

Life Threatening Allergy Quick Reference Guide for Food at School

To help provide clarification about the new food guidelines related to the Life Threatening Allergy procedure for our District, a quick reference guide follows. We are also including some of the most frequently asked questions we have heard thus far along with their answers. Your understanding and assistance will help us keep all children safe while they are at school.

<p>#1 <u>Lunch/Lunch Room</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children are permitted to bring personal lunches of their choosing. • Children should not trade or exchange food items. • Allergen-safe tables/areas will be designated. 	<p>#2 <u>Daily Classroom Snacks</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children are permitted to bring fruits, vegetables, cheese, and/or yogurt. • Children should not trade or exchange food items.
<p>#3 <u>Special Classroom Treats/Party Food/Celebrations</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only individually wrapped food items in their original packaging may be provided. • Products may not contain peanuts, almonds, walnuts, or any other nut or nut product and must be processed in a “nut-free” environment. • Ingredient lists must be provided. 	<p>#4 <u>Curriculum Related Food/All School & Grade Level Events</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allergen-safe foods will be substituted whenever possible. • Parents of a student with an allergy will be informed of activities in advance and return permission slips to participate. • Ingredient lists must be provided. • Precautions/procedures must be followed for students with life-threatening allergies. • Administrative approval; consultation with school nurse.
<p>#5 <u>PTO/OOMPA/LFF Sponsored Events</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes only events which are outside school hours and parents and or siblings in attendance; events must also be excluded from categories 1 – 4 • Allergen-safe foods will be substituted whenever possible. • Listing of food to be served will be provided in advance of the event. • Ingredient lists will be provided at the event and/or upon request. • Precautions/procedures must be followed for students with life-threatening allergies. • Consultation with school nurse and administration. 	

Frequently Asked Questions are on the page 2 on the backside.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. Can my child still bring a snack to school?

A. Yes, absolutely!

Q. Does my child's snack have to be fresh fruits or vegetables?

A. No, fruits and vegetables do NOT need to be fresh. We ask that they truly be fruits or vegetables, such as applesauce, fruit cups, etc., and NOT items like fruit snacks. When bringing items that are not fresh fruit or vegetables, they must be processed in a peanut-free environment.

Q. Can I send a bakery/home made treat to school with my child for a party/celebration?

A. No, homemade snacks or boxes of donuts/cupcakes will NOT be accepted, even if an ingredient list is included (i.e., box of cupcakes from the store). Food for a special classroom treat, party and or celebration must be nut free, individually wrapped in the original packaging, and an ingredient list is provided.

Q. Can I send trays of fresh cut fruit or vegetables as a special classroom treat/party food or for a celebration?

A. No, food for a special classroom treat, party and or celebration must be nut free, individually wrapped in the original packaging, and an ingredient list is provided.

Q. Can I send a treat to school with my child to share in the lunchroom?

A. No, we ask that students not trade or share food in the lunchroom. If you would like your child to share a treat with his classmates during lunch, please ensure that it is nut free, individually wrapped in the original packaging, and an ingredient list is provided. Classroom teachers will support the distribution of the treat prior to lunch so that the students may have them with their lunch.

Q. Why is it important to follow the new snack guidelines?

A. Our school is required to comply with Public Act 96-0349 and follow Board Policy 7:285. We developed procedures (including new snack guidelines) that promote prevention and management of life threatening allergic reactions. While these new procedures may initially seem restrictive, we have the responsibility to keep all children safe while they are in school.