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Santa Barbara Unified
Every child, every chance, every day.

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DR. HILDA MALDONADO
Superintendent

Dear SB Unified Retiree,

Thank you for your patience during this busy season! As many of you know, we have experienced a great deal of change here at the district office this year. Rest assured, your Open Enrollment Packet is forthcoming, and we have some exciting changes to share!

For those of you currently enrolled on a medical plan with Health Net, Health Net has unfortunately made the decision to discontinue offering their Seniority Plus Medicare Plans for all group businesses, including Santa Barbara Unified School District, effective October 1, 2024. You may have already received a notification from Health Net communicating the same. The district currently offers another Medicare plan through United HealthCare (the Group Medicare Advantage HMO), and you do have the option to join that plan instead during this Open Enrollment. Compared to the Health Net plans, the United Healthcare (UHC) plan offers many plan enhancements, including:

United Healthcare Group Medicare Advantage HMO Plan

- Larger network of doctors
 - Check to see if your provider is in the UHC network by going to <https://retiree.uhc.com/>
 - Select "UnitedHealthcare Group Medicare Advantage (HMO)" as the plan name
- Lower out of pocket maximum (\$1,500 with UHC vs. \$3,400 with Health Net)
- Lower inpatient hospital services (\$50 with UHC vs. \$250/\$200 with Health Net)
- Lower outpatient services (\$25 with UHC vs. \$175 with Health Net Value)
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There will be no changes for those currently enrolled in the United Healthcare plan.

We have heard from many employees, both actives and retirees alike, regarding issues with their dental provider and Delta Dental. We're excited to announce that we will be changing dental carriers to MetLife this year effective October 1, 2024! We will continue to be on an October 1 – September 30 plan year with MetLife. MetLife offers a vast network in the Santa Barbara area, as well as nationwide. The new plans also include greater out-of-network coverage than what is currently being offered by Delta Dental. If you choose to visit an out-of-network provider, in other words, a dentist who is not contracted with MetLife, the new plans will still offer you generous coverage and full access to the dental benefit allowance! More details will be included in your Open Enrollment Packet.

Important Dates:**Retiree Open Enrollment:** July 22, 2024 through August 9, 2024**Zoom Presentation and Q&A:**

- July 19, 2024, 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM
- Join us via Zoom:
 - Zoom Link: <https://burnhambenefits.zoom.us/j/96604871556?from=addon>
 - Zoom dial in: (669) 444-9171
 - Meeting ID: 966 0487 1556
- Users without access to technology are welcome to view the presentation in the District Office Board Room on July 19, 2024, 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM.

In-Person Presentation and Q&A: July 31, 2024, 2:00 PM – 5:00 PM, District Office.

- Open Enrollment support from a United Healthcare representative will be available to assist retirees who are transitioning from Health Net

You will receive your Open Enrollment Packet before July 19, 2024 via postal mail. If you would like to request an electronic copy, please contact Human Resources at hrbenefits@sbunified.org. If you need assistance by phone, please contact Gaby Leon at (805) 963-4338 ext. 6240.

Thank you again for your patience, as we navigate considerable changes here at the district. We look forward to kicking off a successful Open Enrollment in a few short weeks!

Best Regards,



John A. Becchio, Ed.D.
Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources
Santa Barbara Unified School District