

## **Know Your Rights & Responsibilities If You Have a Work-Related Illness or Injury**

To All Employees:

### **Basic Facts About Pinellas County Schools' Workers' Compensation Program**

- Workers' Compensation coverage is paid by Pinellas County Schools at no cost to you.
- It is your responsibility to report a work-related accident or illness to your supervisor within 24 hours whenever possible.
- This coverage will pay for the most reasonable and necessary medical care if you have an accident or illness arising out of or in the course of your employment.
- Pinellas County Schools has the right to choose the medical providers who will treat you.
- Workers' Compensation coverage also will replace part of your lost wages if your authorized workers' compensation doctor says you must be out of work for a certain length of time because of a work-related injury or illness.

*Johns Eastern*, our third party administrator, determines compensability, processes, manages, and pays our workers' compensation claims.

### **Employee Responsibilities Regarding a Work-Related Illness or Injury**

1. In the event of a work-related illness or injury, notify your supervisor/manager immediately and obtain treatment from a physician within the provider network. (Treatment for a serious or life-threatening emergency may be received from any emergency facility.) A list of providers is posted at your work site.
2. Your designated physician may authorize any needed specialty care. Treatment received without approval from our third party administrator is not covered.
3. After you receive your initial treatment for a work-related illness or injury, a phone call may be initiated from our workers' compensation adjuster or nurse coordinator, who will follow up on your medical status as needed.

### **Problem Solving Process**

If you have questions regarding how to obtain a referral to a network health-care provider or change your physician, please contact Risk Management at 588-6196.

This information is intended to help you understand both your rights and responsibilities under Florida statute. Our goal is to provide you with the highest quality of care to assist you in your recovery and return to gainful employment.