Creating Student Stability: Addressing Kansas City Evictions and Student Mobility

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Acknowledgements

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Executive Summary

The purpose of this policy memo is to explain and address the relationship between high rates of student mobility and evictions in Kansas City. The memo will explain causes behind both mobility and evictions, the exacerbating influences each factor has on poverty for both students and tenants, and the solutions other cities and communities have implemented in response to this urban struggle. The appendix includes a variety of charts and graphs to demonstrate the impact of mobility on graduation rates, identify outlier schools, and illustrate relationships between poverty and mobility. The appendix also includes a contact information chart of key stakeholders for policy makers to use for future solutions.
Mobility in Kansas City

Mobility is an issue spread throughout every school in Kansas City. Over time, the average rates of mobility for each county have stayed relatively stable with only small increases and decreases; however, Kansas City schools consistently have the highest mobility rates:

![Mobility Over Time Graph]

Defining Mobility

The city has 15 school districts within its city limits, and each district provides its own set of policies for transfers and enrollments (Garman 2014). Students that are prone to mobility issues abide by the rules specific to each district and are required to submit various records and documentation before being granted a transfer (Garman 2014):

- Student’s birth certificate
- Student’s social security card (or number)
- Parent or guardian Legal ID
- Immunization record
- Two proofs of residency
- Mortgage or lease agreement with landlord signature
- Utility bill (water, gas, or electric) with current address, dated within 30 days
- (depending on the district) Jackson County paid personal property tax receipt
- (depending on the district) Telephone bill
- If a child is living with an appointed guardian, proof of full legal guardianship is required
- Form specific to the district (name, address, and disclosure of criminal record of student)

Causes Behind Mobility

The two major causes behind student mobility are parental choice or residential mobility. The underlying causes behind these occurrences are listed below:

- Voluntary: choosing better school, job promotion, student-initiated (Rumberger 2015)
- Involuntary: lost job, eviction, homelessness, death, custody change, overcrowded school, disciplinary action (Rumberger 2015)

Preliminary research shows that some of the schools with the highest mobility rates also have the highest eviction rates per square mile (Raghuveer, Evictions in Kansas City 2017). Over time, evictions have been concentrated in high poverty and predominantly black communities in Kansas City (Raghuveer, Evictions in Kansas City 2017). Later sections within this memo will address this trend.

Impacts of Mobility

Student mobility negatively impacts educational achievement for both the mobile student and his or her surrounding classroom; mobility also affects a child’s social emotional growth. The following statistics represent some of the educational impacts:

- 60% as likely to be ELA proficient and 62% as likely in math (Knight and Oslund 2015)
- Lose average of three months of math and reading growth each transfer (Sparks 2016)
- Up to one full year behind peers if switch 3-4 times before 6th grade (Sparks 2016)
- Lower scores on state assessments (Sparks 2016)
• New behavior problems and less school engagement, which increases likelihood of dropout (Sparks 2016)

Research also shows that schools with high mobility rates face academic setbacks on a larger scale: higher mobility schools typically have less gifted students (Spark 2016). Additionally, non-mobile students fall ½ a year behind in a mobile school due to the churn (Sparks 2016). The educational gaps experienced by highly mobile students leads to more severe life outcomes. Chronic absenteeism, which is exacerbated by mobility, indicates lower graduation rates. Schools with mobile students will see lower rates because high mobility leads to less student engagement and lower academic results (South, Haynie and Bose 2005). See Chart 1 in Appendix to see the academic consequences of mobility in the northeast portion of KCPS compared to a less mobile feeder system of schools.
Evictions in Kansas City

Eviction can be split into two categories: legal and informal. Legal eviction consists of different court procedures that ultimately lead to an eviction judgment, which requires a tenant to vacate the premise. Informal eviction is more frequent but more difficult to track because it typically arises out of tenant-landlord buyout agreements or landlord threats. A 16-year study of eviction data in Kansas City, MO, noted 173,720 legal evictions filed in Jackson, Clay, and Platte county courts (Raghuveer 2017). This aggregate data averaged out to 42 household evictions per business day—and this is the tip of the iceberg (Raghuveer 2017). Informal evictions happen far more often than legal evictions but are harder to track without written records. The following chart explains different cases of legal evictions, their typical causes, and their 2015 totals (Raghuveer, Evictions in Kansas City 2017):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Case Type</th>
<th>Causes</th>
<th>Landlord Recourse</th>
<th>Tenant Recourse</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rent and Possession</td>
<td>-Past due rent</td>
<td>-Seek eviction</td>
<td>-Pay rent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total in 2015: 6,249</td>
<td>-Stay beyond lease</td>
<td>-Seek rent and fees</td>
<td>-Show inaccuracies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>-Counterclaim with landlord abuse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landlord Complaint</td>
<td>-Illegal activity</td>
<td>-Seek expedited eviction</td>
<td>-Show inaccuracies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total in 2015: 1,978</td>
<td>-Rent of damage</td>
<td>-Seek rent and damages</td>
<td>-Counterclaim with landlord abuse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unlawful Detainer</td>
<td>-Stay beyond lease</td>
<td>-Send 30-day notice</td>
<td>-Show inaccuracies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total in 2015: 927</td>
<td></td>
<td>-Seek eviction</td>
<td>-Show lack of notice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>-Seek rent, fees, and damages</td>
<td>-Show no breach</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Impact of Eviction

Eviction disproportionately affects the poor because there is a constant demand for affordable housing from low-income renters. When legal eviction occurs, it leaves a black mark on the evictee’s record, which makes it challenging to find alternative housing (Raghuveer and Schondelmeyer, Eviction 2017). This perpetuates a cycle of involuntary mobility and poverty.
Eviction is both a condition and a cause of poverty that traps evictees in situations that can lead to chronic situations like homelessness (Raghuveer and Schondelmeyer, Eviction 2017).

As dependents of a low-income family, children of families that face eviction are forced by circumstances to move frequently (Shelly and Moxley 2017). Students are moving throughout the school year across several school districts within Kansas City; highly mobile families struggle to maintain relationships with schools, which impacts student enrollment and performance (Raghuveer and Schondelmeyer, Eviction 2017). Transient students performed worse on standardized tests in the subject areas of Communication Arts and Math (Raghuveer and Schondelmeyer, Eviction 2017). Eviction also affects the mental health of children (Raghuveer and Schondelmeyer, Eviction 2017). When a child experiences an eviction, they live in a state of perpetual fear of when the next eviction may come. When families settle for substandard housing because of previous evictions, it “can degrade a child’s health, ability to learn, and sense of self-worth.” (299, Desmond 2016)

Eviction Policy

Rules and regulations exist on both state and local levels to establish standards on fair housing for tenants and landlords. Though the statutes exist to provide equal protections, the existing measures give far more power and security to landlords or housing authorities. There is an underwhelming amount of policy on limiting or regulating the eviction process on both policy levels.

State Policy

There are three chapters in the Revised Missouri Statutes that address landlord-tenant relationships: 441, Landlord and Tenant; 534, Forcible Entry and Unlawful Detainer; and 535, Landlord-Tenant Action (Missouri General Assembly 2016). According to statute 441, a landlord can require any tenant who has not paid rent or violated part of the lease to move out with one month’s notice (Missouri General Assembly 2016). If a person is legally evicted but has not vacated the premises within sixty days of the final legal judgment, a landlord can break down
locks and throw out tenant’s property without any liability, if a local law enforcement agent is present (Missouri General Assembly 2016). According to statute 441.223, a landlord can be found guilty for forcible entry and infringement on a tenant’s rights if he or she does any of the following without “judicial process and court order:”

- Displaces a tenant’s private property
- Removes doors or locks from the premises
- Blockades a tenant from entering the property
- Disrupts a tenant’s water, electricity, gas, or sewage services on purpose

This statute clearly lays out specific measures landlords cannot take; but unfortunately, many landlords disregard these measures and informally evict tenants in ways that directly violate the law.

Statute 441.234 attempts to provide recourse to tenants. If a tenant finds a property issue that violates building code, the tenant can inform the landlord of the issue, fix the issue, provide the landlord with an itemized list of the costs associated with the fix, and deduct that itemized amount from monthly rent. However, this option is not widely publicized to tenants. Oftentimes, when a tenant reports a part of the home not being up to code, a city official will inspect the property and deem it unfit for habitation, which leads to an eviction. This puts a tenant in a tough situation: report the problem and hope for a fix, but risk legal eviction from property owners or building inspectors. For landlords, it is often cheaper to evict a tenant rather than pay for rental property improvements (Desmond 2016).

Chapter 535 dictates the judicial process for landlord-tenant disputes and it demonstrates the magnitude of the case load. 535.200 and 535.210 create judicial support for landlord-tenant hearings by allowing the City of St. Louis and Jackson County to appoint landlord commissioners to hear trials; this statute exists to divert the thousands of eviction cases to a specific division within these urban circuit courts (Missouri General Assembly 2016). In Kansas City, the total number of formal evictions from 1999-2016 reached about 173,720 cases, or nearly 10,000 evictions per year (Raghuveer, Evictions in Kansas City 2017). From those landlord-tenant disputes, the landlord commissioner sided in favor of the landlord 94.4% of the time (Raghuveer, Evictions in Kansas City 2017). Unfortunately, this is likely because no statutory law exists to provide tenants with legal advice prior to their court hearing.
**Kansas City Policy**

According to Kansas City-specific eviction data, the Housing Authority of Kansas City is the third most common evictor (Raghuveer, Evictions in Kansas City 2017). HAKC only provides a 14-day eviction notice to tenants who have not paid rent (Housing Authority 2017). The specific policies of this government entity allow its public housing tenants to file for grievances, except for cases of any criminal activity on the premises. These grievance hearings happen outside due process and give tenants an opportunity to refute claims or eviction notices; however, tenants pursuing this course of action must deposit at least a month’s payment of rent into escrow to file for a grievance, which can be cost-prohibitive for low-income residents (Housing Authority 2017). If the court sides in favor of the HAKC, the tenant is charged in full for court and attorney fees (Housing Authority 2017). Desmond (2016) concluded the following after conducting interviews about tenant legal matters: “It was not that low-income renters didn’t know their rights. They just knew those rights would cost them.” (27)

When it comes to criminal activity, the HAKC decides the culpability of the tenant below the normal standard of proof:

“The HAKC may evict the tenant by judicial action for criminal activity in accordance with this section if the PHA determines that the covered person has engaged in the criminal activity, regardless of whether the covered person has been arrested or convicted for such activity and without satisfying the standard of proof used for a criminal conviction. HAKC will show the criminal occurred by *a preponderance of the evidence*.” (Housing Authority 2017)
Measuring the Connection: Evictions and Student Mobility

Data analysts in the mayor’s office ran a geospatial test to see which zip codes have the schools with highest and lowest mobility rates. The first map shows the percent of evictions by zip code and each school’s mobility rate within the given area. Regions that are red have the highest percentage of evictions and schools with larger circles have a higher rate of student mobility. By comparing data at county and ZIP code levels, the evidence shows the central city area has the highest eviction rates per capita and the highest average of school mobility rates.
The next few pages feature two charts. The top chart demonstrates the average student mobility rate between all schools within the color-coded ZIP codes, while the bottom chart tracks this relationship across each county.

As demonstrated by the exponential line, schools see higher mobility rates when the surrounding areas face higher levels of eviction. The light green zones, which have the second lowest rate of evictions, do not follow the trend line. One possible explanation for this outlier is that only 4 schools fall within this eviction zone; this lower sample size skews the data.
The following chart compares Kansas City schools and county averages. Kansas City schools’ average mobility rate is twice as high as the Platte county average, and nearly twice as high as the Clay county average.
The next map shows the locations of the 14 listed properties from the Housing Authority. Out of the 14 properties, 9 properties fall within high eviction ZIP codes. The red zones in this map represent vulnerable housing zones because, like the destabilizing effect of “churn” rates on school culture, high eviction zone neighborhoods have lower senses of security, safety, and community (Desmond 2016).
Policy Recommendations

To address the manifold issues that lead to student mobility in Kansas City, all schools should follow the best practice models of other successful schools. There are large-scale measures that cities and states can take to lessen the impact of mobile students as well. Additionally, the city should consider implementing new statutes and practices to address predatory evictions in the red zones featured in the map from the last section.

Bright Spots Schools and Their Best Practice

Schools in the Kansas City area that are in eviction heavy areas but maintain a low mobility rate are considered bright spot schools. The citywide mobility average is 37.6%. The following schools are Kansas City Public Schools located in high eviction zones but have a mobility rate of less than 30% (Bender 2017):

- Paseo Academy of Performing Arts
- Holliday Montessori
- Center Senior High School
- African Center College Prep Academy
- Foreign Language Academy
- Carver Dual Language
- Trailwoods Elementary

Most of these schools are KCPS Signature Schools that support highly motivated students with a special interest (KCPS). Preferred programs, competitive application processes, and prestigious opportunities or skills associated with the school increase the retention of that institution. An approach these schools use to overcome transience is offering unique programs or special themes that attract students and parents, despite obstacles. They also provide transportation to students in grades K-12 who live .5 miles or more away from the school they attend. This means that students attending these schools are not required to live in the eviction-heavy neighborhoods where the schools are located.

Trailwoods Elementary is the only school listed above that is not a signature school. Trailwoods focuses on parent and community engagement through various programs, initiatives,
and policies that contribute to student retention. LINC is a citizen-driven community collaborative involving efforts by the state of Missouri to work with neighborhood leaders, citizens, business, civic and labor leaders to improve the lives of children and families in the Kansas City region. LINC engages with Trailwoods Elementary by hiring individuals from the community to lead programs. The organization assists Trailwoods’ families by paying utility bills, providing groceries, uniform support, and access to the clothing closet. LINC helps to eliminate barriers that are attributed with families that are highly mobile. Family and Schools Together (FAST) is another organization that collaborates with Trailwoods Elementary for the betterment of families. They bring families together in dynamic groups to build supportive relationships across domains of family, school, and community (FAST INC 2017). FAST has organized a setting for families to come together for nutritional and health planning. They provide food and materials at the school site for families to learn and develop skills for sustainability. These skills are developed through modeling and replicating best practices of families that are already implementing healthy habits in the home. This unique instruction style allows families to learn from one another rather than an outside group, which creates a sense of kinship amongst parents at the school.

Trailwoods also has school specific policies that reinforce parent engagement and communication. Teachers are encouraged to make at least three positive parent contacts each week. During dismissal, the entire staff is available and expected to interact with parents outside of the building. In addition to parent engagement, Trailwoods is invested in ensuring their students are involved in enhancing the community. Each grade level is required to carry out a community outreach project every year, and the whole school does at least one community project together. According to Trailwoods principal Christy Harrison, “students don’t want to leave our school because they develop relationships, and so do their parents.”

City and State Recommendations for Student Mobility

1. Tracking Mobility Data

There are many ways cities and states can tackle student mobility for their communities. First, states should collect mobility rates every year across their school districts; currently, only Colorado, Missouri, Rhode Island, and Oregon have statutorily established annual reviews of this
data. This is a crucial step towards creating student stability because this information details how significant the problem is and where the problem is most pronounced. Additionally, both state and city level policymakers should prioritize policies that create more housing and economic stability for students and their families; specifically, affordable housing and living-wage job policies would greatly benefit mobile students (Rumberger 2015). Large metropolitan areas like New York City, Philadelphia, and Chicago have increased their affordable housing subsidies over the years to support low-income renters. Last year, the minimum wage was increased in 21 states and 22 cities after no action from the federal government; the increases are expected to give a full-time worker $40-80 extra dollars per week (Sahadi 2016). These proactive measures will help parents of mobile students find stability to keep their children in school.

2. Connecting Stakeholders

On a more specific-city level, school districts across the country have a variety of responses to student mobility. States should earmark Title I funds for highly mobile schools for these schools to provide extra training and programs to ensure integration of mid-year students. Schools should also consider impacts of school closures and provide supportive programming to mobile students created by closure choices (Rumberger 2015). The Urban Institute sponsored a roundtable event with various school districts and housing authorities to discuss the issue of student mobility; stakeholders were made aware of mutually beneficial services that each group offered. All cities benefited from creating strong collaborations and meaningful cross-county contacts to better understand and serve mobile students (Comey, Litschwartz and Pettit 2012). Another city-school collaboration that lightens the load of mobility would be virtually accessible transfer data; Oregon has successfully pioneered an online program that makes it simpler and faster for families and schools to transfer a student with his or her information. This strategy mitigates the harms experienced by a student who accrues preventable absences because of transfer paperwork.

3. Further Research

Education entrepreneurs are also beginning to search for answers to the demands of mobility issues. The Institute of Educational Sciences is accepting research grant applications for FY 2018 based on “Systemic Approaches to Educating Highly Mobile Students,” which will provide a best practice list of city and state-level interventions for this subset of students. The more communities begin to understand their local mobility problem, the sooner stakeholders can
draft workable solutions unique to their community needs. It will be beneficial for all cities striving to address their mobility issues to implement the best practices that will result from this pioneering research.

City and State Recommendations for Eviction Reform

1. **Voucher System**

   In his book, *Evicted*, Desmond claims the best solution to predatory evictions is a universal voucher program that allows all low-income renters to spend no more than 30% of their income on rent. Currently, the Housing Authority, funded by HUD, has a housing voucher system that serves as a rental assistance program; a tenant pays 30% of his or her adjusted monthly income to rent, the landlord maintains safe and sanitary standards for the tenant, and the Housing Authority makes housing assistance payments to cover the difference between what the tenant pays and what the landlord requires. Unfortunately, this is a limited program with limited resources: tenants oftentimes are put on a waiting list for many years before receiving a voucher. In the United States, 67% of poor renters receive no form of rental assistance—they are forced to rent from the unregulated housing market that may require up to 80% of their monthly income (Desmond 2016). Low-income renters need some form of financial support to afford safe and healthy homes for their families.

2. **Tenant Rights**

   Another recommendation to decrease the impacts of eviction would be to increase tenants’ rights. For example, public housing agency (PHA) tenants fight against unlawful and informal evictions, especially if a first eviction only came from nonpayment. Urban communities could protect their low-income renters from the cycle of the “eviction economy” by barring first eviction records so one nonpayment will not result in a descending cycle of housing quality for an evicted tenant. Minnesota and Illinois have passed some legislative reform to protect tenants when they win an eviction case or the proceedings are deemed improper, but tenants with limited resources are expected to seek this protection themselves (Dana 2017).

   Additionally, tenants at risk of eviction typically live in rental properties that fall below city codes. Oftentimes, these tenants’ pay exorbitant rates for properties with serious safety and health issues, like holes in windows, broken plumbing, or missing doors. Currently, tenants face
retaliatory actions from their landlords if they are behind in rent when they report an issue—the landlord can file for eviction the very same day (Dana 2017). Cities and states should look to create new case law that protects tenants’ right to demand acceptable housing, even if the tenant is behind on rent.

3. Rent Control

Another promising housing market tool would be rent control. Below are two different options metropolitan areas use to subsidize and regulate rent in their communities:

- New York City, NY: the longest example (since the 1920s) of rent control would be New York City, which has rent limits and guaranteed tenants’ rights legislated to protect the working class in the city. In response to emergency rental increases, the state created a program that municipalities could opt-into to secure regulated rent prices for their communities. According to the Furman Center for Real Estate and Urban Policy in 2011, 47.2% of New York City’s rental properties are rent-regulated.

- Alameda, CA: this city has used its Housing Authority to create a rental advocacy program to serve both landlords and tenants. Alameda created a Rental Review Advisory Committee in 2016 to implement an 8% cap increase on rent and a mandatory mediation process for rental increases by 5%; in 2017, the city council issued a ban on “no cause” evictions. This program was created in response to “no cause” evictions, or when landlords evicted tenants because they wanted to increase the rent or move in a family that could pay a higher rent. In 2016, the committee received 456 notices of rent hikes: 248 of these increases were mediated between the landlord and the tenant before a hearing, 62 rent hikes were considered valid, and 25 were ruled invalid (Boitano 2017). The countervailing groups in this community are the Alameda Renters Coalition, in strong favor of tying rental increases to the Consumer Price Index, and the California Apartment Association, a landlord advocate that warns against rent control as the growing cost of “tax free subsidies” for renters (Tavares 2016).

4. Right to Counsel

A larger systemic solution to unjust evictions is the right to counsel in housing court. Urban communities often find that landlord-tenant court does not provide adequate justice for low-income renters because these individuals typically have no access to attorney services. The Public Housing Center, a Baltimore nonprofit organization of housing court stakeholders, began
a grassroots initiative to create public support for the civil right to counsel. This organization has explained that while the start-up cost for subsidized representation in civil court proceedings is expensive, it will be cheaper in the long run compared to what the city pays for homelessness, eviction execution, and domestic abuse. Nonprofit organizations and volunteer lawyers have provided basic legal advice to renters facing eviction, and they have seen progress: the Maryland Legal Services Corps funded 36 nonprofits in 2016, and these organizations stopped 1,756 (Donovan 2017). According to the National Coalition for the Civil Right to Counsel, no state has any legislation in place to require a right to counsel in housing courts. New York City, as of 2017, is the first city to legally require the right to counsel for housing cases. After increasing public funding to legal counsel to tenants over three years, New York City has seen a 24% decrease in evictions (Kinney 2016). Washington D.C. and Philadelphia have begun to expand representation funding for tenants in housing courts; Boston, MA, is planning legislation to establish representation services for tenants as well (National Coalition for a Civil Right to Counsel n.d.)
Future Research and Action Steps

This section outlines future initiatives for the city regarding eviction and student mobility. Both areas of social policy recommend future ordinances, best practice guides, and potential interviews with stakeholders to build coalitions.

Steps on Eviction

The mayor should support any relevant legislation or statutes that could diminish the prevalence of evictions in the city. Currently, Mayor Pro Tempe Councilman Scott Wagner and his staff are working with the Environmental Health Division through the Kansas City Health Department to draft a Healthy Homes and Rental Inspection ordinance. Although exact language for this initiative has not been released, Councilman Wagner has explained that the ordinance will establish a basic code for safety and health standards that all rental properties must meet. Rental properties will be inspected, and if the property does not meet minimal standards, the city will design a plan with the landlord to ensure the improvements are made. General observations for this initiative show the need is great: nearly 50% of KC residents live in rental homes, which are half as likely to be tested for radon and twice as likely to have neglected maintenance (KCMOHD 2017). The potential unintended consequence of this program is the impact on low-income renters; if feasible, landlords may use rent hikes to pass the cost burden of rental improvements on to financially struggling tenants.

The coalition of individuals working on this inspection plan will be attending a conference through the National League of Cities at the end of this month to ascertain what, if any, impact rental housing inspection programs have on evictions and tenant rights. The mayor should reach out to members of this coalition to see what they have learned about the impact on evictions and to advocate for specific tenant-protection language in this initiative; contact information for members of the Healthy Homes team can be found in the Appendix.

Other steps to address the problem of eviction in Kansas City focus on city partnerships and deeper analysis of data. Schools liaisons for mobile or evicted families have explained that blighted communities (i.e. neighborhoods with abandoned homes, vacant lots, dumping sites, etc.) struggle to find suitable housing. The mayor should prioritize clean-up initiatives and
alternative purposing for blighted communities to encourage familial retention and property ownership in these areas. The mayor should also work closely with the Housing Authority to reduce its eviction count by following best practices in tenant adjudication, limiting the number of properties it places in high eviction or blighted neighborhoods, and offering more rental assistance vouchers to low-income renters.

**Steps on Mobility**

The best possible tool for schools struggling with high mobility would be a best practice guide from bright spot schools (see appendix for map and website identifying bright spot schools). The mayor’s office should interview principals and school leaders to gain knowledge of how they maintain a low mobility rate in a high eviction area. To better understand the relationship between low mobility and high eviction in the given areas, the interviewer should investigate the spatiality of students’ residential addresses and how it relates to the location of the schools. By seeing how some KC schools are succeeding in retaining students despite outside factors, other schools can replicate their practices to address other mobility issues.

Another step for carrying out the student mobility project is to examine how homelessness affects transience. Homeless students are more likely than other students to change schools not just several times in their school career, but multiple times in a single year (Sparks 2017). Students that experience homelessness remain more mobile than other students even after their families find stable homes (Sparks 2017). The mayor should review the resources offered under the McKinney Vento Act - a federal law that ensures immediate enrollment and educational stability for homeless children and youth, which can include evicted students. Kansas City Public School’s Office of Students in Transitions offers support for transportation, referrals to other services, and other resources based on specific needs. There are other programs in Kansas City and the Kansas City, Kansas, area that provide students with a stable living situation; Restart, Cornerstones of Care, Synergy, and 1400 Diplomas are implementing strategies to serve homeless or transient students. The individual researching this topic should consider the strategies used for homelessness and identify which strategies could be applied to mobile students as well.
Appendix

The first chart demonstrates the long-term impact of mobility in a school district. The chart demonstrates the juxtaposition between Lee’s Summit and Kansas City schools.

Chart 1: Feeder Systems and Mobility
Low Mobility Rate (MR) Schools in 2016: Lee’s Summit

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>MR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Woodland Elementary</td>
<td>9.89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highland Park</td>
<td>9.98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pleasant Lea</td>
<td>17.85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunset Valley</td>
<td>12.27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lee’s Summit Elementary</td>
<td>30.72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prairie View Elementary</td>
<td>15.88%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Pleasant Lea Middle School
MR: 13.11%

Lee’s Summit Sr. High School
MR: 10.08%
Graduation Rate: 91%

High Mobility Rate Schools in 2016: Kansas City

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>MR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gladstone Elementary</td>
<td>39.70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Elementary</td>
<td>37.65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whittier Elementary</td>
<td>56.69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phillis Wheatley</td>
<td>47.15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garfield Elementary</td>
<td>42.12%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Northeast Middle School
MR: 49.69%

Northeast High School
MR: 46.43%
Graduation Rate: 55%
Chart 2-5: Free-and-Reduced Lunch and Mobility
The following charts represent the relationship between poverty and mobility rates in Kansas City. FRL Percent is the percentage of students who qualify for free or reduced lunch at each school, which is a proven indicator of poverty. The trend lines show that, generally, the higher the FRL percent the higher mobility rate at the school as well.

Chart 2:
Chart 5:

**CHOICE SCHOOLS MOBILITY RATES 2016**

- De La Salle
- KIPP
- AIA
- Kauffman
- Crossroads
- Carver
- FLA
- U of A
- Brookside
- SV
Chart 6-8: County Mobility Rates and School Outliers
The next set of graphics identifies the schools in each county that are below or above the county average student mobility rate as measured by standard deviations. Each column has a percentage label to describe the relationship between outlier schools and the county average.

**Chart 6:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLAY COUNTY SCHOOLS: 22.5%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More than 32%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Chart 7:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLATTE COUNTY SCHOOLS: 18.9%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More than 24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tiffany Ridge Elementary Alfred L. Renner Elementary Pathfinder Elementary</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Chart 8:

| JACKSON COUNTY SCHOOLS: 30.4% |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| More than 47% | More than 64% | Less than 14% |
| Della Lamb | De LaSalle Charter | University Academy |
| Northeast Middle | Central Academy | Academie Lafayette |
| Academy for Integrated Arts | Central Middle | Blue Springs South |
| Satchel Paige Elementary | George Melcher | Blue Springs Senior |
| Alta Vista Middle | Pitcher | Delta Woods Middle |
| Kipp Endeavor Academy | B. Banneker | Voy Spears Jr. |
| Longfellow Elementary | | Lee’s Summit Senior |
| Faxon Elementary | | Lee’s Summit North |
| MLK Jr. Elementary | | Lee’s Summit West |
| Academy for Integrated Arts | | Summit Lakes Middle |
| Troost Elementary | | Pleasant Lea Middle |
| Wendell Phillips Elementary | | Greenwood Elem. |
| Whittier Elementary | | Cedar Creek Elem. |
| Phyllis Wheatley Elementary | | Longview Farm Elem. |
| Hogan Prep Elementary | | Richardson Elem. |
| Hogan Prep Middle | | Trailridge Elem. |
| John T. Hartman Elementary | | Underwood Elem. |
| Santa Fe Elementary | | Sunset Valley Elem. |
| Symington Elementary | | Highland Park Elem. |
| Ingels Elementary | | Hawthorn Hill Elem. |
| Abraham Mallinson Elementary | | Woodland Elem. |
| | | Summit Pointe Elem. |
| | | High Grove Elem. |
| | | Lone Jack High |
| | | Lone Jack Middle |
| | | Lincoln College Prep |
| | | Foreign Language Academy |
Chart 9: Kansas City Schools and Mobility Outliers

The following table shows the spread of KC-specific schools compared to the city average mobility rate of 37.98%. By using statistically significant standard deviations, the research shows there are more schools in Kansas City that have significantly higher mobility rates than lower rates.

### Chart 9:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1 Deviation Away</th>
<th>Below Average</th>
<th>Above Average</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>19.57% or Below:</td>
<td>56.39% or above:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2 Deviations Away</th>
<th>1.16% or Below:</th>
<th>74.8% or Above:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Academie Lafeyette</td>
<td>Central Academy of Excellence</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Total | 10 | 15 |

Notes on methodology: in calculating average mobility rates and standard deviation outliers, schools with mobility rates over 100 were excluded from the calculations. These five schools were coded as incorrect reports and not used for aggregate measures. Other schools with “null” or no data regarding total transfers (meaning the number of mobile students) were left out of the calculations because of insufficient data.
Map 1: Bright Spot Schools

The following image is a map of the schools in high eviction zones with low mobility rates.

The full map with names of the schools can be accessed at the following url:
**Interview Recommendations:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
<th>Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Naser Jouhari     | Director of Environmental Health              | Key researcher on rental ordinance; part of the coalition meeting with NLC to discuss ordinances impact on affordable housing; working with landlord association. | Email: Naser.Jouhari@kcmo.org  
                    |                                               |                                                          | Phone: 816-513-6198                                         |
| Stacey Duitsman   | Administrative Officer of Environmental Health| Key researcher on rental ordinance; part of the coalition meeting with NLC to discuss ordinances impact on affordable housing; working with landlord association. | Email: Stacie.Duitsman@kcmo.org  
                    |                                               |                                                          | Phone: 816-513-6186                                         |
| Brent Schondelmeyer| Deputy Director, Community Engagement          | Responsible for LINC’s overall communications efforts including its newsletter, website, public affairs and other external affairs. -Mobility info | Email: bschonde@kclinic.org  
                    |                                               |                                                          | Phone: 816-889-5050                                         |
| Melanie Scott     | LINC Coordinator, Trailwoods Elementary       | Successful execution of LINC’s FAST program and other community building initiatives -Best Practice Guide | Email: mscott@kclinc.org  
                    |                                               |                                                          | Phone: 816-418-3250                                         |
| Damon Guinn       | Assistant Director, L. P. Cookingham Institute of Urban Affairs | Resource on extending continuum of care for mobile students -Connections to stakeholders | Email: guinnd@umkc.edu  
                    |                                               |                                                          | Phone: 816-235-6710                                         |
References


Sparks, Sarah D. "Student Mobility: How It Affects Learning." *Education Week*, August 11, 2016: Webpage.
