

# DIXON PUBLIC SCHOOLS #170

*"A Place to Grow"*

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## **Notice to Enrollees in a Self-Funded Non-Federal Governmental Group Health Plan**

Under Federal law known as the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA), Public Law 104-191, as amended, group health plan must generally comply with the requirements of HIPAA. However, the law also permits State and local governmental employers that sponsor health plans to elect to exempt a plan from these requirements for any part of the plan that is "self-funded" by the employer, rather than provided through a health insurance policy. Dixon Public School District #170 has elected to exempt the Dixon Public School District Employee Benefit Plan (PPO Plan) from the following requirement:

- Parity in the application of certain limits to mental health benefits.

The exemption from these Federal requirements will be in effect for the plan year beginning September 1, 2010 and ending August 31, 2011.

HIPAA also requires the Plan to provide covered employees and dependents with a "certificate of creditable coverage" when they cease to be covered under the Plan. There is no exemption from this requirement. The certificate provides evidence that you were covered under this Plan, because if you can establish your prior coverage, you may be entitled to certain rights to reduce or eliminate a preexisting condition exclusion if you join another employer's health plan, or if you wish to purchase an individual health insurance policy.

If you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact the Claims Administrator, Total Benefit Brokers at 1-800-423-1841.

*Dixon Public Schools, in cooperation with the community, will provide students with a comprehensive educational program that produces well-educated, self-sufficient, and involved citizens.*