



October 2, 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Halloween is fast approaching and therefore I would like to outline some guidelines for our school celebrations.

Students will be able to wear their costumes to school or change at school on Tuesday, October 31, 2023. Costumes should follow our past guidelines:

- Students may wear a costume of their choosing for the class party.
- Toy weapons of any kind **are not allowed**.
- **Avoid excessively scary costumes** as they might frighten our younger students.
- Please **check** your **child's costume for safety**. Make sure it is not too long and does not create a tripping hazard.
- Finally, we would also prefer that children **not wear costume masks** that block vision.

We will be having class parties. Our goal is for the class parties to be inclusive of all students. Class parents will be coordinating with classroom teachers on an appropriate craft for their grade level of students.

As Halloween approaches, it is necessary to remind parents of the potentially life threatening danger of food allergies to certain students in our school.

The issue of food allergies can be incredibly serious for many students. Peanut and tree nut products are particularly problematic, but other foods such as dairy, eggs and wheat can also cause students health problems. The extreme end of the spectrum in terms of a health risk is anaphylaxis, when the bodily systems experience a shut down due to exposure to the substance in question.

This danger is particularly acute during holiday celebrations, when consuming goodies is the order of the day. If you are a child whose safety depends upon never consuming the wrong food, a party is a true obstacle course. With certain children, even bodily contact with the wrong

substance can be disastrous.

As we approach Halloween and the holiday parties, please keep the following in mind:

- Please refer to the [elementary food allergy guidelines](#) for additional information.
- Nut products are forbidden in “nut-free classrooms”. Please carefully adhere to classroom guidelines.
- Students must consume all goodies within the class during the party. Goody bags and other treats designed to leave the class with the students are forbidden.
- Crafts and activities involving nut products are forbidden.
- All products should be packaged with ingredients listed.

If you have any questions pertaining to holiday celebrations, please consult your child’s teacher or the school nurse.

By working together, we can try to ensure the safety of all our children during this exciting time.
Thank you!

Regards,

Dr. Kathleen Koop

Dr. Kathleen Koop
Principal
Kings Road School