## **Superintendent** Ken Kenworthy

## School District of Okeechobee County



863-462-5000

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Joe Arnold
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Okeechobee County School Board 700 SW 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue Okeechobee, FL 34974

Re: Attached Notice "New Health Insurance Marketplace Coverage Options and Your Health Coverage"

To: All New Employees

It has been several years since the Patient Protection Affordable Care Act, more commonly known as Health Care Reform was enacted. In order to comply with Health Care Reform we have had to make changes in certain benefits our plan provides as well as provide several new notices to employees.

Health Care Reform imposes a notice requirement on employers in regard to its new employees. This notice (attached) goes to ALL new employees, even those who are not eligible to participate in our group health plans.

Receipt of this notice does not indicate that you are eligible for or covered by any health plan. Eligibility to participate in our group health plans and applicable enrollment continues to be based on an employee meeting the eligibility and participation requirements as set out in the terms of the plans.

Therefore, if you currently are not able to participate in the plan because of not meeting the eligibility and participation requirements, receipt of this Notice does not change or affect those participation requirements.

Although the attached notice relates to coverage options available through a Health Insurance Marketplace (more commonly referred to as the "Exchange"), Okeechobee County School Board has no information or expertise on those options. Okeechobee County School Board's human resources/payroll representatives are not allowed to answer questions regarding those options. Therefore, you will need to consult with other resources regarding any questions you may have about Exchange coverage options, programs like Medicare, Medicaid and CHIP, or any coverage other than our group health plans.

You should maintain the attached notice with your health coverage information. It should be kept regardless of whether you have coverage through Okeechobee County School Board, coverage under another group health plan (e.g., one offered by a spouse's employer) or individual coverage.

Sincerely,

Okeechobee County School Board