Severe Allergy and Epinephrine Policy

It is the responsibility of all parents/guardians to notify the School of all serious allergies or medical conditions that may impact a student at school, and to notify the School of any and all changes to a student's medical condition that may impact his or her participation in School activities. Authorization: Parents/guardians of students who have a known condition requiring the use of epinephrine shall provide the Director of Student Health with an Allergy Action Plan completed by the student's physician and signed by the parent/guardian. Necessary medication for implementing the student-specific order must be provided to the School on an annual basis or more often, as needed. Stock epinephrine is not intended to replace epinephrine for students with known anaphylaxis. Epinephrine should be provided by the parent/guardian prior to the first day of school or promptly after diagnosis. It must be in the original box with the prescription label visible. Expiration dates should be checked and maintained by the parent/guardian. Students in 7th - 12th grades will self-carry their injectors for quick and easy access during an emergency. An extra injector may be stored in the infirmary. Lower School students will keep their injector in the Lower School office unless a special exception is made in collaboration with the Director of Student Health.

Epinephrines at Off-Campus Activities

Stock epinephrine is intended for use by the general student population for students with an unknown allergy. Student-prescribed epinephrine should be provided by the parent/guardian for administration during the school day, at off-campus activities, and at before- and after-school activities. 52 Parents/guardians of students attending before-school, after-school, and off-campus activities that may require emergency epinephrine should collaborate with the School to ensure that there are epinephrine injector trained adults on the premises. Parents/guardians of students who have a diagnosis of severe allergy are to bring student-specific epinephrine when they accompany their children on off-campus activities. When such students are not accompanied by their parent/guardian, the parents/guardians should furnish an epinephrine device for the student/teacher to carry at all times.

Emergency Epinephrine Auto Injectors

Holton has Emergency Stock epinephrine auto-injector cabinets at designated locations on campus. Each cabinet contains one adult epinephrine auto injector for those students weighing more than 66 lbs. These stock epinephrine auto injectors are not intended to replace personal auto-injectors and are intended for emergency use only for persons with

an unknown anaphylaxis reaction. All faculty and staff are trained annually in the identification of anaphylaxis and in the administration of epinephrine injectors.

Food Allergies and Other Chronic Medical Conditions

Our goals are to provide a safe and respectful environment for all students, to educate the School community about the nature of food allergies, and to provide support and encouragement as the School's students develop good decision-making skills and learn the critical lessons of managing their allergies. We hope to foster self-confidence, self-respect, and self-advocacy in our students, and to support families as they help students learn to appropriately manage their allergies both in the School environment and in the community around them. We believe in a multidisciplinary approach to care to minimize the risk of accidental exposure to allergens. This team collaboration between faculty, staff, medical providers, students, and parents/guardians is critical to fostering a safer educational environment for students with severe allergies.

Parents/guardians of students who have severe allergies, as well as other chronic medical conditions, such as asthma, diabetes, or seizures, must have an Action Plan from their physician directing care in case of an emergency. Families should communicate with the Director of Student Health, the student's teachers, and the School's Food Service personnel, to develop a plan prior to the start of the school year. Classroom management will be discussed at that time. This plan should be reviewed prior to the start of each school year.

Food made at home by parents/guardians, students, or employees, for cultural events during the school day, Birthday parties in the classrooms, advisory groups, etc., must be labeled with all ingredients. For such items, there are no guarantees that there is no cross-contamination. The School asks that the cooking be done without using nuts or nut products, oils, etc. In Lower School Classroom celebrations, no home cooked products are allowed; store-bought only. If a student has an allergy, they must provide an alternative treat/snack that is safe for themselves. These snacks can be kept in the classroom.

Meriwether Godsey has ensured that there are layered protocols in place that ensure that the food provided in the dining room is safe and allergens are labeled, and no peanut or tree nut products are used in cooking. During Breakfast and Lunch, no outside food is to be served in the dining room that has not been approved by the Dining Director prior to the event. Absolutely no home cooked products are allowed in the dining room during lunch or breakfast. No outside products are to be used in the dining room toasters for allergy cross contamination. We also have toasters that are for gluten free products only.

For more information, please call the school nurse at 301-365-6002 or email lori.herringa@holton-arms.edu.