

BEDMINSTER TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

234 Somerville Road
Bedminster, NJ 07921
Telephone (908) 234-0768 Fax (908) 234-2318
www.bedminsterschool.org

Alicia Schauer
Business Administrator

Jennifer Giordano
Superintendent

Corby Swan
Principal

Dr. Jane Petrozzino, Ph.D.
Supervisor of Student Services

Todd St. Laurent
Vice Principal/
Curriculum Supervisor

**HEALTH SERVICES
Food Allergy Management**

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Date _____

Our medical records indicate that your child, _____, has the following food allergy: _____

Food allergies can be life threatening. It is our goal is to reduce the risk of accidental exposure to foods in the school setting. It is for the health and safety of your child that we request you read this document carefully, **then choose one of the options listed on the reverse side (if applicable), for your child.**

The Bedminster School nurses will train all staff members regarding food allergies including: the recognition of allergic reactions and strategies for avoiding exposure. The school nurses will also train adults to be student-specific delegates to administer epinephrine, in the event a nurse is not present. A peanut/nut-free table will also be available in the cafetorium for children with peanut and/or tree nut allergies. This will ensure a safe location, free of all peanut/nut products, for your child to safely eat his/her lunch. We recommend that children with peanut or nut allergies sit at this table during their lunch period. You do have the option of having your child sit at a regular table, keeping in mind your child's developmental age and whether or not your child is responsible enough to follow through with the recommendations listed below. We also advise you to consult with your child's allergist or healthcare provider before making your decision.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CHILDREN WITH FOOD ALLERGIES

Educate children so they KNOW:

- Foods which are safe and foods they must avoid
- Strategies to avoid unsafe foods
- Do not eat anything with unknown ingredients
- Never eat anything known to contain their allergen
- Always read food labels (if age appropriate)
- Do not "share" or "trade" foods
- Symptoms of an allergic reaction
- How and when to tell an adult that they may be experiencing a reaction
- Wash their hands before and after eating

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In addition, it is imperative that students with food allergies have medications available in school in the event of an accidental exposure. Parents are responsible for supplying the medications, properly labeled by the pharmacy, along with the proper Medication Authorization Forms and Food Allergy Action Plan. Both of these documents must be updated each school year and they are downloadable from the Health Office page of the district's website or upon request in the health office. It is also important that health information be shared with appropriate teachers and school personnel. If you do not want this information to be shared, parents must indicate so in writing.

Please read the choices below carefully. Your signature is required next to your choice. The choice you make will be followed for the duration of your child's attendance at Bedminster School unless you notify the health office otherwise. Please sign and submit this document to the school health office regardless of any documentation you may have previously provided.

I, _____, parent of _____, request
(print parent name) (print student name, first and last)
that my child sit at the peanut/nut-free table in the school cafetorium.

OR

I, _____, parent of _____, request
(print parent name) (print student name, first and last)
that my child sit at a regular table in the school cafetorium, which may include sitting among children eating peanut/nut products including peanut butter. I acknowledge that I understand the risks involved and have educated my child on avoiding exposure to his/her allergen. I also have consulted with my child's allergist and/or health care provider prior to making my decision.

(Parent signature)

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call the school nurse at (908) 234-0768 ext 229.

Thank you for your cooperation,
Michelle McKeown, RN BSN CSN
Bedminster School Nurse