

Dear Parent/Guardian:

We would like you to be aware that a student in your child's class has a life threatening tree nut/peanut allergy. A child with a serious food allergy can have a reaction merely by touching, ingesting and sometimes inhaling the food allergen. Therefore, we are recommending the following safety guidelines:

- Please try to avoid sending any tree nuts or tree nut products in your child's snack that will be eaten in the classroom. Almonds, cashews, coconut, pecans, pistachios, and walnuts are the most common.
- We will not be doing any classroom projects that involve these nut or nutshells.
- Some healthy snack suggestions you might consider that are nut free include pretzels, plain crackers, fruit, veggies, cheese, Cheerios, raisins, fruit snacks, applesauce, yogurt, Jell-O, and pudding.
- We will try to keep the food at holiday parties to a minimum and try to avoid products that may include this allergen.
- Please do not enclose candy or other treats with holiday cards.
- Although hand sanitizer is kept in the classroom, it does NOT release the life-threatening contaminants. We ask that all children who ate a nut product for breakfast would wash their hands with soap and water before arriving at school. Water alone does not work.

Bentonville Schools do not serve foods that contain nuts or nut products.

However, students can bring nut products in their lunches from home when they eat lunch in the cafeteria. Please be sure it is in a sealed container.

We trust that you understand how deeply important it is to respect these recommendations. If throughout the school year you have any questions or concerns about food-allergy-related issues, please do not hesitate to contact your school administrator or school nurse.

Looking forward to a safe and healthy school year.