



RESPONSIBILITY | COURAGE | HONESTY | RESPECT

August 2023

Dear Parents and Guardians:

As one school and community dedicated to serving the needs of the children in our care, we have a collective responsibility to ensure that we establish an environment that is safe and conducive to learning. As an administrator, I have a responsibility to ensure that procedures are instituted that mitigate the risk of harm to our students and that reasonable accommodations are made to ensure this goal is met. As a parent, we ask that you support and follow our rules and procedures, trusting that they have been developed fairly, thoughtfully and carefully for the benefit of all involved. The purpose of this letter is to explain the Sherman School's allergy procedures. Please note the following:

Bringing Food Into School

All students, staff, parents and visitors of the Sherman School are prohibited from bringing food containing peanuts or tree nuts as we are a peanut and tree nut-free campus.

Food Consumption in the Cafeteria, Classrooms and on School Buses

- The sharing of food during lunch and snack time is prohibited.
- All parents and guardians are required to complete a "Shared Food Consumption - Denial or Permission" form online which will determine the extent to which your child may or may not partake in communal food sharing during special classroom events and/or celebrations.
- Consuming food on the bus is prohibited.

Washing and Wiping Hands

- Handwashing with soap and water is the best method for removing traces of peanut and tree nut residue which may have resulted from food which contains peanuts or tree nuts being consumed at home. Therefore we ask that all students, staff, parents and visitors wash their hands before entering the school.
- To maintain a healthy environment, all students and staff should also wash their hands after eating to remove food residue. When hand washing is not feasible, wipes will be available and should be used.

Celebrations

- At the discretion of the teacher, and in accordance with the above-mentioned procedures, food is permitted during curriculum-based events and celebrations. Only those students whose parents have granted permission for food sharing may partake. Such celebrations should be communicated in advance to ensure an opportunity for those parents wishing to send in an alternative food item to do so.

In addition to these general practices, appropriate accommodations will be made for individual students with documented allergies.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding these procedures, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Patricia Cosentino, Ed.D
Superintendent