



Johnson City Schools

Expect The Best!

Office of Health Services ❖ P.O. Box 1517 ❖ Johnson City, TN 37605
Office (423) 232-5380 ❖ Fax (423) 218-0544

Dear Parents,

You've all read the headlines and seen the news stories: food allergies are a growing concern in schools across America. Millions of children are at risk from suffering a severe or even life threatening reaction to these allergies. A major health issue such as this must be taken very seriously, and it is a goal of the Johnson City School District to make the safety and well-being of our students our top priority.

We have multiple students attending our schools who have varied types of food allergies. These allergies include but are not limited to peanuts and nuts, dairy, soy, fish and products that contain gluten. These reactions can occur even if the student is within close proximity to the allergen.

Johnson City School District staff are notified of our students with allergies and have been instructed in the correct emergency procedures regarding anaphylactic shock. In addition, we will be providing ongoing training, follow up and support as needed. Prevention, of course is the best approach and therefore we are requesting your cooperation in providing treats prepared with peanut-free products. We realize this may be inconvenient, but trust that you understand the importance of the situation.

Please review the following general guidelines and discuss them with your child. Also review the reverse side of this page for detailed information regarding peanut/nut allergies.

- No sharing of food in the lunchroom or at times when snacks are permitted.
- Hand washing before and after eating will be emphasized.
- Classroom celebrations are a special time for students, but can be a difficult time for a food-allergic child. If you would like to send in baked goods, please be careful about the ingredients. Please list the ingredients on the outside of the package and when preparing "treats" please pay close attention to cross contamination in your kitchen.

We will be discussing this condition with the students, but ask that you closely review the above school procedures with your son/daughter. We appreciate your cooperation as we work to maintain our school as a safe environment for all students.

This is a learning process for all of us, but we trust that you understand how deeply important it is to respect and adhere to these guidelines. If throughout the course of the year you have any questions or concerns about food-allergy-related issues, please do not hesitate to contact the school nurse's office at 423-232-5380.

Wishing you and your family a safe and healthy school year.

Sincerely,

Greg Wallace
Supervisor of Safety and Mental Health

Peanut allergy – the food allergy that claims more lives each year than any other. A child with a serious peanut allergy can suffer a reaction merely by touching a peanut-containing food.

- The classroom should remain a “peanut/nut free zone.” Please do not send in any food items to be consumed in the classroom that contains peanuts, nuts, peanut butter or peanut products.
- A peanut free table will be designated in the lunch room for all students with peanut/nut allergies.
- Peanut butter and peanut/nut products may be packed in your child’s lunch, but cannot be eaten in the classroom, or at the peanut/nut free lunch table.