



# Life Threatening Allergy Guideline

## Quick Reference Guide for Food at School

<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>#1</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>LUNCH/LUNCH ROOM</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children are permitted to bring personal lunches of their choosing</li> <li>• Children should not trade or exchange food items.</li> <li>• Allergen-safe tables/areas will be designated.</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>#2</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>DAILY CLASSROOM SNACKS</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children are permitted to bring snacks into the classroom, exclusive of allergens specific to that classroom.</li> <li>• Children should not trade or exchange food items.</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>#3</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>CLASSROOM/GRADE LEVEL/ PARTIES &amp; EVENTS</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All classroom celebrations will be food free.</li> <li>• All celebrations occurring during the school day will be food free.</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>#4</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>PTA / DISTRICT SPONSORED ACTIVITIES Outside School Hours</u></b> <i>(ELEMENTARY)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• District sponsored activities/celebrations (which occur before or after school hours), where food is provided must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ have parent/guardians present to assist or advocate for students with life-threatening allergies (activities such as Dads &amp; Donuts, Munchies with Mom, Fun Fairs, Back to School picnics...).</li> <li>○ provide a safe environment and equivalent options for students with food allergies.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Ingredient lists must be provided.</li> </ul>		
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>#5</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>DISTRICT SPONSORED ACTIVITIES Outside School Hours</u></b> <i>(JUNIOR HIGH)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Following District 15’s vision to foster developmentally appropriate independence, District sponsored activities/celebrations (which occur at the Junior High level before or after school hours), where food is provided must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide information to all parents regarding food options which will be available, to allow parents to guide the students toward responsible decisions. (Activities such as dances, sporting events, before school gatherings...)</li> <li>• Provide a safe environment and equivalent options for students with food allergies.</li> <li>• Ingredient lists must be provided.</li> <li>• Sponsors of these events will remain mindful regarding inclusiveness and safety.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		

To help provide clarification about the new guidelines related to Life Threatening Allergy procedure in District 15, a quick reference guide follows. Included are some of the most frequently asked questions we have heard thus far along with answers. Your understanding and assistance will help keep all children safe while they are at school.

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

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

**A.** Yes, absolutely!

**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, classroom or otherwise.

**Q. Can I buy treats for my child's class from nutrition services?**

**A.** No, not all students may not be able to eat food from nutrition services. Send non-food items if you would like to celebrate in that way.

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

**A.** No, all school celebrations will be activity-based celebrations. All items used for activities will not contain allergens and will be safe for all students participating in the celebration.

**Q. Why is it important to follow guidelines?**

**A.** Our school district is required to comply with Public Act 96--0349 and follow Board Policy 7:285. These procedures allow District 15 schools to be allergy friendly and consistent. Our goal is to ensure that:

- \* All students are safe and able to learn academically and grow socially and emotionally in their schools.
- \* Our school community would gain better understanding of the needs of students with food allergies and other special dietary needs.
- \* Parents of students with allergies would gain comfort that the District has established procedures and protocols to insure the safety of all children and staff. Resources are easily accessible to protect the health of children at school.
- \* Staff would have easy-to-follow guidelines for food in classrooms and around the schools.
- \* Students with life threatening food allergies learn to incrementally manage their condition in a safe environment to gain independence.

We all have the responsibility to keep all children safe while they are in school.

