

Role of the Community

The entire school community has a shared responsibility to ensure the safety of all children in the school. This caring partnership helps the school meet the needs of our students and respect the rights of the whole school community. We need the co-operation of all the parents at Paris Central in order to reduce the risks of accidental ingestion and cross-contamination of tree nuts, peanuts, milk and eggs. **We kindly ask families to read the labels carefully and avoid sending foods that contain tree nuts, peanuts, nut products, eggs and seafood.** We appreciate your support and understanding of this potentially life-threatening allergy. It is gratifying to see that our families care about the health and safety of ALL our students.

Paris Central Public School

An Information Guide for families about Anaphylaxis



Peanut-Free “Peanut Butter”

There’s a peanut-free soy nut butter product on the market that says it’s a peanut butter substitute and safe for schools. Grand Erie does not permit peanut butter substitutes in schools. If it’s peanut-free, then what’s the big deal? This product looks, smells, and tastes like peanut butter. The concern is that some children might mistakenly think it is okay to bring peanut butter sandwiches in their lunches when they see their classmates eating the soy product. We simply cannot run the risk of any student or staff member being exposed to peanuts, as this may cause an allergic reaction. The safety and health of our students and staff must come first.

Grand Erie DSB Policies and Procedures

Please Consider

- ◆ After consuming peanut or nut products at home, kindly wash your child’s hands prior to coming to school
- ◆ Ensure that all utensils are clean and free of any traces of peanut butter when preparing your child’s lunch
- ◆ Read food product labels carefully
- ◆ Always read the ingredients listed. All items brought to school should say “made in a peanut and tree free environment”.



Evidence-Based Resources

Evidence-based resources that provide information on various aspects of these prevalent medical conditions, including triggers or causative agents and signs and symptoms characteristic of medical incidents and medical emergencies can be found at the following links:

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/healthyschools/medicalconditions.html>

<http://www.edugains.ca/newsite/SafeHealthySchools/medical-conditions/Prevalent-MedicalConditions.html>

Grand Erie DSB Policies and Procedures

Our School Procedures

1. No food containing tree nuts, peanuts, nut products, eggs and seafood/shell-food can be brought to school;
2. Families are required to provide documentation about their child's allergy in order to prepare an appropriate Emergency Plan;
3. A formal Emergency Plan is then put in place for students who are anaphylactic;
4. All staff are trained to respond to an anaphylactic emergency, including administering an EpiPen if necessary;
5. Plans are reviewed annually;
6. Training and updated information is provided annually and required as part of **Sabrina's Law**.

What is Anaphylaxis & Anaphylactic Shock

Anaphylaxis -- sometimes called "allergic shock" or "generalized allergic reaction" -- is a severe allergic reaction that can lead to rapid death, if untreated. Like less severe allergic reactions, anaphylaxis occurs when the body's immune system reacts to harmless substances as though they were harmful invaders. However, instead of developing the familiar runny nose or rash, sufferers of anaphylaxis respond with an extreme body reaction. The reaction may begin with itching, hives, vomiting, diarrhea, or swelling of the lips or face; within moments, the throat may begin to close, choking off breathing and leading to unconsciousness and death. Peanuts, tree nuts and other nuts are one of the most common triggers of anaphylaxis, and the most likely of all food allergens to trigger a full-blown anaphylactic reaction. As a result, all schools in Grand Erie are

"nut aware" and foods containing peanuts, tree nuts or other nuts are not to be brought to school.

Grand Erie DSB Policies and Procedures

Allergies at Paris Central

There are students attending Paris Central who have severe allergies to tree nuts, peanuts, eggs and seafood. Reaction to these foods can cause life-threatening allergic reactions for our students.

