

SVUSD INSURANCE COMMITTEE UPDATE for SVEA

May/June 2014

The SVUSD Insurance Committee continues to meet bi-monthly. The May/June meeting was held June 12th. Below are some of the items discussed.

BUDGET UPDATE: Good news! Plan costs continue to run **UNDER projections**. While the amount is less than our last report, we continue to be prudent consumers when it comes to our health plan. The plan is **6.71%** below budget projections. Our AON plan consultants projected that this trend is expected to continue through June, the final month of the fiscal year. The Committee will have final figures for the year end report at our first meeting of the 14-15 school year in October. Keep up the good work!

BLUE SHIELD PHARMACY DISPENSING FEES: Our insurance carrier, **Blue Shield, is unable to provide this cost related information** that SVEA has been requesting since our February meeting **due to the contracts and confidentiality agreements it has in place with various prescription providers**. This data would be extremely helpful because it would show what fees retail pharmacies were charging for filling SVUSD plan participant prescriptions. With this information, the Committee could have encouraged plan participants to take their prescriptions to the pharmacies charging the lesser fees. SVEA will continue to push our plan providers to deliver information that will help us to better monitor the cost and quality aspects of our plans on behalf of members.

HEALTH BENEFITS NEWSLETTER: The latest edition of the SVUSD health benefits newsletter, *Saddle Up to Better Benefits* hit your SVEA inbox this week. Lots of timely information is included, as always. Pay special attention to the information on the Flexible Spending Account, (FSA). Only around 100 or so employees take advantage of the pre-tax deduction available through the FSA benefit. Since our plan now makes available a debit card to manage and help track your **FSA related healthcare spending**, why not save some dollars where you can? Additionally, **recent changes in the law provide an opportunity to roll over up to \$500 of annual unused funds from one year to the next. For questions about the SVUSD FSA plan, contact the Benefits Department at 949-580-3424 or Mangrove at 888-862-6272.** Check it out!

NEXT MEETING: This was the Committee's final meeting for the 2013-14 school year. Our next meeting will take place in **October** after the start of the 2014-2015. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact, Cheryl Johnson (johnsoncherl@svusd.k12.ca.us), Stephen Miller (Stephen.Miller@svusd.org), Lisa Eck (leck@cta.org) or me, Frank Werner (wernerfrk@svusd.org), if you have any questions regarding insurance our benefit plans.

Respectfully submitted,
Frank Werner
SVUSD Insurance Committee Member Representing SVEA