

**CRANFORD PUBLIC SCHOOL  
CRANFORD, NEW JERSEY**

**REGULATION: STUDENTS: ANAPHYLAXIS TO FOOD AND OTHER SUBSTANCES**

The purpose of this regulation is to provide specific guidance to limit the amount of potential exposure to children in Grades K-8 with allergies that might induce an anaphylactic or other severe reaction during school hours.

Daily Snacks

Because daily snacks in classrooms are consumed by the student and not shared with other students, parents/guardians may send children to school with their favorite snacks. Parents/guardians are nonetheless encouraged to consider the following in making their daily snack choices for their children: (1) the letter distributed at the beginning of the school year that identifies the allergies in their child's classroom. This is important because some snacks, though not consumed by a child with an allergy, may nonetheless result in an allergic reaction. (2) The content of BOE Policy #3542.1, "Local Wellness/Nutrition."

Classroom Birthday Celebrations

The district encourages all schools and teachers to recognize a child's birthday as a special event by providing non-food items like a birthday pencil, stickers, bookmark, cards, birthday crown, and other similar ways. The district does not permit parents/guardians to send in food or snack items to be distributed in the classroom as part of a birthday celebration or recognition. If any food or snack item is brought in, it shall be returned to the parent.

School-wide Special Celebrations

The district permits each school to schedule up to 4 celebrations per school year that may feature food or snack items as associated with a holiday or cultural celebration. Such celebrations shall be announced in advance so that parents/guardians of children with allergies can make appropriate plans for what their child may safely consume during the celebration. Parents/guardians of children with allergies are encouraged to consult in advance of the school-wide celebration with the teacher, school nurse, and/or class parent(s)/guardian(s) about any particular needs or concerns for any particular school-wide celebration.

Roles & responsibilities for managing food and other allergies:

- Family's Role of Student with Food Allergies
  - Notify the school of each child's known allergies
  - Work with the school to develop a plan that accommodates the child's needs throughout the school, including the classroom, the cafeteria, during school-sponsored activities, as well as an IEHP.
  - Educate the child in the self-management of his/her food allergy, including: safe and unsafe foods; strategies for avoiding exposure to unsafe foods; symptoms of

allergic reactions; and how and when to tell an adult he or she may be having an allergy-related problem.

- May provide child with a food allergy with “safe snacks” for them to consume during the school-wide celebrations where food may be consumed as part of the event.
- Students with Allergies Role
  - Never trade food items with others.
  - Never eat anything with unknown ingredients or known to contain any allergens.
  - Notify an adult immediately if he or she eats something they believe is causing an allergic reaction.
- School’s/District’s Role
  - Ensure no food items are used as part of any curriculum/lesson, except in Foods classes and as noted above under the heading “School-wide Special Celebrations.”
  - Ensure no food items are used as rewards, incentives or prizes.
  - Discuss field trips and other school-sponsored events where food items may be consumed with the family of the child with an allergy. The child’s teacher, school nurse, and principal will consult to decide appropriate strategies for managing food allergies during that event.
  - Work with the classroom teacher and the class parent(s)/guardian(s) to notify parents/guardians about the allergies in their child’s classroom and to encourage them to provide daily snacks for their child that takes cognizance of those allergies.
  - Provide a nut-free table or other appropriate seating arrangements during lunch periods.
  - Inform lunch room aides of all known allergies.
  - Share all IEHPs with class substitutes.