

## STUDENTS WITH SEVERE (ANAPHYLACTIC) ALLERGIES

We at Killam Public School recognize the dangers faced by students and staff with severe or anaphylactic reactions (allergies) to foods. While we cannot guarantee an allergen-free environment, we will take reasonable steps to ensure a safe environment for children or staff with life-threatening allergies.

We believe the responsibility for communicating concerns about students with severe or anaphylactic reactions to foods belongs to parents, and that the school will have a supportive role to play in helping parents of students with severe allergies avoid exposure to pre-identified foods while the student is at school.

**Definition:** *Anaphylactic reactions are those severe allergy reactions that are life threatening and require immediate medical attention. An epi-pen injection will offer up to fifteen minutes time to get the affected person to emergency care at a hospital.*

If parents identify their child to have severe or anaphylactic reactions to specific foods, we will ask other parents in that student's class to refrain from sending those foods to school. The homeroom teacher will communicate with parents if it is necessary to declare their classroom an "allergen-free" area. The purpose of this policy is to be educational in nature, and all learners are expected to treat others with consideration and respect by adhering to this policy.

It is further recognized that some individuals have severe allergies or reactions to strong scents that may be contained in perfumes, aftershaves and hairsprays. These may cause migraines, respiratory distress or behavioural reactions in the affected individuals. It is strongly recommended that all individuals in the school avoid using heavily scented products.

Please note:

One of our Grade 3 students has been identified with a severe peanut allergy which has led to our Grade 3 classroom being declared an "allergen free" zone. Parents have been made aware of classroom food restrictions. We would appreciate if parents would send peanut free snacks as these are often shared among students at breaks. Remind your child not to share with any Grade 3 students. This reduces the possibility of peanut items coming into that classroom. Please phone the school if you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter.