APPENDIX 7

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSING ENROLLMENT TIMING WITH DISPLACED PARENTS AND YOUTH

Questions for Parents Enrolling Their Child in School After a Major Disaster

* Did your child witness any violent or traumatic events during or after the disaster?
* Does he/she become very upset, sad, or angry when separated from you?
* Would it be safer, healthier, or better for your child to spend the day in school rather than where you are staying right now?
* Have you talked to your child about how he/she feels about returning to school? What did he/she say?
* Has your child seen a counselor or therapist since the disaster?
* Would you be willing to talk to a school counselor or social worker to help them better support your child?
* Would you be able to accompany your child on a tour of the school and to meet his/her teacher(s)?
* Would you be able to ride the school bus/walk with your child to and from school on the first day?
* What was your child’s previous school like? How many children went to the school? How many children were in your child’s class(es)? Was your child’s teacher(s) a man or a woman? We may be able to place your child in a similar school or classroom.
* Does your child have any relatives or friends attending school in this school district? We may be able to place your child in the same school or class as those students.
* Did your child participate in clubs, sports, or other activities? We would like your child to participate in those activities in our school, too.
* What can we do to help your child feel comfortable in school?
* Do you feel your child is ready to return to school?

Questions for Unaccompanied Youth Enrolling in School After a Major Disaster

* Did you witness any violent or traumatic events during or after the disaster?
* Would it be safer, healthier, or better for you to spend the day in school rather than where you are staying?
* Have you seen a counselor or therapist since the disaster?
* Would you be willing to talk to a school counselor or social worker to help them better support you?
* How do you feel about returning to school?
* What was your previous school like? How many students went to the school? How many students were in your classes? We may be able to place you in a similar school or classes.
* Do you know any other students in this school district? We may be able to place you in the same school or class as those students.
* Did you participate in clubs, sports, or other activities? We would like you to participate in those activities in our school, too.
* What can we do to help you feel comfortable in school?
* Do you feel you are ready to return to school?

Note: Since many of these questions may provoke strong emotions in the youth, it may be best for a trained school counselor or social worker to conduct the interview.