Approval of Health Insurance Benefits

August 25, 2009

SUMMARY:

This item requests approval of the employee health insurance package, specifically the plan change(s) for the 2010 benefit year. The benefit changes will be effective January 1, 2010.

PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION:

For discussion on August 11, 2009, the Board was presented with the recommended benefit changes.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

On an annual basis, a complete review of benefits is performed to determine if benefit enhancements/changes should be made without a significant impact on the health plan or its rate structure.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

The plan year will begin January 1, 2010. Employees will receive a benefits booklet that contains all plan options and rates prior to the beginning of the open enrollment process. Open enrollment is scheduled to begin on November 1 and end on November 20, 2009.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

Despite continued increases in medical and prescription drug costs, the Denton ISD plan **will not** need to pass along any rate increase to its employees for their medical coverage for the sixth straight year.

BENEFIT OF ACTION:

Approval of the recommended changes will allow the insurance personnel to proceed with open enrollment preparations.

PUBLIC COMMENT RECEIVED:

None

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION:

As a result of that benefit review, we are recommending the following benefit changes:

- Lower the urgent care co-pay from the current co-pay of \$50.00 to the primary care physician co-pay of \$25.00
- Drop prescription drug coverage for Nexium based on the recommendation by the United HealthCare national medical director.
- Remove the cap on the wellness benefit for employees and dependents alike. Wellness exams and appropriate tests will be paid at 100%.
- Mental Health and Substance Abuse benefits will remain at the current level of coverage.

STAFF PERSONS RESPONSIBLE:

Sally Havey, Insurance Coordinator Debbie Monschke, Executive Director of Budget and Finance

ATTACHMENT:

None

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