File: EFH

FOOD ALLERGIES

The purpose of this policy is to establish a safe environment for students with food allergies and to support parents regarding food allergy management. In accordance with State law, it is the policy of the Board to provide all students, through necessary accommodations where required, the opportunity to participate fully in all school programs and activities.

The Board takes food allergies seriously and understands that food allergies can be life threatening. Recognizing that the risk of accidental exposure to foods can be reduced in the school setting, the District administration is committed to minimizing risks and providing a safe educational environment for food-allergic students. Students with dietary needs that qualify as disabilities under State and Federal law are provided reasonable accommodation.

Substitutions to regular school meals provided by the District are made for students who are unable to eat regular school meals due to a qualifying dietary need when that need is certified in writing by the student’s physician. Substitute meals are provided in the most integrated setting appropriate to the special needs of the student.

The nature of the student’s qualifying dietary need, the reason this need prevents the student from eating regular school meals (including foods to be omitted from the student’s diet), the specific diet prescription along with the needed substitution must be specifically stated in the physician’s statement. The District, in compliance with the USDA Child Nutrition Division guidelines, provides substitute meals to food-allergic students based upon the physician’s signed statement.

The administration consults with parents, school nurses and other school employees, school volunteers, students and community members to gather information for the development and implementation of a food allergy plan. The plan includes, but is not limited to, schoolwide training programs regarding food allergy education, staff development regarding food allergy identification and management, allergy emergency drills, strategies for the identification of students with life-threatening food allergies and management skills including avoidance measures, designation of typical symptoms and dosing instructions for medications.

[Adoption date:]

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File: EFH

LEGAL REFS.: Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act; Pub. L. No. 108-265

 (Title I, Section 204), 118 Stat. 729 National School Lunch Act;

 42 USC 1751 et seq.

 Child Nutrition Act of 1966; 42 USC 1771 et seq.

 Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008; 42 USC 12101 et

 seq.

 Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 USC 794

 ORC 3313.719; 3313.81; 3313.812; 3313.813

 3314.03

 3326.11

 OAC 3301-91-01 through 3301-91-08

CROSS REFS.: ACB, Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability

 EF, Food Services Management

 EFB, Free and Reduced-Price Food Services

 EFF, Food Sale Standards

 EFG, Student Wellness Program

 IGBA, Programs for Students with Disabilities

 JHCD, Administering Medicines to Students

 NOTE: House Bill (HB) 1 (2009) requires all districts, community schools and STEM schools to establish a written policy with respect to protecting students with peanut or other food allergies. In developing the policy, districts must consult with parents, school nurses and other school employees, school volunteers, students and community members.

 **THIS IS A REQUIRED POLICY**

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