1. McKinney Vento Grant (Kathy)
2. My Role
   1. Prioritize –
      * 1. Help Students become stable at home and in school – according to McKinney Vento Framework, setting up transportation is always first. Next it is recommended that upon meeting a student for the first time, it is important to check in daily the first week, then slowly decrease the amount of time to check in. This can be difficult with students in every school. We have trained point people in the past and this year I was hoping to see if they could be a check in point at their building with students.
        2. Schedule: I don’t always here from buildings, once I go into any given building I am greeted with referrals and questions about homelessness. I will try again to have a schedule this school year☺
3. New Programs? Last I had heard from Oshki they had not yet started their shelter program.
4. Training opportunities:
   1. As we know, the research states that students who frequently switch schools score lower on standardized tests; research has also showed that students scored 20 points lower than non-mobile students.
   2. New to me, there is research stating that mobility also hurts non-mobile students… The average test score of non-mobile students went down when in settings of high student mobility rate.
   3. It takes children an average of 4-6 months to recover academically after changing schools.
   4. In one study, Mobility during high school greatly diminishes the likelihood of graduation. This study showed that students who changed high schools even once were less than half as likely as stable students to graduate.
5. Homeless Awareness week in November, the local HaHaw is really working hard this year to increase the weeks activities.
   1. Ideas for Bemidji Schools:
      1. Challenge students to read books that are based on true stories of people who were once homeless
      2. Watch movies such as the Blind-Side that was based on a homeless high school boy who became a great football player
      3. Research song-writers or actors/actresses who were once homeless. Make sure students find in their research what the turning point to their homeless situation was.
      4. Invite different groups such as NJHS and Peer-leaders to volunteer at the Homeless awareness dinner.
6. Request to present at the Minnesota Childrens Mental Health Conference.
7. Other? This years PLC is suppose to help close the gap – I think with a lot of the research presented and what we already know about kids, this is a great year to help provide some resources to schools.
8. Transportation for events at the school outside of the academic day? I know I bring this up every year, but I do have an idea, wondering if I could pursue it…
   1. I have provided transportation each year to students who could not otherwise attend events at the school. This service is GREATLY appreciated by the families, but the reality - there is only one of me and hundreds of families in our district w/o transportation.
   2. Could I approach individual schools to see if their PTO could help pull together some ideas to help students get to events such as conferences, movie nights, family fun nights, etc…
   3. Just this week, we are faced with the issue again. We can waive fees for kids to be in sports but there is no transportation….It appears that most kids who are living in poverty are unable to participate in after school sports and activities.