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FOOD ALLERGY POLICY

The School recognizes that peanut and other food allergies may pose a severe or life threatening risk to students. In accordance with Section 3313.719 of the Ohio Revised Code, the School adopts this Food Allergy Policy in consultation with parents, school employees, school volunteers, students and community members to establish procedures for identifying, accommodating and reducing the likelihood of severe allergic reactions among students with known food allergies while at school.

I. PARENT/STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY

- A. Parents of students, or students age eighteen (18) or older, with allergies are required to notify the School of any known allergies at the beginning of each school year or upon learning of such allergy if the school year has already begun. Such notice may be provided in response to School enrollment forms completed by the student if over 18 or the student's parent or guardian, or by other acceptable means such as timely, written notice to the School's Administrator.
- B. Parents of students with life threatening allergies must:
1. Ensure that the student has access to emergency medications during school hours, if prescribed;
 2. Execute any appropriate forms, including an Emergency Authorization Form, Medication Distribution Form, and/or Food Allergy Action Plan, as required;
 3. Obtain written approval from the students' physician permitting the student to carry and use an epinephrine injector to treat anaphylaxis, if applicable, and in accordance with the School's policy on Medication Administration;
 4. If applicable, cooperate with the School to formulate a plan for life threatening allergies; and
 5. Provide current emergency contact information and update regularly.
- C. Parents must educate their student about managing his or her allergy at school, including but not limited to instructions concerning:
1. Safe and unsafe foods;
 2. Strategies for avoiding exposure to unsafe foods;
 3. Symptoms of allergic reactions; and
 4. How and when to tell an adult that he or she is having an allergy-related problem.

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II. PROCEDURE FOR STUDENTS WITH LIFE-THREATENING ALLERGIES

- A. If and when applicable, the School will develop an additional plan for students with life threatening allergies.
- B. The plan will address: (1) what actions will be taken to avoid exposure at the School, and (2) what actions will be taken in the event of student exposure. The plan will be developed through consultation between the student's parents or legal guardians, the recommendations of the student's physician or allergist, and the School. Once created, this plan will be reviewed and updated by staff, when appropriate.
- C. The School will share the plan with appropriate staff. All staff who interact with the student on a regular basis should understand food allergies, be able to recognize symptoms, and should know what to do in an emergency.
- D. With the consent of the student's parents or legal guardian, the plan may provide a mechanism for the School to provide notice to the student's classmates and/or the parents or legal guardian of the student's classmates regarding a life threatening food allergy in the classroom.
- E. The School will follow the procedures detailed in its approved Medication Policy as outlined in the Parent/Student Handbook.

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MEDICATION POLICY

Except as provided herein, no medication will be administered by the staff at the School, including asthma inhalers, except trained staff are permitted to administer anaphylaxis in emergency situations in accordance with a Food Allergy Action Plan implemented under the Food Allergy Policy.

However, pursuant to the Section 3313.716 of the Ohio Revised Code, students are permitted to possess and use a metered dose or dry powder Asthma Inhaler to alleviate or prevent asthmatic symptoms. In addition, Sections 3313.718(B) and 3314.03(A)(11)(d) of the Ohio Revised code permit a student to carry and use an epinephrine auto-injector, commonly known as an “EpiPen,” to treat anaphylaxis (an intense allergic reaction).

Prior to carrying either an inhaler or an auto-injector: (1) written approval must be obtained from the student’s physician, and, if the student is a minor, from the student’s parent or legal guardian; and (2) the School Administrator and school nurse, if any, must receive copies of the foregoing written approvals.

The physician’s written approval must include the following information:

1. The name and address of the student;
2. The school in which the student is enrolled;
3. The name and dose of the medication contained in the inhaler or auto injector.
4. The name of the drug and the dosage to be administered;
5. The times or intervals at which each dosage of the drug is to be administered;
6. The date the administration of the drug is to begin;
7. The date the administration of the drug is to cease (if applicable);
8. Acknowledgement that the prescriber has determined that the student is capable of possessing and using the auto injector appropriately and has provided the student with training in the proper use of the auto injector;
9. Any severe adverse reactions that should be reported to the prescriber and one or more phone numbers at which the prescriber can be reached in an emergency;
10. Special instructions for administration of the drug by the student;
11. Instructions outlining procedures to follow if the medication does not provide adequate relief;
12. A list of adverse reactions that may occur to a child for whom the medication was not intended who uses the medication;
13. One or more phone numbers at which the parent, guardian, or other person having care or charge of the student in an emergency; and
14. And any other special instructions.

Trained staff members may administer epinephrine in an emergency situation, in accordance with the Food Allergy Policy and the student’s Food Allergy Action Plan (if any) when emergency medical service providers are not immediately available and the exigency of the circumstance require immediate action.

Staff members will immediately request assistance from an emergency medical service provider whenever a student is administered epinephrine at a public school or at an activity, event, or program sponsored by the school or in which the school is a participant. This request for medical assistance applies whether the student self-administers the medication or a staff member administers medication to the student.