

Anaphylaxis/Life Threatening Medical Conditions

-POLICY-

The Board of Education is committed to the principle of providing a safe learning environment for its students. This includes a safe environment for all those who have been identified as having the potential for an anaphylaxis reaction, or other life-threatening medical emergency. While it is impossible to create a risk-free environment, school staff and parent(s)/guardian(s) can take important steps to minimize potentially fatal anaphylactic reactions.

-REGULATION-

Anaphylaxis is a sudden and severe allergic reaction, which can be fatal, requiring immediate medical emergency measures be taken.

Guidelines

1. The parent(s)/guardian(s) have the primary duty to inform the Principal of the student's anaphylactic or other life threatening medical condition and complete the "Request for

All food preparation staff and parents must be made aware that food that has the peanut free label only means peanuts. The ingredients should always be checked for other forms of tree nuts. If the allergy warning states "May Contain", it is also a potential danger of the allergy person.

Given that anaphylaxis can be triggered by minute amounts of an allergen ingested or inhaled (the smell of peanuts or scented products), students with food allergies must be encouraged to follow certain guidelines:

- a. Eat only food that they have brought from home unless it is packaged, clearly labelled and approved by the parents (elementary schools).
- b. If eating in a cafeteria, ensure food service staff understands the life threatening nature of their allergy. When in doubt avoid the food item in question.
- c. Be aware of cross-contamination issues.
- d. Wash hands before and after eating.
- e. Not share food, utensils or containers.
- f. Place food on a napkin or wax paper rather than in direct contact with a desk or table.
- g. Not leave food unattended.
- h. Wear MedicAlert identification.

## 7. Awareness

The school principal should ensure that:

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- vi. Identification of at-risk students (as outlined in the individual Student Emergency Procedure Plan).
  - vii. Emergency plans (including getting the student to the hospital).
  - viii. Method of communication with and strategies to educate and raise awareness of parents, students, employees and volunteers about anaphylaxis.
- d. All members of the school community including substitute employees, employees on call, student teachers, teachers hired after the beginning of the school year, and volunteers have appropriate information about severe allergies including background information on allergies, anaphylaxis and safety procedures.
- e. With the consent of the parent, the principal and the classroom teacher must ensure that the student's classmates and ~~mates~~ are provided with information on severe allergies in a manner that is appropriate for ~~the~~ age and maturity level of the students and those strategies to reduce teasing and bullying are incorporated into this information. Although not a limited list, this could include:

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