

# CARL JUNCTION R-1 SCHOOL DISTRICT

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## Certified Employee Handbook

Carl Junction R-1 Schools

Revised – August 26, 2024

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**CARL JUNCTION R-1 SCHOOL DISTRICT  
CERTIFIED STAFF EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK**

**ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**

Dr. Phillip Cook	Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Theresa Wilson	Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum/Instruction
Dr. David Pyle	Assistant Superintendent for Operations
Mrs. Kari Arehart	Early Childhood/Primary K-1 Principal
Mr. D.J. Driskill	Early Childhood/Primary K-1 Assistant Principal
Mr. Jacob Stevenson	Primary 2-3 Principal
Mr. Austin Rhodes	Primary 2-3 Assistant Principal
Dr. Gretchen DeMasters	Intermediate Principal
Mr. Aaron Snow	Intermediate Assistant Principal
Mr. Grant McDonald	Intermediate Assistant Principal
Mr. Scott Sawyer	Junior High School Principal
Mrs. Susan Hogard	Junior High School Assistant Principal
Mr. Kyle Williams	Senior High School Principal
Dr. Nicole Keller	Senior High School Assistant Principal
Mr. Shawn Mayes	Senior High School Assistant Principal
Mr. Rich Neria	Athletic Director
Mr. Adam Neldeberg	CJU Administrator
Mrs. Cynthia Jackson	Satellite School Administrator
Mrs. Camie Wilson	Special Services Director
Mr. Marshal Graham	Technology Director
Mr. Shane Lee	Maintenance Director
Mr. Jared Richmond	Transportation Director
Mrs. Lindsey Stevenson	Nutrition and Wellness Director
Mrs. Tracie Skaggs	Public Relations Director

**CENTRAL OFFICE STAFF**

Mrs. Jennifer Kennedy	Secretary to the Superintendent Secretary to the Board of Education
Mrs. Mary Matney	Secretary to the Asst. Supt. for Curriculum/Instruction
Mrs. Heather Swarens	Central Office Receptionist Secretary to the Asst. Supt. for Operations Substitute Teacher Coordinator
Ms. Robin Grosse	Payroll/Finance
Mrs. Sarah Knisley	Accounts Payable

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Mr. Larry Cowger, President	Mrs. Melinda Brown
Mr. Travis Spencer, Vice- President	Dr. Rob Herron
Mr. Brian Massey	Mr. Kasey Cowger
Mr. Robert Hays	



## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

### **Equal Employment Opportunity**

The Carl Junction R-1 School District does not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, military status, or on any other basis prohibited by law. Employment decisions will be made on the basis of each applicant's job qualifications, experience and abilities.

**As an employee of the Carl Junction R-1 School District, staff members are agents of the school and are bound by the same policies of confidentiality as the local board.**

### **Performance Evaluations**

All employees of the district will be evaluated on their job performance by their assigned supervisor at least annually. Written evaluations will be completed on district approved forms and placed in their personnel file.

### **Code of Conduct**

All school staff members are expected to conduct themselves and dress in a professional manner (as deemed by district/building administration) at all times while serving in their capacity as a district employee. All staff members are expected to follow policies adopted by the Board of Education.

### **Employee I.D. Badges**

All district employees are required to wear an identification badge while on any campus. This badge is also used for entrance into district sporting events. If employee identification badges are lost or damaged a replacement badge must be requested as quickly as possible. Employees may be required to pay \$2.50 for the cost of a replacement badge.

### **Jury Duty**

Staff Members who are called for jury duty will not be docked pay.

### **Mileage Reimbursement**

The Board of Education will reimburse a school district staff member \$.55 per mile for use of a personal auto when approved for school use by the appropriate department administrator.

### **Working Athletic Events**

Teachers/Staff may work evening/weekend athletic events. The rate of pay varies depending on the event and position. Contact the athletic director for current rates.

### **Certification**

Certification is done online through DESE. It is the responsibility of the certificated staff member to keep their teaching credentials current. Certificated staff should re-apply to the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) thirty (30) days prior to the expiration date of certification.

Professional and administrative employees are exempt from overtime pay and are employed on a 9, 9.5, 10, 11 or 12-month basis, according to the work schedules set by the district. A school calendar is adopted each year designating the work schedule for all employees.



The annual salary for teachers is based on 181 days. This includes all instructional days and in-service/work days as set forth in the board adopted calendar.

### **Prior Experience Allowed**

Certified staff members new to the district will be allowed to bring in a maximum of 20 years of previous public school experience when being placed on the salary schedule.

### **Movement on the Salary Schedule**

Anyone planning on moving across the salary schedule for the next school year should submit an “Intent for Movement” form to Central Office. An all staff email will be sent out in March of each year with the form attached. The forms will be due by a specified date in April. Upon completion of graduate hours, submit *official* transcripts showing the additional hours. The *official* transcripts must be *received* in the Central Office no later than September 1. *Photocopied or faxed transcripts or grade reports will not be accepted.*

### **Substitute Pay**

Substitute teachers shall receive \$100.00 per day (\$110.00, if a District retired teacher). Substitute teachers who teach in the same classroom for 10 or more consecutive days shall be paid \$105.00 per day (\$115.00, if a District retired teacher). A part-time, certified staff member who serves as a substitute during non-scheduled teaching time will receive \$100.00 per day if they sub on a non-assigned day. If the certified staff member serves as a substitute for one-half of the day, they will receive \$50.00 per day.

### **Tobacco-Free District**

School Board Policy AH specifically prohibits all employees from smoking, using tobacco products or vaping products in all district facilities, on district transportation and on all district grounds at all times.

All district employees and employees hired by contracted services are prohibited from using tobacco and vaping products on school property.

As employees of the district, we have a responsibility to set an example of wellness and healthy lifestyles for our students.



**CERTIFIED PAY SCHEDULE**

	BS	BS+8G	BS+16G	BS+24G	MS	MS+8G	MS+16G
Step 1	40,000.00	40,800.00	41,600.00	42,400.00	43,200.00	44,000.00	44,800.00
Step 2	40,800.00	41,600.00	42,400.00	43,200.00	44,000.00	44,800.00	45,600.00
Step 3	41,600.00	42,400.00	43,200.00	44,000.00	44,800.00	45,600.00	46,400.00
Step 4	42,400.00	43,200.00	44,000.00	44,800.00	45,600.00	46,400.00	47,200.00
Step 5	43,200.00	44,000.00	44,800.00	45,600.00	46,400.00	47,200.00	48,000.00
Step 6	44,000.00	44,800.00	45,600.00	46,400.00	47,200.00	48,000.00	48,800.00
Step 7	44,800.00	45,600.00	46,400.00	47,200.00	48,000.00	48,800.00	49,600.00
Step 8	45,600.00	46,400.00	47,200.00	48,000.00	48,800.00	49,600.00	50,400.00
Step 9	46,400.00	47,200.00	48,000.00	48,800.00	49,600.00	50,400.00	51,200.00
Step 10	47,200.00	48,000.00	48,800.00	49,600.00	50,400.00	51,200.00	52,000.00
Step 11	48,000.00	48,800.00	49,600.00	50,400.00	51,200.00	52,000.00	52,800.00
Step 12	48,800.00	49,600.00	50,400.00	51,200.00	52,000.00	52,800.00	53,600.00
Step 13	48,800.00	50,400.00	51,200.00	52,000.00	52,800.00	53,600.00	54,400.00
Step 14	48,800.00	51,200.00	52,000.00	52,800.00	53,600.00	54,400.00	55,200.00
Step 15	48,800.00	51,200.00	52,800.00	53,600.00	54,400.00	55,200.00	56,000.00
Step 16	48,800.00	51,200.00	53,600.00	54,400.00	55,200.00	56,000.00	56,800.00
Step 17	48,800.00	51,200.00	54,400.00	55,200.00	56,000.00	56,800.00	57,600.00
Step 18	48,800.00	51,200.00	54,400.00	56,000.00	56,800.00	57,600.00	58,400.00
Step 19	48,800.00	51,200.00	54,400.00	56,800.00	57,600.00	58,400.00	59,200.00
Step 20	48,800.00	51,200.00	54,400.00	56,800.00	58,400.00	59,200.00	60,000.00
Step 21	48,800.00	51,200.00	54,400.00	56,800.00	59,200.00	60,000.00	60,800.00
Step 22	48,800.00	51,200.00	54,400.00	56,800.00	60,000.00	60,800.00	61,600.00
Step 23	48,800.00	51,200.00	54,400.00	56,800.00	60,800.00	61,600.00	62,400.00
Step 24	48,800.00	51,200.00	54,400.00	56,800.00	61,600.00	62,400.00	63,200.00
Step 25	48,800.00	51,200.00	54,400.00	56,800.00	62,400.00	63,200.00	64,000.00
Step 26	48,800.00	51,200.00	54,400.00	56,800.00	63,200.00	64,000.00	64,800.00
Step 27	48,800.00	51,200.00	54,400.00	56,800.00	64,000.00	64,800.00	65,600.00



## PERSONNEL/PAYROLL RECORDS

No changes may be made to payroll deductions, tax withholdings, or direct deposit information after the last day of the current school year. Please notify Central Office in cases of emergency or contact Central Office in July for necessary steps to make the changes effective for the following school year.

### Paychecks

Employees of the district are paid through direct deposit on the 23rd of the month. If the 23rd falls on a weekend, payroll will be deposited on the Friday prior to the 23rd. The district is paperless. Paystubs can be viewed at <https://www.my-estub.com>.

**Personal information will only be released to the employees.**

**NOTE:** A notification period of 30 days is **required** to activate the direct deposit information. Please do not change bank accounts without first notifying the payroll department. Doing so causes serious problems in routing payroll and will result in a delay in receiving pay, possibly until the next monthly pay date.

*Since all summer payrolls are processed in June, the **LAST DAY OF SCHOOL** is the cut-off for **ANY** changes in the current school year.*

An employee's payroll statement contains detailed information including deductions, withholding information, and the amount of leave accumulated.

### Cafeteria Plans and Annuities

The district allows employee deductions for the purpose of annuities/investments from the following companies: American Fidelity (417-631-1155), Heartland (417-673-0233), Horace Mann (417-850-4997), Valic (417-772-2259), and Edward Jones Investments (417-483-7388). If an employee wishes to meet with one of these representatives, please make arrangements to do so off campus unless the representative is scheduled on campus during the open enrollment period or has received special permission from the Central Office to be on campus.

### Name and Address Changes

It is important that employment records be kept up-to-date. Employees should notify the Central Office if there are any changes or corrections to their name, home address, home telephone number, marital status or emergency contact information. It is the employee's responsibility to notify the Central Office of any changes to beneficiary information. It is also the employee's responsibility to make necessary demographic changes on state certification documents. Upon notification, the Central Office will send the required forms to the employee for completion.

**NOTE:** These changes will not appear on payroll records during the summer months. Be sure to forward mail during this period. Changes will be seen on pay-stubs beginning in September.

**Please be aware that by federal law we cannot change names on any personnel information without receiving a copy of the social security card showing the name change.**



## **RETIREMENT / RESIGNATION / TERMINATION**

### **Termination of Employment**

Payment for employee insurance will stop at the end of the month the employee terminates. Insurance may be continued under COBRA provisions at the employee's expense. Forms for COBRA coverage will be sent to the last known home address.

### **Early Notification of Resignation Incentive: Adopted 2011-2012 School Year**

Any full-time certified or 12-month district level staff member who submits a resignation by the dates listed below, effective at the end of the contract year, and completes the contract year in good standing with the District, will receive, upon completion of contractual duties, the corresponding early resignation incentive, based on qualifying years of service to the district. Retired employees returning to work in the District are not eligible for incentive pay a second time.

- *Please note resignations/retirements effective prior to the end of the contract year are not eligible for incentive pay.*
- *The district considers an employee retired when **at least one** of the following criteria is met:*
  - *Employee will be drawing retirement benefits from PSRS/PEERS*
  - *Employee will be receiving social security benefits*
  - *Employee worked for the Carl Junction School District for 25 years or more*

Incentives for part-time certified staff will be based on the same portion of the day they work at the time of termination, i.e., a two-hour per day employee would receive 25% of the qualifying incentive.

<b>Notification Date</b>	<b>Incentive</b>
January 15	\$500
February 15	\$375
March 15	\$250

Multiplying factor to be applied based on qualifying years of service:

<b>Consecutive Years of Employment Immediately Preceding Date of Termination Amount</b>	<b>Multiplier</b>
10-14	1.4
15-19	1.6
20-24	1.8
25+	2.0

*Example: A teacher who has been employed with the District for 17 consecutive years and meets the requirements for early incentive pay by turning in their resignation on or prior to January 15 would receive:*

<i>January 15 =</i>	<i>\$500</i>
<i>17 years = multiplier of</i>	<i><u>X 1.6</u></i>
<i><b>Total Incentive</b></i>	<i><b>\$800</b></i>



## **Exit Survey and Procedures**

An exit survey will be provided to all employees who give notification of separation to be effective at the end of the current school year. This will include information regarding continuation of benefits. Separating employees are asked to provide the district with a forwarding address and phone number. All district keys, I.D. badges and property must be returned upon separation from employment. The district may withhold the cost of any items not returned from the final paycheck.



## **LEAVES AND ABSENCES**

### **All leave must be reported through AESOP.**

The district offers employees paid and unpaid leaves of absence in times of personal need. **(Certified staff who work part-time flexible schedules are not eligible for sick/personal leave days.)** This section of the handbook describes the basic types of leave available and restrictions on leaves of absence. Employees who have personal needs that will require long leaves of absence should contact their immediate supervisor for counseling about leave options, continuation of benefits and communicating with the district.

### **STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT TO ADHERE TO FMLA REGULATIONS**

Employees who take an unpaid leave of absence may continue their insurance benefits at their own expense. Health care benefits for employees on leave authorized under the Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) will be paid by the district as they were when they were working.

Employees requiring an absence of a minimum of at least 10 days should request the absence under the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA). For information on the criteria and required forms please contact the Central Office.

Regardless of the reason for the absence (sick leave, personal, bereavement or school business), the staff member must report the absence through AESOP **prior to the absence** and have it approved by the building principal or immediate supervisor.

### **Sick Leave**

All district staff employed for 9, 9.5, 10, or 10.5 months shall receive ten days of sick leave each year. District staff employed for 11 months shall receive eleven days of sick leave each year. District staff employed for 12 months shall receive twelve days of sick leave each year. Leave is granted for the following reasons: illness of the employee or illness of an immediate family member, which shall consist of spouse, children, parents, grandparents, grandchildren, siblings of employee or employee's spouse or any other family member residing with the employee.

\* Part-time certified staff who work a block schedule (work 3 days one week and 2 days the next week), will only receive five (5) days of sick leave.

- New hires beginning employment after the first month of the contract year will receive one sick day per month left in the contract year for the first year of employment.

### **Bereavement**

All district staff may use sick leave due to the death of an immediate family member. Under bereavement, immediate family members shall consist of: spouse, parent, brothers, sisters, current brother-in-law, current sister-in-law, spouse's parent, children, grandparents, grandchildren or any persons who are wholly dependent upon the district staff member or spouse. In addition, district employees may use up to two (2) days of sick leave each year to attend funerals of persons other than those covered under immediate family members. These must receive approval from the building administrator.



## **Personal Leave**

District employees are eligible for two (2) days per year for personal and/or business leave provided the employee informs the building principal/or supervisor within two (2) weeks prior to the date of the anticipated absence. Use of personal days during the months of August and May and in conjunction with school breaks is discouraged and at the discretion of the building administrator. **Employees who have accumulated 120 sick leave days by July 1 of each year will be granted a third personal leave day fully paid.**

*Personal Leave is not accumulated. Beginning in the 2005/2006 school year, unused personal leave will roll over to accrued sick leave at the end of the school year.*

**NOTE:** Staff members hired after January 1 will receive one personal leave day for that fiscal year. Staff members hired after March 1 are not eligible for personal leave days during the fiscal year of hire.

## **Calculation of Leave**

Sick/Personal Leave will be calculated on an hourly basis determined by the scheduled workday. For example:

If the employee's normal workday is from 8:00 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.:

- Arrive after 9:00 a.m. but arrive by 11:45 a.m., docked a half day of leave
- Arrive after 11:45 a.m., docked a full day of leave
- Leave after 11:45 a.m., docked a half day of leave
- Leave before 11:45 a.m., docked a full day of leave

If the employee's normal workday is from 7:45 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.:

- Arrive after 8:45 a.m. but arrive by 11:30 a.m., docked a half day of leave
- Arrive after 11:30 a.m., docked a full day of leave
- Leave after 11:30 a.m., docked a half day of leave
- Leave before 11:30 a.m., docked a full day of leave

**NOTE:** This does not apply to staff members who work less than six hours. Sick leave is charged at a full day for these individuals if more than one hour is missed.

***Absences of less than one hour may be taken as a dock in pay or as a half-day of leave, at the discretion of the employee. Any special circumstances are at the discretion of the building administrator. Excessive absences will be handled as a performance evaluation issue.***

## **Payment for Unused Sick Leave**

After 120 days of sick leave is accumulated, certified staff will be paid \$25 for each day above the 120 days not used at the end of the year. Upon retiring, and criteria to receive retirement benefits is met, a certified staff member will be paid ½ the current regular substitute rate for each accumulated sick leave day.

***To be eligible, the employee must notify the Board of Education in writing no later than April 15 that they are retiring at the end of the school year.***



## **INSURANCE BENEFITS**

For employee benefit purposes, full-time certified staff work 30 or more hours per week.

**NOTE:** The employee portion of insurance premiums is automatically deducted from monthly pay. However, if a change is made to remove or add family members from a plan, these changes must be made prior to the 24<sup>th</sup> of the month or the employee will be responsible for the next month's premium and it will not be refunded.

**NOTE:** Changes in health coverage for qualifying events are much more strict than in the past. Changes in coverage are only allowed in the event of job loss, marital status, birth/adoption of a dependent child or death. These are the only exceptions to adding or dropping a dependent during the coverage year.

Changes to employee benefits must be made during the designated open enrollment period. No changes will be accepted during the summer months except for a change in marital status, birth of a child, death or job loss. These changes will not be reflected immediately. It is advised that mail be forwarded during the summer. Deductions will be accumulated over the summer and will be deducted from September pay.



## **SICK LEAVE POOL**

### **Purpose**

The purpose of the Sick Leave Pool is to furnish a continuing income for district staff members who are faced with a major illness or accident and have used up all of their accumulated leave days (sick and personal). This pool is not designed for brief absences after sick leave is used up, or for family illness, death or business purposes.

### **Formulation and Administration**

a. Each district staff member desiring to belong to the Sick Leave Pool, shall contribute one day of his/her annual sick leave to the pool during each of the first five years of employment.

b. A district staff member may be eligible to draw from the pool after using all of his or her accumulated sick leave and personal leave days. The staff member shall submit a written request to the superintendent. The letter must state that the employee gives permission for the superintendent to share the employee's records with the Sick Leave Committee. In addition, the staff member will be required to submit a letter from a physician stating the nature of the illness and that he or she is unable to work due to said illness. The superintendent will present the request to the Sick Leave Pool Committee (there is a separate committee for certified and non-certified) for consideration. The Sick Leave Committee or the Board shall maintain the right to require an examination by a physician of its choice, and if such an examination is required; it shall be at the expense of the Board. The staff member's past record of absenteeism may be taken into consideration by the Sick Leave Committee before days are granted.

c. The requirements stated in paragraph "b" would be required for each event regardless of whether or not the staff member has previously drawn from the Sick Leave Pool during that year.

d. Staff members who have met all requirements and have completed the designated teaching period (see below) in the Carl Junction R-1 School District may draw days from the pool as follows:

- 1) Beginning first-year staff members may draw up to 15 days
- 2) Staff members who are beginning their second year - 30 days
- 3) Staff members beginning their third year - 60 days
- 4) Staff members beginning their fourth year - 90 days
- 5) Staff members beginning their fifth year and longer - 130 days

e. Termination of the staff member's services in the district automatically terminates membership in the Sick Leave Pool and will not have these days refunded.

f. The Board reserves the right to review decisions of the Sick Leave Committee, and to reverse, amend, revise or uphold the Sick Leave Committee's decision.



- g. The Sick Leave Pool benefits and contributions for part-time staff members shall be prorated in proportion to their employment agreement.
- h. If days are depleted at any given time, the members may be requested to volunteer another day. The decision to require additional days shall be made by the Sick Leave Committee if, in their opinion, insufficient days are available in any given year.
- i. Each staff member upon hire will be offered an opportunity to join the Sick Leave Pool.
- j. No staff member during his or her tenure in the district may use more than a total of 130 days from the Sick Leave Pool.
- k. The Sick Leave Pool shall consist of the following members:

Certified: Eight members, one certified staff member from each of the six buildings (EC/K-1, P2/3, Intermediate, Junior High, High School, and Satellite) with the remaining two members to be designated by superintendent. The person representing the building, from which the request for sick leave days is being made, will abstain from voting on the request.

Non-Certified: Six members appointed by the superintendent, one each from food services, custodial staff, secretarial staff, combined staff of nurses, teacher's aides and bus mechanics and two additional members.



## **WORKERS' COMPENSATION**

Any injury that occurs while performing job-related duties should be reported to the building administrator or immediate supervisor. The reporting process includes three forms: Claim/Injury Report Internal Form, Workers' Compensation Treatment Authorization, and Injured Worker's Prescription Information Sheet.

### **Claim/Injury Report Internal Form**

This form must be completed immediately and sent to the Secretary to the Superintendent, who will file the claim. This form should be completed and filed regardless of whether or not medical treatment is sought.

### **Workers' Compensation Treatment Authorization**

The top portion of this form (employee information) must be completed if the injured employee seeks medical treatment. An administrator/supervisor or nurse must sign the treatment authorization form and contact Central Office. *The injured employee must take the completed Workers' Compensation Treatment Authorization form to Freeman OccuMed, 3201 McClelland Blvd., Joplin, for treatment.*

*\*For serious injuries occurring after hours, go to the Freeman Emergency room and contact the appropriate department supervisor.*

### **Injured Worker's Prescription Information Sheet**

If an OccuMed or emergency room physician prescribes medication, this form must be presented to the providing pharmacy by the injured staff member.



## **EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

The Carl Junction R-I School District (District) recognizes that all of us want to be at our best for those who depend on us. When we have personal challenges though, it can negatively affect our work and home lives.

This policy establishes the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) for employees of the District to receive assessment, referral, and short-term intervention services for problems present in areas of work, daily living, finances, quality of life, health or interpersonal relationships, as these relate to behavioral health. The goal of this program is to initiate or provide up to the first three visits free of charge to District employees. Certified and classified employees who are eligible for district health insurance coverage, regardless of whether they are enrolled, will be eligible for EAP benefits. At the time of the appointment, Ozark Center will ask you to sign a form stating you are eligible for the EAP. If it is later determined that you were not eligible, your insurance or other payer sources will be billed and you will be responsible for any applicable copayments/deductibles. If you have questions about whether you are eligible for health insurance coverage (and therefore EAP services), please contact Human Resources.

The role of Employee Assistance Program Coordinator is assigned to the Lead Nurse, who will serve as liaison between the District, Ozark Center and other resource agencies.

In collaboration with Ozark Center and beginning February 2019, the district will offer employees the benefit of mental health services as follows:

1. All referrals will be voluntary, self-referrals. No mandatory referrals will be made, although district staff may recommend participation.
2. The EAP Coordinator is available to advise employees of the EAP procedures, but employees must initiate mental health services by contacting the Ozark Center:
  - EAP Coordinator
    - Direct Line (417) 649-5710
    - District Office (417) 649-7026, extension 2108
    - Email [amiller@cjr1.org](mailto:amiller@cjr1.org)
  - Ozark Center
    - Direct Line (417) 347-7999
    - District Office (417) 649-7026, extension 2225
3. An Ozark Center Crisis Hotline is available 24 hours per day at (800) 247-0661 or (417) 347-7720 should you or your family members need emergency crisis services. These services should be used for crisis situations only and are free of charge. They are not considered EAP services and are typically used when emergencies outside of Ozark Center's typical work week occur.



4. When you contact Ozark Center, a professional will listen to your concerns and provide support or connect you with the appropriate resources.
5. Services will be available on campus in Room #38 in the east hall of the Instructional Services Center (ISC) or as arranged with Ozark Center.
6. Address issues early:
  - Emotions, anxiety, depression, stress
  - Grief, loss and life adjustments
  - Relationships, children, marital conflicts
  - Healthy lifestyle
7. Employees will have the opportunity to receive three sessions under the EAP program for outpatient assessment and evaluation and counseling (does not include medication services). These three sessions will be paid by the District and no fee or copay will be billed to the Employee. The free sessions will be available once per employee.
8. Charges for services exceeding the initial three free visits are the responsibility of the employee but may be coordinated through health insurance.
9. Detailed information about an Employee's care and treatment will not be shared with the District without you providing informed consent. Only a medical record number, your name, date of service, and billing code/description, i.e., if service received was an assessment, individual counseling, evaluation, will be shared with the District for the District to pay Ozark Center for the services you receive. Ozark Center will make a copy of their Notice of Privacy Practices available to you at the time of your initial appointment or upon request at any time if you would like to know more about their confidentiality standards.
10. Employees are not required to utilize the EAP. Ozark Center will obtain from you a consent to share your medical record number, name, date of service, and billing code/description at the time of your initial appointment. Your signature is required on this document to qualify for the EAP visits. If you do not wish to use the EAP benefit, your insurance or other payment sources will be billed and applicable deductibles and copays will be assessed.
11. The EAP benefit is helping to establish services with a mental health provider, as such employees currently receiving services through Ozark Center are not eligible to receive three EAP visits.