

CLIFFSIDE PARK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

CLIFFSIDE PARK, NJ 07010

IMPORTANT FOOD ALLERGY INFORMATION LETTER

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The Cliffside Park School District is extremely concerned about our students who have allergies to everyday foods which can pose a serious health risk. Peanuts, nuts, milk, eggs and shellfish are among the most common foods that can cause allergic reactions. For those individuals with severe food allergies, accidental ingestion can result in a life threatening allergic reaction called **anaphylaxis**. Food allergies are becoming increasingly common in today's society and the need for proactive measures is essential if schools are to safeguard those students who have specific food allergies. The Cliffside Park Public Schools are taking the following actions to heighten awareness to food allergies and to enhance the safety of the student body:

- As of January 2008, the Cliffside Park School District School Lunch Program **no longer has peanut butter on its menu**. We offer grilled cheese and other deli sandwiches as an alternate to the daily lunch item.
- We ask all parents to **refrain from sending peanut and/or any nut products to school** for lunch or snacks. Please check product labels carefully.
- A school-wide ban on the distribution of any foods containing peanuts and/or nut products is in effect. This is especially important where birthday and class party treats are concerned. Parents must consult with their child's teacher when planning classroom events where food will be served.
- The staff will discourage the sharing of food and request that parents reinforce this notion with their child (ren).

It is our hope that the information contained in this letter will serve to promote awareness about the critical health issue of food allergies. Educating the school community will further assist Cliffside Park in establishing an "allergy friendly" school environment.

Thank you for your attention and understanding concerning this important health matter. If you have any questions or concerns in this matter please contact either your school's principal or school nurse.

SCHOOL #3
201-313-2330

SCHOOL #4
201-313-2340

SCHOOL #5
201-313-2350

SCHOOL #6
201-313-2360

MIDDLE SCHOOL
201-313-2360

HIGH SCHOOL
201-313-2370