

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FL DIANNE L. HOWARD DIRECTOR

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Contact: Megan Usow, 561-351-4572 megan.usow@palmbeachschools.org Action By: INFORMATION ONLY

TO: All Principals

FROM: Janis Andrews, Ed.D., Chief Academic Officer . Michael J. Burke, Chief Operating Officer

## SUBJECT: FLORIDA KIDCARE SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP

Florida KidCare is children's health insurance that is available to every school-age child in Florida who is in need of medical coverage. In September, you received postcards to distribute within your school. The School District has since received a grant to assist families in obtaining health insurance. This grant will provide application assistance and information to families who would like to apply for Florida KidCare.

Megan Usow is our new Florida KidCare Project Coordinator. She is here to assist families in the application process for Florida KidCare. We are asking for your immediate assistance in promoting Florida KidCare to families in Palm Beach County. It is our goal to have an appointed KidCare Liaison at each school, to promote KidCare on every school website, and to schedule an enrollment event this school year.

There are as many as 500,000 uninsured children in Palm Beach County. Promoting this program and supporting our efforts to hold events in your school has its benefits. Data supports that having health insurance means children have fewer preventable diseases, fewer sick days away from school, and a significantly improved quality of life. For more information, visit <a href="http://www.palmbeachschools.org/riskmgmt/floridakidcare.asp">http://www.palmbeachschools.org/riskmgmt/floridakidcare.asp</a>.

In the coming months, as Megan contacts your school, principals can support KidCare outreach efforts in the following ways:

- Designate a staff member as a school liaison
- Add KidCare Information to your school website
- Provide KidCare materials in the front office and post information around the school
- Book and promote KidCare registration events
- Provide access to your computer labs for registration events

EWG/JA/MJB/DLH/KBS:lb/du

Approved:

E. Wayne Gent, Superintendent

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