



DISTRICT GUIDELINES FOR MEDICAL AND FOOD-RELATED ISSUES

In compliance with national legislation and Ohio Revised Code 3313.719, which directs all Ohio school districts to put in place a policy safeguarding students from food related allergies and medical conditions, Forest Hills School District has adopted important guidelines. These guidelines safeguard students from life-threatening (peanut or other) food-related allergies as well as extreme medically related conditions. The guidelines also encompass practices from the reauthorization of the Child Nutrition and Women, Infants and Children Act and the development of a District Student Wellness Program, designed to include goals for nutrition education, physical activity and other school-based activities.

- All District classrooms will be free of peanuts, tree nuts and other nut products
- Food served to all students in the classrooms (i.e. special events, birthdays) needs to be in prepackaged individual servings and from an inspected facility . Nutrition and ingredient labels must be attached. Fruits and vegetables for these special events are highly encouraged. Parents may also contact their building principal or teacher for more information.
- When food is being used in a curriculum related activity, teachers will notify parents of students with food/health related conditions at least 3 days in advance. This information will include ingredients and nutritional labeling, the approximate serving size, and how it is being used. The teacher will incorporate appropriate food safety practices (e.g. without cross contamination) while teaching the lesson. Peanuts/nut products may not be used in any classroom activities.
- Special food related events such as pizza parties, cultural activities, end-of-year lunches and tasting parties must include the following:
 - Food served must be from a health inspected facility (e.g. grocery stores, restaurants). Nutritional and ingredient labels must be provided for each item served
 - Parents of students with food/health related conditions must be notified 3 days in advance
 - These events should be in place of lunch (not in addition)
 - Food should be discouraged as a reward for students. It is important to promote health and wellness, encouraging physical activities and non-food items
 - Teachers must check all items that are brought into the classroom (e.g. classroom pets, potting soil, latex items, lotions, soaps, coffee creamers, candy, and individual food reinforcements) as these items may contain allergens.
 - School bus drivers will be informed of important food/medical related conditions to ensure safe travel needs.
- It is a licensing requirement that snacks be provided during the Early Childhood Program program sessions. These snack items may not contain peanuts, tree nuts or nut products. Snacks may be bulk items (items purchased in large quantities) but must be sealed/intact as purchased from an inspected facility/grocery. These snacks will be distributed in portioned serving sizes by the classroom teacher. All of the above guidelines apply to the Early Childhood Program.

These guidelines do not impact activities that take place outside of the school day including team or club meals, open houses, ice cream socials, etc. during which parents accompany their child.