

Germantown School District

KENNEDY MIDDLE SCHOOL
W160 N11836 CRUSADER COURT
GERMANTOWN, WI 53022-2699
(262) 253-3450
FAX (262) 253-3499

Dear Parents:

You've all read the headlines and seen the news stories: food allergies are a growing concern in schools across America. Millions of children are at risk from suffering a severe or even life threatening reaction to these allergies. A major health issue such as this must be taken very seriously, and it has always been the policy of this school to make the safety and well-being of our students our top priority.

We have multiple students attending K.M.S. who have varied types of food allergies. These allergies include but are not limited to peanuts and nuts, dairy, soy, fish and products that contain gluten. These reactions can occur even if the student is within close proximity to the allergen.

The K.M.S. staff have been aware of this situation and been instructed in the correct emergency procedures regarding anaphylactic shock. In addition, we will be providing ongoing training, follow up and support as needed. Prevention, of course is the best approach and therefore we are requesting your cooperation in providing treats from the attached list or treats prepared with gluten-free and peanut-free products. We realize this may be inconvenient, but trust that you understand the importance of the situation.

Please review the following general guidelines and discuss them with your child. Also review the reverse side of this page for detailed information regarding peanut and gluten allergies and a list of suggested snacks.

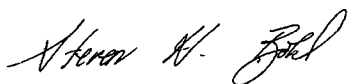
- No sharing of food in the lunchroom or at times when snacks are permitted.
- Hand washing before and after eating will be emphasized.
- Classroom celebrations are a special time for students, but can be a difficult time for the food-allergic child. If you would like to send in baked goods, please be careful about the ingredients. Please list the ingredients on the outside of the package and when preparing "treats" please pay close attention to cross contamination in your kitchen.

We will be discussing this condition with the students, but ask that you closely review the above school procedures with your son/daughter. We appreciate your cooperation as we work to maintain our school as a safe environment for all students.

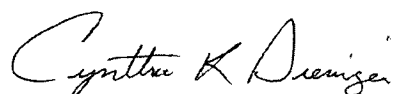
This is a learning process for all of us, but we trust that you understand how deeply important it is to respect and adhere to these guidelines. If throughout the course of the year you have any questions or concerns about food-allergy-related issues, please do not hesitate to contact the school nurse at 262-502-7436.

Wishing you and your family a safe and healthy school year

Sincerely,



Steve Bold, Principal
Kennedy Middle School



Cindy Dieringer
District School Nurse

Peanut allergy - the food allergy that claims more lives each year than any other. A child with a serious peanut allergy can suffer a reaction merely by touching a peanut-containing food.

- The classrooms should remain a "peanut/nut free zone" Please do not send in any food items to be consumed in the classroom that contains peanuts, nuts, peanut butter or peanut products.
- A peanut free table will be designated in the lunch room for all students with peanut/nut allergies.
- Peanut butter and peanut/nut products may be packed in your child's lunch, but cannot be eaten in the classroom, or at the peanut/nut free lunch table.

Gluten Allergy – Gluten is a protein found in wheat, rye, barley and derivatives of these grains. Thus it appears in any of those products, including most types of cookies, cakes, snack foods, breads and cereals. Although this allergy is not immediately life threatening it can cause physical complications and discomfort to the child.

- Please consider the above information when providing treats for the classroom - gluten free flour and snacks are available at local grocery stores.
- Please provide snacks from the suggested list.

Here are some examples of Gluten and Peanut/nut snacks for school. (Remember to always read the product label)

Fruit
Vegetables
Rice cakes/crackers
Popcorn
Nachos (made from corn)
Cheese
String Cheese
Cream Cheese
Fruit rolls
Popsicles
Marshmallows
Chocolate (no peanuts or nuts)
Jell-O
Pudding
Yogurt
100% Juice (no flavoring added)
Most carbonated drinks
Hot Chocolate
Raisins