



PEANUT ALLERGY GUIDELINES

To provide clarity and consistency throughout our district, the following guidelines have been developed with input from principals, a director of FAAN (the national Food Allergy Anaphylaxis Network), student services administration, district health services coordinator, and discussions with parents of students with peanut/tree nut allergies.

The nurse and parents should develop a health/emergency plan to accommodate the individual student's allergy and necessary steps to follow. Some of these guidelines may be more applicable at the elementary level than the secondary level.

1. In elementary schools, letters should be sent home to the classmates of the student with the allergy, explaining the allergy and asking parents not to send snacks containing peanuts or peanut products. There is a sample notice in the building health notebook and other examples available.
2. Only peanut-free snacks are allowed in the classroom of the student with a peanut allergy.
3. School snacks will be approved by the appropriate staff members to ensure that the snack does not contain peanuts/peanut products.
4. Curricular items should be reviewed to ensure that they do not contain peanuts/peanut products. (i.e. math manipulatives, art supplies)
5. A peanut-free lunch table may be provided to address an individual student's needs. The table would be cleaned with soap and water before and after the lunch period.
6. Please refer to the two policies specifically addressing medication (720.14 Administering Medicine to Students and 720.14 - E2 Student Self-Medication form). These provide the basis for decision-making regarding the storage and use of the EpiPen and Benadryl that may be used in the case of an allergic reaction. The Self-Medication form should be completed so that the student can carry the medication of them (i.e. fanny pack, etc.). The medication could be either self-administered or administered by a trained staff member, per the emergency health plan.
7. Staff members involved with the student with the peanut allergy will receive in-service by the nurse on the individual student's health plan that will include possible reactions and necessary steps, including the use of an EpiPen, in the case of a severe reaction. These steps should be delineated in the student's health plan.
8. Parents may request that a picture of the student, accompanied by the emergency plan, is displayed in the building - classroom, teachers' lounge, lunchroom so that people are aware of the student's allergy. This is an option parents may request but is NOT mandatory.
9. Frequent hand washing for the classmates of the student with the allergy is recommended, especially after lunch. The district does not support the purchase and use of wet wipes. Parents may opt to provide the classroom with a supply of wet wipes but should not be asked to do so.
10. On field trips, a staff member trained on the steps involved in a student's health/emergency plan or the parent may be present.