



Kings Road School Health Office

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The following documents the Madison School District's Elementary Food Allergy Guidelines as they apply to birthdays and other food-related events. As a balanced approach to handling food allergies in our schools, we intend to keep each student safe physically and emotionally, while encouraging celebrations and opportunities for fun.

Important aspects of the guidelines:

- No food, **including ice pops**, will be permitted for birthday celebrations. Please arrange for another way to celebrate your child's birthday with your child's teacher.
- There are no food-related celebrations except for Halloween and Valentine's Day celebrations and the pre-approved 5th grade celebrations. For these celebrations, prepackaged goods may be served. They must be peanut/nut-free. Please have the ingredient label on the package available for reference if needed.
- Cards or notes containing edibles such as lollipops, candy, or gum to take home are not permitted. The distribution of "goody bags" is not allowed.

Parent Role and Responsibilities of Food Allergic Students:

- Parents are strongly encouraged to provide a safe snack or treat to be kept at school.
- **If you choose to have your child eat the treat provided at Valentine's Day or Halloween celebrations, you are required to provide written permission to your child's teacher. Without written permission, your child will not be allowed to eat the treat served.**
- Assist your child in self-management of food allergies by identifying:
 - o Safe and unsafe foods
 - o Strategies for avoiding exposure to unsafe foods
 - o Actions for how and when to inform an adult that they may be having an allergy-related problem -

Communicate with the teacher and room parent to determine if your child may eat the special treat provided.

Written parental permission is required for your child to eat **any treat/snack** provided at school. - Review the cafeteria menu monthly and refer all ingredient-related questions to the food services staff (foodservice@madisonpublicschools.org) and the school nurse for clarification.

- Provide the school nurse with medications necessary for allergy management should an allergic reaction occur. An Allergy Action Plan completed by your child's doctor is required.

Teacher Role and Responsibilities:

- Inform all parents of the dates of any food-based celebrations before the event.
 - Ensure that **parental permission** is obtained if the food-allergic student is consuming the treat provided. -
- Remind all students that there is no food sharing at school.

We are committed to keeping all students safe, and I thank you in advance for working toward that goal.

Please feel free to contact the building principal, Dr. Koop, or me for any clarification or questions.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Traci Hoch, BSN, RN