

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

DATE: September 24, 2026
TOPIC: 7.3 – Health Insurance Proposal
PRESENTER: Abby Baker, Executive Director of Human Resources & Operations
REFERENCE TO POLICY/STATUTE: Policy 701

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

Per MN Statute 471.6161, public employers must market their medical insurance every two years. South Washington County Schools was required to market this benefit for January 1, 2027. The district released the request for proposals; HealthPartners, Medica, Blue Cross Blue Shield MN, UnitedHealthcare, and Public Employees Insurance Program (PEIP) responded with proposals.

Per statute, the district reviewed the proposals with members of the United Teachers of South Washington County (UTSWC). The review included financial impact of the proposals, healthcare cost and containment efforts, value added benefits, network and pharmacy access and disruption, and overall premium cost savings. Upon review, it is recommended to remain with HealthPartners under a two-year agreement beginning January 1, 2027 and ending December 31, 2028.

Moving to a self-funded plan beginning January 1, 2027 was also reviewed. Based on the analytics and expected rate projects compared to a fully-insured premiums, it was determined that remaining fully-insured was the more fiscally prudent approach for 2027. Under the HealthPartners contract, the district can review and move to a self-funded plan for 2028.



Based on evaluation criteria and discussion with the proposal review committee, the recommendation was made to accept the fully-insured proposal from HealthPartners effective January 1, 2027.

B. RECOMMENDATION

Administration recommends the acceptance of the HealthPartners proposal and entering into a contract for the 2027 and 2028 plan years.

C. CONNECTION TO STRATEGIC PRIORITY

Operations, Staffing, and Finance

