

The following is St. Eugene School's policy on Food Allergies taken from the current Parent and Student Handbook 2010-11, p. 15. Page 2 is the approved addendum clarifying and updating the current policy.

## **Food Allergies**

St. Eugene School does not guarantee the elimination of all food products that may cause students with severe food allergies to have an allergic reaction. St. Eugene staff will provide reasonable accommodations to assist with the safety of those children.

It is the responsibility of the parent of a student with a severe food allergy to notify the school of the child's allergies. The parent must submit to the school a Food Allergy Action Plan, using a form provided by the school. This action plan will be posted in the health office and in the cafeteria. For a student whose severe food allergy may result in anaphylaxis, EpiPens must be provided by the parent to the school. One EpiPen will be kept in the health office, and one in the cafeteria (unless the student is in half day kindergarten and does not eat lunch at school). The EpiPen from the health office will be taken along on field trips.

School staff will send a letter of notification to parents of all classmates of a student with a severe food allergy. Students as well will be educated about food allergies and their risks. School staff will have annual training about food allergies and the use of an EpiPen.

Students with severe allergies in K4-4<sup>th</sup> grade will be assigned to sit at a specific allergen controlled lunch table, unless parents specifically request to allow their child to sit at a general lunch table. In grades 5-8, when students are better able to monitor their surroundings, we will allow students with severe food allergies to sit at the general table with their classmates, unless parents specifically request that their child be assigned to an allergen controlled table.

Often at St. Eugene School, parents will send in a birthday treat for children to share with their classmates. Parents will be informed of food allergies in their children's class and will be asked to keep their birthday treats free of peanuts or tree nuts. Since we cannot ensure the safety of the ingredients or the prevention of cross-contamination in someone's home kitchen, though, parents of children with severe food allergies are asked to send to school a "treat box" to be kept in the classroom. The child with food allergies will get something from this treat box rather than taking the birthday treat brought in by the classmate.

For all extra-curricular activities, it is the responsibility of the parents of a student with severe allergies to communicate with the supervisors of the extra-curricular activity and to make proper arrangements.

## **Addendum to St. Eugene School's Food Allergy policy. Approved by the St. Eugene School Board 12/14/2010.**

### **Rationale**

St. Eugene School makes the safety and well-being of its students a priority. Food allergies are a growing concern in schools. Therefore, St. Eugene is revising and updating its policies regarding peanuts/tree nuts in order to provide a safe environment.

### **Classroom Snack Policy**

**All classrooms are peanut/tree nut free zones.** When a student brings a snack to school that is to be eaten in the classroom that snack needs to be free of peanuts or tree nuts. Since students are eating in the classroom and can leave traces of food on desks, pencils, chairs, etc. it is imperative that the classrooms remain peanut/tree nut free.

### **Birthday Treats**

Students are allowed to bring birthday treats to share with classmates. We request birthday treats to be without peanuts/tree nuts so that everyone will be included. If there is any doubt as to whether or not a birthday treat contains peanuts/tree nuts (such as a cake baked in a facility where there are peanuts, tree nuts), the child with the allergy will be allowed to eat a snack from his/her treat box. *(See page 15 of the St. Eugene School Parent and Student Handbook 2010-11 for further explanation.)*

### **Holiday Parties**

Food for holiday parties will be kept to a minimum. Follow the same guidelines for birthday treats when it comes to ingredients. Students with allergies need to be prepared to have their own food.

### **Curriculum-based or Foreign Language Food Tasting**

Tasting food from other cultures can be an important part of social studies, history or foreign language instruction. For curriculum-based or foreign language food tasting, advanced notification will be given if possible. Students with allergies need to be prepared to have their own food.

### **Lunch**

SES does provide peanut/tree nut free tables for students with allergies. The hot lunch program does not serve any food with peanuts/tree nuts. *(See page 15 of the St. Eugene School Parent and Student Handbook 2010-11 for further explanation.)*