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Newsletter

June 23, 2017

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From Your President . . .

Dear Members,

Whew! We finally made it to the end of the year. Thank you for all your patience and support this year in my role as your HEA union president. I am truly honored to have the opportunity to represent all of you! If you need anything, the OEA office will be open all summer and Mel, our HEA/OEA administrative assistant, will be able to answer all your questions and connect with me. Have a fabulous well deserved summer break. See you in September☺

Jill Golay at the HEA office. hillsborocea@oregoned.org or 503-645-67776 ext. 2507

"Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter", Martin Luther King Jr.

Retirement Banquet Celebration

On June 3rd, HEA hosted a retirement dinner at Pumpkin Ridge. We had a great turn out and spent the evening honoring members who are turning in their badge and keys today for the last time. Congratulations and enjoy your never-ending summer! This year's 2017 Linda Ellsworth Recipient is Donna Warren. It was nice to recognize Donna's countless hours of volunteerism supporting children and education.

2017 NEA Representative Assembly

Your elected delegates for the NEA-RA will be attending the assembly this week, June 30-July 5. These people will be volunteering to represent you to set the national business agenda for the coming year. Delegates include: Elizabeth Nahl, Sarah Coyle, Barb Wickham, Jenny Underhill, Joe Vermeire, JoAnn Conroy, Abby Jones and Christine Estep. Please thank your colleagues for donating a week of their summer to advocate on the behalf of all members.

Be a Book Hero for Kids at the Farmers' Market

HEA will offer used books for children on Saturdays beginning June 17 - August 26 (except July 15). Come promote reading and public education, with breaks to enjoy the Farmers' Market. We could use your help on August 5th. To sign up please send an email to HillsboroEA@oregoned.org.

Summer Birthday? Don't Wait to Renew Your TSPC License!

Oregon TSPC is overwhelmed, and you don't want the stress of last minute renewal or approval of changes to your license. If your license is due this year, please do not wait to renew it! You might find yourself on unpaid leave if it lapses.

Important!! Insurance Information

Open Enrollment starts August 15, 2017. The following dates and locations are available to help you through the process.

August 17, 8 AM – 4 PM Facilities/Construction Mgmt. August 24, 10 AM – 7 PM Glencoe HS

August 28, 10 AM – 7 PM HilHi & Century HS's August 29, 10 AM – 7 PM Liberty HS

August 30, 10 AM – 4 PM Transportation August 31, 2 PM -6 PM BENEFITS FAIR

Important Insurance – Continued

Thing to keep in mind when you go to enroll:

- 1) Rates have increased for 17-18 – approx. 3-9% depending on the plan.
- 2) Medical plan offerings for licensed staff for 17-18 are:
MODA: Birch, Preferred plan/Dogwood and Evergreen
Kaiser: Kaiser 1, Kaiser Preferred Plan 3 and a HSA Plan.
- 3) The cost savings and benefit levels for the Preferred Plans are significantly better for members so we encourage you to consider joining the HRA.
- 4) As monthly premiums continue to increase, our HRA allows us contain those costs AND get you the best plan.
- 5) Visit one of the HSD enrollment sessions or look for more detailed information in August.

How do the Preferred Plans work? Preferred plans use the Health Reserve Account (HRA) system to pool savings captured by purchasing a low cost / high deductible plan and using that savings to pay down the deductible and to pay for the higher Out of Pocket Max. **The end result is a lower deductible and lower threshold for Max Out Of Pocket – at a lower cost for you!**

From Mike Dunn, Science Teacher at Century HS...

“Because I heard that most of the kinks had been worked out, I decided to give the HRA a try this last year. By doing so, my monthly out of check expenses went down over \$400 per month. But even with several visits to the emergency room with my kids, and emergency surgery for my daughter, I was easily able to provide the Explanation of Benefits (EOB) documents to get reimbursed ...And after all the dust has settled, the HRA will have saved me over \$3200 in insurance premiums compared to last year. I will definitely be participating in the program again next year.”

From JoAnn Conroy, Teacher at Rosedale Elementary...

“I was surprised how easy it really was to send in my request for reimbursement. I did about eight pages of claims at one time and it was so easy!”

Know Your Contract

○ **Article 12, E. Column Advancement.**

This summer you may be taking graduate courses to apply towards your degree and also to move horizontally across the schedule. Here is timing for turning credits in to HSD:

“A member submitting by October 1 of any year proof of additional professional training qualifying him or her for a higher salary column shall be paid at the higher salary for the entire contract year. If proof is submitted by March 1 of any year, the teacher shall be paid at the higher salary for the second half of that contract year.”

○ **Sabbatical Study Not Currently an Option, FYI**

Current contract language contains a reference to “Sabbatical Leave” in Article 8. During the 2012-13 bargain the district proposed to remove the language in the contract related to sabbaticals. It was after several years of budget cuts and concessions and the district explained that the school board simply would not approve them anymore. HEA said we would be willing to have an understanding, and explain that to our members – that sabbaticals would not be granted at this time. However, we all agreed to keep the language for the future when/if we are again able to fund leaves for study. FYI.

HEA Office – Summer Hours

Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5 p.m. (will be closed July 3, 4)

HEA President, Jill Golay is unpaid in July, but available as needed.

UniServ Consultant, Sarah Moskoff will be working the summer, but off July 3-21.