

# Board of Education Brunswick City School District

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August 14, 2013

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The Brunswick City School District recognizes that the health and safety of our students is of utmost importance. We continually strive to maintain a healthy school atmosphere for all individuals. At the start of the 2013-2014 school year, the District will be implementing new guidelines for serving food and snacks to promote safety, consistency and equal access for the growing number of children who have life-threatening food allergies.

### Starting with the 2013-2014 school year:

- **We will no longer allow homemade or home-baked food items to be served to students and staff at ALL buildings.**
- **Foods/snacks provided to students as a 'shared snack' during school hours (i.e.: Birthday Treats, Class Parties) must be store-bought. A suggested list has been provided on the back of this page for allergy free foods.**
- **Foods/snacks provided to students as a 'shared snack' after School hour events regardless of the location (i.e.: Muffins for Moms, Socials, Roller Skating Parties) must be store-bought and display an ingredient label for food allergen verification.**

We are continuing to implement these guidelines for several important reasons. We recognize that due to the increasing prevalence of life-threatening allergies amongst students we must be diligent and do our part to protect everyone by eliminating a possible source of harm. The food and snacks listed on the back of this page are free of the most common four food allergens; eggs, peanuts, tree nuts, and milk. (Please note that this list is subject to revision due to continual changes in manufacturer packaging and processing or if an additional allergy is identified in a classroom).

Homemade or home-baked foods for *your* child's snack or lunch that are not shared with other students will still be permitted, unless a child with a severe allergy has been identified in your son or daughter's classroom. In this situation, additional food/snacks may be prohibited in the classroom based on medical necessity.

We understand that this modification will bring some changes to special events and socials within the school, but it is essential to provide a safe environment for all students. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding in this matter. If you should have any further questions concerning this matter, please contact your child's school principal or Lisa Werner, our District Nurse, at (330) 273-0223.

Sincerely,

Michael D. Mayell  
Superintendent