

Food Allergy Protocol Guidelines for Alta-Aurelia Schools

The following are protocol guidelines to help the schools address student needs concerning food allergies. Each child's situation may be different, and not all of the listed guidelines will apply to each child.

- Every child at risk for anaphylaxis should have an individual written accommodation plan that has two parts:
 - The accommodations or services needed for the child to be safely included in activities.
 - The emergency care plan that explains how to treat an allergic reaction.
- Signs may be posted on main doors, and classrooms indicating the presence of a food allergy and restrictions that apply (i.e. Peanut/Nut Zones)
- Parents with children in the affected classroom will be informed of specific foods to be restricted in the classroom. This will be done both in person (i.e. during "Meet and Greets") and through written communications sent home.
- Reminders of food allergy restrictions will be sent home at holiday times and/or class party times.
- Hand sanitizers will be available throughout the buildings. Students will routinely be instructed on proper handwashing (which will be done prior to lunch and encouraged after lunch) as well as hand sanitizer use.
- Student peers bringing a lunch from home will sit in a predesignated, allergy free area, away from the general classroom population to avoid cross-contamination.
- The student with the food allergy, as a part of their accommodation plan, may be seated in a designated area with their class to avoid cross-contamination whether eating school served lunch or bringing a lunch from home. The allergic student's designated seating area will be marked and other students will not be allowed to cross into the allergic students identified space.
- The parent(s)/guardian and head cook will review menus together to determine if it is "safe" for the child prior to posting the menus and preparing the meals.
- The parent/guardian will provide the school with a list of current foods to avoid, along with a physician's allergy report. A possible list of substitute food items will be a part of the Diet Modification Request Form. Updates of food allergy lists would be the responsibility of the parents to provide for the school. A release of information with the attending physician is advisable.
- The degree/severity of allergic reactions, including touch or airborne will be discussed during the parent meeting prior to the child starting school.
- The parent is to be called whenever the child appears to be ill, or exhibiting symptoms or an allergic reaction.
- An Epi Pen for the allergic child will be available in the cafeteria, and on the bus (if the child rides a bus). Epi pens are to be provided by the parent or guardian.
- Staff working directly with the allergic student will be trained in the proper use of the Epi Pen (teachers, associates, nurse, secretary, bus driver, as examples).

- The parent/guardian will be invited to accompany the child on class field trips, especially when allergens are environmental.

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