

## **BUSINESS OFFICE**

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**To:** Board of Education

From: Nicole Lechner

**Re:** November Board Report

**Date:** 11/8/2024

Insurance open enrollment for our staff is just around the corner and will run from November 22, 2024, to December 6, 2024. During this period, all staff members will have the opportunity to review their benefits and make any necessary elections. Please note that these changes will become effective on January 1, 2025. Given the quick turnaround needed to implement these elections, we'll be making payroll deduction adjustments as promptly as possible, though these can only be updated in our finance software after the final payroll in December. Additionally, we will adjust the cash-in-lieu amounts for staff members who opt to waive health insurance coverage. With the upcoming renewal reflecting increased premium rates, we remain committed to evaluating all plan options to ensure a comprehensive and cost-effective benefits package for the next plan year.

In preparation for the November 23 payroll, new contracts have also been established for our winter coaching staff. Their pay is structured to be distributed over the next eight payroll cycles, covering about 15-20 new contracts specifically for the winter season. For comparison, the fall season required us to set up 36 individual contracts, illustrating the seasonal variability in contract volumes as we work to support our athletic staff.

We're also in the process of finalizing the Facility Settlement Report, which will be submitted later this month. This report consolidates the total salary and benefits of direct-service staff from the previous school year who qualify for Medicaid reimbursement. Our regional agency, the WISD, will utilize this information to calculate our anticipated Medicaid funding. Additionally, this month we submitted both the Annual Disclosure and Qualifying Statement reports, which are essential requirements for our debt obligations tied to our bond issuances. These reports ensure compliance and transparency in our funding practices, ultimately supporting the long-term financial stability of our programs and services.

I hope you all have a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday.

Respectfully, Nicole Lechner, Chief Financial Officer Chelsea School District