#### EVERETT SCHOOL EMPLOYEE BENEFIT TRUST

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2012

## **NOTE 1: NATURE OF ORGANIZATION**

## Description of the Plan

The following description of the Everett School District Employee Benefit Trust (Trust) provides only general information. Participants should refer to the Plan Agreement for a complete description of the Plan's provisions.

# **General**

The Trust provides health and death benefits covering substantially all active employees. The Trust is an agreement with the Everett Education Association and the Everett School District. The Trust is a governmental plan and is not subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

#### **Benefits**

The Trust provides medical, pharmacy, vision and dental benefits to eligible employees and their covered dependents as specified by the Trust. The Trust also offers life, accidental death and dismemberment, voluntary term life, long-term disability, short-term disability, long-term care and an employee assistance program. The trust has also incorporated a comprehensive wellness program to promote healthy lifestyles and reduce medical plan costs.

District employees who work a full-time equivalency (FTE) of .33 or greater and their dependents are eligible for medical and dental benefits. Until December 31, 2011 substantially all medical benefits provided under the Trust were self-funded through the trust and benefit claims were administered by Healthcare Management Administrators. The Plan paid premiums to Sun Life, an insurance provider to provide stop-loss coverage for medical claims incurred which exceed specified benefit amounts. At their option, participants may alternatively elect medical coverage under group insurance contracts with Group Health Cooperative of Puget Sound or PacifiCare. Beginning January 1, 2012 the Trustees elected to discontinue self-funding of medical benefits and contracted with Washington Education Association and Premera Blue Cross to provide participants with a selection of medical insurance plans. Dental benefits are currently underwritten by Washington Dental Service and Willamette Dental. Long-term care benefits, underwritten by Unum, and other voluntary benefits are available to employees on a self-pay basis.

Life insurance benefits are provided under group insurance contracts with Metropolitan Life and are available to any eligible employee who works at least 17 ½ hours per week. Long-term disability benefits are currently underwritten by Standard Insurance and are available to all employees with an FTE of .75 or greater.

#### Contributions

Public school districts receive designated funds from the State to be used for employee health care benefits. These designated funds are determined as an amount as specified by the state per month per FTE for employees that meet the states' specific definition. The Everett Public School District contribution to the Trust each month is the same specified amount per month per FTE for all employees of the district for that month.

Employees contribute specified amounts depending on their choices of coverage and dependent elections. The contributions are determined annually by the trustees for full-time and less than full-time status employees.

## EVERETT SCHOOL EMPLOYEE BENEFIT TRUST

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2012

## Trust termination

The trust agreement shall continue in existence until such time as it is terminated by the District, Association, or both, upon written notice delivered to the Trustees and the other party. The Trustees, upon receipt of any direction from the District and Association upon termination, shall be under no duty to inquire into the propriety or validity thereof. Unless sooner terminated as provided above, the trust agreement and the Trust created hereby shall continue for such time as the benefits hereunder are to be provided and as long thereafter as may be necessary for liquidation and distribution of the assets of the Fund. Upon termination of the Trust for any reason, the Trustees shall make such distributions as they deem appropriate, after reserving from the assets of the Fund such amount as they reasonably shall deem necessary to provide for any sums chargeable against the Fund for which Trustees may be liable, or for payment of expenses in connection with the settlement of their accounts or otherwise, except the assets of the Fund upon such termination shall be used solely for providing benefits to participants and their dependents and beneficiaries and no part of the net earnings of the Fund shall inure, other than by payment of benefits, to the benefit of any private shareholder or individual.

## **NOTE 2: SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

## Method of Accounting

The financial statements of the Trust are prepared on the modified cash basis of accounting. Under this method, contributions and realized investment gains and losses are recognized when received and expenses are recognized when paid. Unrealized changes in the market value of investments are recognized when the Trust is valued at the end of any period. A benefit obligation is recorded to recognize the estimated liability for claims incurred but not reported, as determined by the Trust's actuary based on prior claim data and recent enrollment patterns. Under generally accepted accounting principles, contributions and investment earnings would be recognized when earned and expenses would be recognized when the resources are used and a liability is incurred. Accordingly, the accompanying financial statements are not intended to present the financial position and results in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

The Trust's investments are stated at fair value. Securities traded on the national securities exchange are valued at the last reported sales price on the last business day of the Trust year. Listed securities for which no sale was reported on that date are valued at the average of the last reported bid and asked prices.

#### Trust benefits

Post retirement benefits to retirees and their beneficiaries and dependents are provided by the State, consequently, no liability related to such estimated future benefits are provided in these financial statements.

# Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with modified cash basis requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets, liabilities, benefit obligations and changes therein, IBNP, claims payable, and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

## **Estimated Claims Payable**

A liability of \$220,578 is recognized for unpaid and potential unreported claims incurred prior to January 1, 2012 during the period when the Trust self funded medical benefits. Any medical benefit claim occurring after December 31, 2011 by a participant is fully covered by the contracted insurance provider, either Washington Education Association or Premera Blue Cross.

## **EVERETT SCHOOL EMPLOYEE BENEFIT TRUST**

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2012

#### **NOTE 3: TAX STATUS**

The trust established under the Plan to hold the Trust's assets is qualified pursuant to Section 501(c)(9) of the Internal Revenue Code, and accordingly, the Trust's net investment income is exempt from income taxes. The District obtained a favorable tax determination letter from the Internal Revenue Service and the District believes that the Trust, as amended, continues to qualify and to operate as designated.

## **NOTE 4: CONCENTRATIONS OF RISK**

The Trust's assets consist primarily of financial instruments including U.S. government and agency securities and certificates of deposit. The financial instruments may subject the Plan to concentrations of risk as, from time to time, cash balances exceed amounts insured by Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, market value of securities are dependent on the ability of the issuer to honor its contractual commitments, and the investments are subject to change in market values.

## **NOTE 5: PARTIES IN INTEREST**

Everett School District employees provide certain accounting and administrative services to the Plan for which nominal fees are charged.

