



Dear Superintendents:

My name is Steve Warren, Interim Superintendent for the Centralia School District (CSD). One of my most significant responsibilities in this one-year role has been to investigate CSD's involvement in the Medicaid Administrative Match (MAM) program during the last few years and to help our staff and community understand why we paid a recovery to the Attorney's General Office of \$372,000 following its investigation into our MAM claiming practices. The purpose of this letter is to support a shift to a new claiming system, the Random Moment Time Study, or RMTS. I'd like to briefly point out how the RMTS would have helped the Centralia School District and how I believe it will help yours.

First, the RMTS would have all but removed rules compliance for our teachers and administrators as a challenge. Teachers were placing hash marks on Time Study Forms (TSF) by claimable categories, and in doing so, and by signing the TSF, teachers and their supervisors were declaring understanding of MAM rules and that they engaged in a claimable activity for a minimum of 7.5 continuous minutes. Under the new system, staff simply log onto a website and use drop-down menus to identify what they were doing for a "moment" in time. This process requires little by way of understanding rules.

Second, because the RMTS is computer based, the need for onerous coordination at each site and by district level personnel is significantly reduced. Yes, the need to submit the identities of personnel involved and salary/work schedule information will still exist, however, we were paying several positions throughout the district to track and compile paper, seek additional signatures and provide information to participants as needed. In addition, we paid for district level clerical assistance as well as the cost of a third party consultant. The RMTS will be significantly less expensive to administer compared to the Time Study Forms of the past.

Third, it was clear that our expectations for "revenue" under the former system were not reasonable and the claiming standards created risks for over-claiming. The MAM program only provides "reimbursement" for staff activities meeting MAM rules, and employees were required to make decisions about whether to code their time under often ambiguous standards. The reimbursement we should reasonably have expected were overestimated, and the new system will eliminate risks, provide reductions in costs and staff time, and will make engagement in the MAM program a more attractive opportunity – even for small districts.

Steve Warren
Superintendent

Matthew McCauley
Assistant Superintendent

Kristy Vetter, Director of
Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment

Shelley Habenicht, Director
of Special Programs

By way of summary, I see the following advantages:

1. Each site generates its own claims
2. Significant workload and cost reduction through a paperless approach
 - a. Significant reduction in clerical and administrative time
 - b. Removes need for consulting
3. No coding system
4. Ample time for participants to respond
5. Supervisors do not certify participant responses

If you have any questions you'd like to ask me, please don't hesitate to contact me at (360) 330-7600.

Sincerely,



Steven Warren

Superintendent

Centralia School District

(360) 330-7600