



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF HAVERFORD TOWNSHIP

Food Allergies and Outside Food Brought into the Building

The district is providing you with the following information to help you understand the food allergy issue in the classrooms and school, and to set policy for birthdays and school celebrations. This information and the Recommended Foods List are also available on the school and district websites.

Two important policy notes:

- 1) **Birthday celebrations** will NOT include the consumption of food or drink. Alternative suggestions for birthday celebrations are included below. We encourage you to participate in one of the listed activities.
- 2) **School/Grade level initiated celebrations** should use the Recommended Foods List as a guide, but can deviate from the list under the consult of the principal and nurse. Any deviation must be communicated to each family included in the celebration.

Facility's organization to accommodate allergies

A. **ALLERGEN FREE CLASSROOMS** (example: Nut Free Classroom)

1. **INDIVIDUAL CLASSROOM SNACK WILL BE RESTRICTED TO ALLERGEN FREE SNACKS** (example: if classroom is a nut free classroom, ALL students must refrain from bringing in snacks with nuts and nut oils).

* IT IS STRONGLY SUGGESTED THE DISTRICT RECOMMENDED SNACK LIST BE FOLLOWED

*HANDS OF ALL STUDENTS IN CLASSROOM MUST BE WASHED PRIOR TO AND AFTER FOOD CONSUMPTION.

*DESKTOPS OF ALL STUDENTS IN CLASSROOM MUST BE WIPED WITH DISPOSABLE WIPES BEFORE AND AFTER FOOD IS EATEN

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| 2. LUNCH | NO RESTRICTIONS |
| 3. BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS | NON-FOOD CELEBRATIONS |
| 4. SCHOOL INITIATED CELEBRATIONS | RECOMMENDED SNACK LIST |

** Found on the website*

B. **CLASSROOMS NOT DESIGNATED AS ALLERGEN FREE:**

1. CLASSROOM SNACK	NO RESTRICTIONS
2. LUNCH	NO RESTRICTIONS
3. BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS	NON-FOOD CELEBRATION
4. SCHOOL CELEBRATIONS	RECOMMENDED LIST

** Found on the website*

ANY DEVIATIONS MUST BE COORDINATED BETWEEN PRINCIPAL, TEACHER, PARENT OF CHILD WITH ALLERGY, AND HOMEROOM PARENTS INVOLVED.

Deviation from the * RECOMMENDED Food list for celebrations requires permission from the teacher, principal and school nurse.

1. HR parent and teacher will generate a list of ingredients and food items.
2. Teacher will present the list to the principal and nurse for approval in advance of communication to families.
3. Teacher will obtain written approval of food planned to be presented at celebration from parent/guardian of child with food allergy.
4. Teacher will send the food/ingredient list to each family included in the celebration.
5. Each family must consent in writing that their child may participate.
+ Non-consenting families should send an appropriate snack for their child using the Safe Foods List as a guide.
6. Food entering the building will be monitored by school personnel.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

To honor a student birthday, we ask that non-food celebrations be arranged with the teacher at least one week prior to their special day. To minimize disruption to the instructional day, we also ask that these celebrations be limited to no more than 10 to 15 minutes.

Instead of consumable items consider the following:

- Reading a favorite book to your child's class
- Donating a book to the classroom or school library with a birthday inscription
- Asking your child's teacher to extend community meeting time for the class by 10 minutes in honor of your child's birthday
- Teaching the class a simple craft, art activity or game
- Providing a small token to classmates in honor of your child's birthday
- Engage the class in an activity that centers on reading, drawing and/or other interests your child may have
- Engage the class in a cultural activity that will expose our students to something unique about a particular background

SDHT Department of Pupil Services and Special Education 8/8/2012