

# MAGNOLIA PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

## *The Learning and Achieving School*

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Hello Parents,

As a school, we wanted to inform you of some new procedures for class birthdays/celebrations. The USDA, in conjunction with the "Smart Snack Standards" has passed comprehensive legislation and suggestions for snacks in school. For example: Treats with sugar as the number one ingredient cannot be sold or given out in school as rewards. In some instances we send our students home with items that their parents can then make the responsible decision on how to handle appropriate to them.

At the same time, we are also sensitive and aware that there are many food allergies. Many schools have eliminated food altogether coming into the classroom. We felt there was a compromise in offering a limited amount of suggestions. Teachers, when they become aware, will notify parents through ClassDojo of existing classroom allergies so parents can make good choices for the class. Please note: your child can opt out of any snack that comes in.

In short, schools are moving toward more healthy options as a whole. We have decided that it is best to limit the options of snacks to be proactive with the changes coming. In order to make it easier for parents, please see the options below for birthdays/holidays:

- Pretzel nuggets (mustard/cheese dips only)
- Fruit/veggie trays
- Popcorn/Crackers (butter, cheese, or plain please)
- Packaged goods that list or include the ingredients (Allergy purposes)
  - Treats such as cupcakes, rice krispy treats, cookies are allowed, but not encouraged (due to high sugar content)
  - Any good must be store bought with ingredients listed (no home made)
- Non-food treats such as a goody bag, crafts, pencils and erasers

For holiday/Birthday celebrations we are asking parents, room parents, and teachers to provide balanced nutritional options for celebrations. If you have any questions about the snacks, or what is ok please don't hesitate to reach out to the staff or administration. Any item that can be consumed must be store bought with the ingredients listed so the teacher can evaluate it to the best of their ability. We hope to find a compromise to offer better options to our students.

We appreciate your understanding and look forward to educating students on how to make healthier choices!

Thank you,  
Magnolia Public School

