



May 22, 2018

Dear Parents,

Now that the school year is almost finished, the school nurses are developing plans of care for students who have unique health-related situations in anticipation of the next academic year. It has come to our attention that your child has a severe life threatening allergy with the potential of an anaphylactic reaction. The nursing department wishes to partner with you in your child's plan of care and as such, we have attached the School's Allergy Policy so that you understand your responsibilities for communication, including **signing and returning this letter to your child's building nurse before the end of this school year in anticipation of a very busy 1<sup>st</sup> day of school on August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2018.**

If your child's allergy has not been evaluated and diagnosed by a physician, we recommend a physician consultation, as soon as possible. If there is potential for an anaphylactic reaction, the physician will usually order emergency medication to be available in the event of a life-threatening reaction.

In an effort to promote a safer environment for your child, we have taken several measures. If your child is smell- or touch-sensitive to peanuts, your child is welcome to sit at a table where we have displayed a sign saying, "No Peanuts, Please!" However, please understand that we do not have enough staff members to monitor the lunch table at all times in order to guarantee the absence of peanuts or peanut products at that table. Furthermore, we are relying on the students who sit at that table to determine whether or not the food they have for lunch contains peanuts or peanut products.

In addition, although our food service provider is aware of the number of food allergies we have at CHCA and tries to avoid cooking with peanuts or peanut oils, they cannot guarantee the absence of peanuts or nut products in the food. For obvious reasons, the food service is unable to avoid eggs, milk, and soy products in the food being served. Students who are allergic to these foods would be safer if they would pack their lunches.

Similarly, although we discourage peanut or peanut product snacks from being brought into the school by parents or students, we cannot guarantee the absence of these products from snacks which are brought into the classroom. Therefore, we recommend that parents of food allergic children send in some nonperishable, safe snacks for their children so that, when the classroom has a holiday party or special celebration, the food allergic student has a safe snack, as an alternative to the snacks brought in by other parents.

\*Lastly, in order to assure that we can respond appropriately if your child does have a reaction at school, we ask that you obtain specific instructions from the child's pediatrician or allergist as it relates to your child's specific allergen whether that is food, latex, insects, etc. If an allergy action plan involves medication, a medication consent form must be completed by both the physician and the parent. Medication consent forms can be obtained at your child's building or off the CHCA website. The allergy action plans are also available on the CHCA website.

\*Please note it is the responsibility of all parents to share specific information about a child's severe allergies (latex, bee stings, food, etc.) and need for medications with all after school personnel who may come in contact with the child such as coaches, academic team leaders, after care coordinators, ect. Again, it is the parent's responsibility to send in safe snacks for these events as well.

*Dorie Cucinotta*

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I, the parent/guardian of \_\_\_\_\_, have read this letter.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Date