

Lexington

11 Consecutive Years Ranked "Excellent" or "A"

Staff Update

February 6, 2015

From the office of the Treasurer...

All Staff

- Best wishes to bus driver Nancy Banks who will be retiring effective February 27, 2015. Thank you for your service and dedication to our students!

LiveHealth Online:

One often overlooked benefit available through Anthem is access to LiveHealth Online. This feature is available 7 days a week, 24 hours per day and provides a convenient and cost-effective way to gain access to doctors, receive a diagnosis, and obtain prescriptions for basic medications. This tool allows employees to talk to doctors through their mobile device or online by two-way video on a computer.

While the average cost for use of the tool is \$49, the normal office **co-pay for visits of \$10 would apply**. When applicable, use of the LiveHealth Online tool provides for significant convenience for employees. Additionally, the costs are significantly lower than standard doctor visits and can provide cost savings for our Employee Self Insurance Fund.

In the coming weeks, we will be providing additional information regarding the LiveHealth Online tool, but should you have any questions please visit livehealthonline.com or contact the Treasurer's Office.

Prescription Mail Order:

Another possible cost saving tool for health care costs is available through use of mail order for prescription drugs. Through communications with Anthem, the percentage use of mail order for prescriptions dropped in 2014 to 13.7% compared to 15.3% in 2013.

Just a reminder that when using mail order for prescription drugs, employees can receive a 90 day supply for the price of 60 days if using a retail pharmacy. This is the equivalent of receiving the third month free! Many employees may not realize this so we wanted to communicate this fact to ensure awareness of this additional benefit.

Should you have any questions regarding the mail order prescription drug program, please contact the Treasurer's Office.

Financial Information:

Health Benefits

With discussions of health care costs and potential cost saving measures, one question employees sometimes have is 'How much does our District pay for health care?' Below is a synopsis of health care costs for claims and related fixed costs in 2014:

| <i>Plan</i> | <i>Claims</i> | <i>Fixed Costs</i> | <i>Total Cost*</i> |
|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Medical | \$2,308,983 | \$540,388 | \$2,849,371 |
| Pharmacy | \$582,808 | \$0 | \$582,808 |
| Dental | \$187,706 | \$13,707 | \$201,413 |
| TOTAL | \$3,079,497 | \$554,095 | \$3,633,592 |

*A portion of total medical costs totaling \$87,853 was reimbursed by specific Stop Loss coverage in 2014.

Overall, the District experienced a 95.7% loss ratio for Calendar Year 2014, meaning total costs equaled 95.7% of total revenues for the Health Benefits Self Insurance Fund.

While as a District our Health Benefits Self Insurance Fund continues to remain healthy, health care costs continue to rise and represent a significant expense. Given these facts, we should continue to seek out and take advantage of potential cost saving opportunities whenever possible and appropriate.

Communication:

We are continuously looking for ways to improve communication regarding the District's financial information. Consistent communication about District finances is important to parents, staff, the community, and the Board of Education.

Please let me know if you have any questions, ideas, or suggestions we could include within our staff update communications. Your input can definitely assist in this process.

Useful? Information:

Teachers receive the most Valentine's cards, followed by children, mothers, and wives. Children between the ages of 6-10 exchange more than 650 million Valentine cards a year. (Reference: Thompson, Sue Ellen. 2000 (2nd Ed.). *Holiday Symbols*. Detroit, MI: Omnigraphics, Inc.)