

August 21, 2015

Dear Elementary Parents:

An objective of Louisville Elementary is to provide every child with a safe and caring environment. It is our goal to educate our parents and school visitors with the information they need to help maintain a safe school setting for students with food allergies.

The 2015-2016 school year, Louisville Elementary has a child with a serious peanut allergy. This type of allergy claims more lives each year than any other. A child with a serious peanut allergy can suffer a reaction simply by touching a peanut-containing food. Therefore, we are putting the following safety guidelines into effect:

- Please do not send any peanuts, peanut butter or foods containing peanuts or peanut butter to be eaten as snacks in the classroom. It is fine to send these products for lunch, which is eaten in the cafeteria.
- All of our elementary classrooms will be designated as a "No Nut Classroom." This means that there will be no snacks allowed in the classrooms that contain peanut/tree nuts or has the phrase "may be processed with peanuts/tree nuts" listed on the ingredient label. We know that this may be difficult at first to find a safe snack, so we have listed several options that can be used at school along with a safe snack website. We appreciate your help and cooperation with this to ensure that every student will be in a safe environment while at school.
- Homemade items will not be allowed.
- It would be especially helpful if you could let your child's teacher know a few days in advance when your child would like to celebrate his/her birthday. This advance notice ensures that all students will be able to have a safe treat to eat.
- We will try to keep the food at classroom parties as healthy as possible. A nice alternative to class treats would be pencils, stickers, etc.
- Parents who will send a lunch from home for their child are free to pack the foods of their choice, as long as it stays contained in the lunchbox and consumed in the cafeteria. There will be designated tables for those bringing a cold lunch.
- We will keep hand sanitizer in the classrooms. All students will use hand sanitizer, along with hand washing before/ after the cafeteria and entering the classrooms after lunch. If your child ate peanut butter for breakfast, we would greatly appreciate you making sure that his/her hands are washed with soap and water before leaving for school. Water alone does not do the trick!
- There will be a No Food Policy on the school buses to ensure the safety of all our students.

We have provided a recommended list of snacks safe for school use:

(Always check product labels for peanut/tree nut products.)

Air popped popcorn	Stauffers Animal crackers
Cheese and crackers	Dried fruit
Dry Cereal	Fruits (i.e. grapes, apple slices, bananas)
Honey Maid Graham Crackers	Jell-O
Low fat mini yogurt cups	Low fat pudding cups
Meat sticks	Mini bagels
Pretzels	Raisins
String cheese	Vegetables (i.e. carrots, celery)
Whole grain crackers	Pretzels
Club crackers	Pop tarts (fruits only)
Fruit snacks, fruit roll-ups, Gushers	Voortman Vanilla Wafers
Town House Original	Saltines

Website: snacksafely.com/snack-guide

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 either one of us.

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

Sincerely,



Cory Holl
Elementary Principal



Joan Knott
School Nurse