. We review student records annually and as placements change, so please notify the school of any updates.

## **Need Help or Have Questions?**

If you have any questions about the child's rights or need support in accessing services, please reach out to the Foster Care Liaison listed below.

Isabelle Sánchez

Migrant/ Homeless/ Foster Care Family Liaison

Jefferson School District 251

(208) 313-5795

ISorensen@sd251.org