

Healthcare Cost Containment Committee Minutes
November 7, 2012
3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Attendees: Carolyn Belfiore, Linda Freeman, Debie Clayton, Karen Bonin, Marge Chiafery, Marsha McGill, Ray Blank, Christine Soucy, Sandi Eherenman, Tim Parsons, Sharon Putney, Sue Robinson, Bob Gidari, Kim DeMaso, Linda Murgo, George Markwell

1. Approval of October 3, 2012 Minutes

Carolyn Belfiore moved (seconded by Karen Bonin) to approve the October 3, 2012 minutes. The October minutes will be placed on the district's web site by the end of the week.

The motion passed 13-0-2 with Kim DeMaso and Linda Murgo abstaining. Not all members were present during the vote.

2. Comparative of Insurance Rates for School Districts With and Without Healthcost Containment Committees

Debie Clayton reported that Merrimack School District is the only district within the Local Government Center's membership that has a Healthcare Cost Containment Committee. Member groups have been known to meet, but none are similar to this committee. The Merrimack School District has one of the lowest guaranteed maximum insurance rate of all members with a July anniversary date.

Debie Clayton explained that when school districts are compared for healthcost containment purposes, geographical location is a more important factor than similarity in size. Districts within the same geographic location utilize the same doctors, clinics and hospitals.

The June 1, 2011 Healthcare Cost Containment Committee minutes reported the most common illnesses for district employees and their families were cancer, orthopedic and cardiology related issues.

3. Health Assessment Participation Rate for October and by Category

Tim Parsons reported that 12 people completed the health assessment during the month of October bringing the percentage rate for participation.

If 48 individuals completed the health assessment survey in November the percentage would increase to approximately 66%.

Tim Parsons reported:

- 390 of 596 eligible employees completed the health assessment
- 268 of 450 eligible spouses completed the health assessment
- 120 of 228 eligible retirees completed the health assessment

Tim Parsons noted that some private insurance providers require individuals to complete a health assessment survey.

Linda Hastings provided committee members with the names of new hires eligible to complete the health assessment survey.

Committee members requested extra Slice of Life envelopes at each school and/or a one page flyer containing information on how to access the health assessment survey. Tim Parsons will provide committee members with a one-page flyer and a fact sheet.

4. Communication with Retirees

A letter from Sue Robinson was mailed to all retirees in October. Sue Robinson will collect email addresses from the retirees for future communication.

5. Update on the On the Mark Assessment

Marge Chiafery reported that the On the Mark Assessment will not take place during November or December due to scheduling conflicts. Efforts are underway to schedule the Assessment for February 6th and 7th. The focus group commitment will be approximately 60 minutes in length. Merrimack High School, Merrimack Middle School, James Mastricola Upper Elementary School and James Mastricola Elementary School will be the walk through sites for the assessment team. More details will be available in December.

Future Focus Areas:

- Medical Trends
- HEAL Award Presentation
- On The Mark Assessment
- Changes to the 2013 Slice of Life Program
- Marketing the Slice of Life Program to Retirees
- Consumerism

2012-2013 School Year Meeting Dates

| Meeting Date | Refreshments |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|
| December 5, 2012 | Sharon Putney and Ray Blank |
| January 2, 2013 | Marsha McGill and Linda Hastings |
| February 6, 2013 | Carolyn Belfiore and Kim DeMaso |
| March 6, 2013 | George Markwell and Sandy Swanson |
| April 3, 2013 | Sandi Ehrenman and Susan Robinson |
| May 1, 2013 | |
| June 5, 2013 | Debie Clayton and Tim Parsons |