## FALLSBURG CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Ivan Katz, Ed. D., Superintendent of Schools
PO Box 124, 115 Brickman Road
Fallsburg, NY 12733
Voice: 845-434-5884 Fax: 845-434-8346
Web: www.fallsburgcsd.net

## IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING CONTINUED HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE THROUGH EMPIRE BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD

March 2016

## Dear Employee/Retiree:

This important announcement comes to advise you that all Fallsburg Central School District employees and retirees with family health plan coverage through Empire Blue Cross Blue Shield will be asked to participate in a **Dependent Eligibility Verification Project**, which will begin during April 2016. The purpose of the project is to ensure that all dependents of participants with family coverage are properly enrolled in the health plan. Your participation in the project will be required in order to maintain family coverage for your eligible dependents.

The Fallsburg Central School District has participated in the Dutchess Educational Health Insurance Consortium ("**DEHIC**") for many years. If you are not familiar, **DEHIC** was established in 1988, and is comprised of 25 educational institutions that formed a purchasing cooperative to provide health insurance benefit plans to employees, retired employees, and their authorized dependents. The **DEHIC** health insurance benefit plans are purchased through Empire Blue Cross Blue Shield.

As part of **DEHIC's** ongoing commitment to provide quality service and to ensure that eligible members receive their benefits, they have hired an independent firm, **Health Management Systems, Inc.** ("**HMS**") to implement this project. Industry statistics indicate a fair percentage of dependents on family coverage nation-wide fail to meet their plan's eligibility guidelines. Those that are not eligible run the risk of having a claim refused, as well as incurring considerable out-of-pocket medical costs. **HMS** will help us avoid those situations before they occur.

Sometime during mid-April, you will be receiving a mailing directly from **HMS** and **DEHIC** announcing the project, and describing what will be required of you to validate the eligibility of your dependents. The documentation requirements will be based on the dependent(s) to be verified, and may include a marriage certificate; birth certificate; adoption papers; etc.

Please be certain that you do not inadvertently discard this mailing as a routine solicitation, as your timely response will be necessary.

## FALLSBURG CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Ivan Katz, Ed. D., Superintendent of Schools
PO Box 124, 115 Brickman Road
Fallsburg, NY 12733
Voice: 845-434-5884 Fax: 845-434-8346

Web: www.fallsburgcsd.net

You can be assured that **HMS** will provide guidance and support throughout the entire project, including a toll-free number with service representatives who are well versed in the plan's eligibility rules. They will be able to answer any questions you might have to support your completion of the project.

Thank you for your attention to this important announcement, and please remember to respond to the upcoming notice from **HMS** and **DEHIC**.

Sincerely,

IVAN KATZ, Ed. D.

Superintendent of Schools