

FOOD ALLERGIES

The Board of Trustees desires to minimize students' exposure to foods to which they are allergic and to provide for prompt and appropriate response in the event an allergic reaction occurs while on school grounds. However, to avoid a false sense of security, no school site shall be declared to be free of any particular food allergen.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop Administrative Regulations for the protection of students with food allergies. Parents/guardians shall be responsible for notifying their site principal or designee, in writing, regarding any severe food allergies, and shall provide medical documentation of severe food allergies by a licensed physician.

Each school site staff shall identify and evaluate students on their campuses who may, based upon medically identified severe food allergies, qualify as a disabled student under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act (Section 504).

When a student is identified by a multi-disciplinary team as disabled due to medically identified severe food allergies, District staff shall ensure that any agreed upon food allergy based accommodations, supports and/or services in a student's Section 504 Plan or Individualized Education Program are implemented. Specific Protocols for medication storage, school parties, lunch time and lunch seating, food service, extracurricular activities, after school events, field trips and/or recess shall be determined on an individualized, case by case basis by each student's multi-disciplinary team. Certificated staff shall be trained on this policy.

Students shall not be excluded from school activities or otherwise discriminated against, harassed, intimidated, or bullied because of their food allergy. All District staff, parents and students shall be expected to adhere by school or individual classroom rules that may be enacted to protect students with food allergies, to the extent there is no documented conflicting health need. Conflicting health needs shall be identified in writing by a licensed physician, and shall be handled by each school site's administration on an individualized basis. However, under no circumstances shall staff, parents, or students without severe food allergies be subject to harassment, intimidation, or bullying.

Any complaint of alleged noncompliance with this policy shall be addressed through appropriate District complaint procedures.