

FOOD ALLERGIES



- Food Allergies affect 1 in 13 children (under 18 years of age) in the U.S. That's roughly 2 in every classroom.
- Studies indicate that 16-18% of school age children who have food allergies have had a reaction in school. In approximately 25% of the reactions that occur at school, the student had not yet been diagnosed with food allergy.
- According to a study released in 2013 by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, food allergies increased approximately 50% between 1997-2011.
- Every 3 minutes, a food allergy reaction sends someone to the emergency department-that is more than 200,000 emergency department visits per year.
- Food allergic reactions can cause anaphylactic reactions which can be fatal.
- Failure to promptly (within minutes) treat food anaphylaxis with epinephrine is a risk factor for fatalities.
- Eight foods account for 90% of all reactions: milk, eggs, peanuts, tree nuts, soy, wheat, fish, and shellfish. Even trace amounts of a food allergen can cause a reaction.
- Food allergies affect children and adults of all races and ethnicities.
- A food allergy can begin at any age.
- Studies show the number of children living with a peanut allergy has tripled between 1997 and 2008.
- There is no cure for food allergies. Strict avoidance of food allergens and early recognition and management of allergic reactions to food are important measures to prevent serious health consequences.
- Food related allergic reactions can occur in multiple locations throughout the school, and are not limited to the cafeteria. Care must be exercised regarding classroom parties and snacks outside of the cafeteria. Please keep that in mind when sending in snacks, lunch, etc. Remember, we are dealing with young children who are still learning about their food allergies.



All the information on this flyer can be found at

www.foodallergy.org

For more information on Food Allergies at FPBS

Please email FPBSallergy@aol.com