

## **Students**

### **Students with Special Health Care Needs**

#### **Accommodating Students with Special Dietary Needs**

The Board of Education believes all students, through necessary accommodations where required, shall have the opportunity to participate fully in all school programs and activities.

In some cases, a student's disability may prevent him/her from eating meals prepared for the general school population.

Substitutions to the regular meal will be made for students who are unable to eat school meals because of their disabilities, when that need is certified in writing by a physician. Meal service shall be provided in the most integrated setting appropriate to the needs of the disabled student.

The nature of the student's disability, the reason the disability prevents the student from eating the regular school meals, including foods to be omitted from the student's diet, indication of the major life activity affected by the disability, the specific diet prescription along with the substitution(s) needed will be specifically described in a statement signed by a licensed physician. The district, in compliance with USDA Child Nutrition Division guidelines, will provide substitute meals to food-allergic students based upon the physician's signed statement.

#### **Management of Life Threatening Food Allergies**

The New Milford Board of Education recognizes the importance of developing and implementing a plan for the management of food allergies in the student population. This plan must provide a balance between the health, social normalcy and safety needs of students with life-threatening food allergies and the educational, health and safety needs of all students.

#### **Food Allergy Management Team**

The Board of Education delegates the responsibility for developing, implementing, monitoring, reviewing and revising the school district's Guidelines for Food Allergy Management to a multidisciplinary food allergy management team. The district's wellness advisory council is the designated food allergy management team and should include the following members: Superintendent or designee, building administrator, medical advisor or designee, school nurse, director of pupil personnel and special services, food and nutrition services director, teacher representative, parent representative, student representative, transportation coordinator, supervisor of custodial staff, other school personnel or community representatives as appropriate.

## Students

### Management of Life Threatening Food Allergies (continued)

**Guidelines established by the food allergy management team shall address the following areas:**

1. The process for identifying students with life-threatening food allergies including provisions for parents/guardians to provide adequate medical documentation
2. The process for developing individual health care plans for students with life-threatening allergies consistent with applicable state and federal law
3. Strategies to reduce the risk of exposure to life-threatening food allergens in school buildings
4. Provisions for the ongoing education of school personnel and the school community regarding the management of life-threatening food allergies
5. Emergency medical response plan including communication strategies between individual schools and local providers of emergency services
6. A method for monitoring and assessing of the food allergy management plan on at least an annual basis.

The Guidelines for Food Allergy Management shall be posted on the Board's website or the website of each school under the Board's jurisdiction. Parents and guardians shall be provided notice of the District's food allergy management plan annually, at the beginning of each school year in conjunction with the provision of the written statement of the Board's pesticide application policy.

Legal References:

- Connecticut General Statutes
- 10-15b Access of parent or guardian to student's records
- 10-154a Professional communications between teacher or nurse and student
- 10-207 Duties of medical advisors
- 10-212a Administrations of medications in schools
- 10-212c Life threatening food allergies: Guidelines; district plans
- 10-220i Transportation of students carrying cartridge injectors
- 20 U.S.C. 1232g, Family Education Rights and Privacy Act
- 29 U.S.C. 794, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
- 20 U.S.C. 1400, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
- 42 U.S.C. 12101 Americans with Disabilities Act

(cf. 5141 - Student Health Services)  
 (cf. 5141.21 - Administering Medication)  
 (cf. 5141.23 - Students With Special Health Care Needs)  
 (cf. 5141.3 - Health Assessments)  
 (cf. 5145.4 - Nondiscrimination)

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NEW MILFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
 New Milford, Connecticut