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Allergy Alerts and Policy Changes

Inside this issue:

Allergy Alerts	1
Fundraising	2
Attendance	2

At present we have several students who have life threatening allergies to Peanuts, Tree Nuts, Eggs, and/or Fish. As a school we are committed to ensuring the safety and protection of these children, and we wish to thank all of you for your support and understanding of the policies and protocols established by the school. However, in an attempt to balance the restrictions we place on all students, in light of recommendations recently communicated by Eastern Health, and in light of new products available to parents, we have made some significant changes to the directions we traditionally offered parents with respect to what types of food are allowed at school.

Specifically, our policy now reads:

Restriction of Fish **Same as Previous Policy**

Restriction of Nuts and Nut containing products. This includes all nuts. A product may say Peanut Free and have the No Peanut symbol, but if it has other nuts as ingredients, like almonds, it is not permitted at school. **Same as Previous Policy**

No Restriction on "May Contain Nut" products. **Change in Previous Policy**

Restriction on Egg Sandwiches and Cooked Egg. **Same as Previous Policy**

Any item being provided for class or school wide functions must be approved by the classroom teacher. **Same as Previous Policy**

Mark Your Calendar!

- * September 29—school closed for regional PD event.
- * September 27 - Kinder-Start Session for Parents
- * October 10 — Thanksgiving Holiday.

Any items being presented for class or school wide functions must be free of nuts or items that "may contain" nuts. **Same as Previous Policy**

In cases where parents/guardians agree to follow the appropriate protocols, students are permitted to use Soy Butter products. This would include submission of a formal letter to the teacher indicating that Soy Butter is the product being used, and appropriate labeling of the container carrying the Soy product, using the labels provided by the company. **Addition to Previous Policy**

Restriction on Food Sharing and Trading. **Same as Previous Policy**

We encourage hand washing for all children. **Same as Previous Policy**

Kinderstart Parent Session Tuesday, September 27, 7:00pm.
Kinderstart Session #1 for students is on Monday, October 3rd.
No School For Morning Kindergarten Students on October 3rd!!!
A Reminder that Ms. Butler's Kindergartens
Switch Morning and Afternoon on October 1st!

Specific Directions for Soy Butter Products Brought to School

Parents wishing to use Soy based products at school must adhere to the following:

Submission of a formal letter to the classroom teacher indicating your intent to use the product, and your commitment to only send Soy based products. This letter is available from the school and can be requested from the office or the classroom teacher.

Use of labels which clearly show the lunch was prepared with a soy based product. These should be attached to the packaging which the lunch is sent to school in. This label is provided by the company. In some cases they can be downloaded from the company website and printed on labels, or in some cases they are provided at the time of purchase and can be peeled from the container the product is sold in. **The school cannot provide these labels.**

If you have any questions with respect to these conditions please do not hesitate to speak to your child's teacher or a school administrator.

Fundraising

Order forms for our Fall Vegetable Fundraiser were distributed last week. Please make sure they are returned to school before Friday, September 30th. All orders must be prepaid and must be picked up at the school on **Thursday, October 6th.**

At some point next week we will also distribute the information for our Christmas Fundraiser. We apologize that these two seem to overlap but Christmas orders need to be submitted early to ensure Santa's delivery. As with all of our fundraisers we are committed to using items that parents might be buying anyway. If you were going to buy vegetables for Thanks Giving Dinner, for example, then you might choose to buy them from us.

We run only one other fundraiser through the year and it usually occurs in February or March.

Any support you offer is greatly appreciated!!

Attendance

We want to thank all of those parents who work with us every day to ensure that education is a priority. Getting your child to school is one of the most important things you can do to help us.

We also want to recognize those of you who work so hard to schedule appointments and family events so that they do not interfere with school. Not only do you protect your child's instructional time when you do this, but you show your child that his/her schooling is valuable and takes a priority in your life.

<p style="text-align: center;">School Closures for Professional Development Thursday, Sept 29, 2011—Full Day</p>
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