

Newtown Public Schools
Important Information for Outside Organizations
Application for Community Use of School Facilities

Outside organizations that wish to use Newtown Public Schools' Facilities need to be aware of the below policy as regards the prevention of life-threatening allergies. To highlight, for any Community/PTA and any school sponsored events use of school facilities:

- a. No food is allowed in any classroom;
- b. Any event in which food will be served or consumed must be held in an appropriate place designated by Administration or outdoors;
- c. Outside organizations are encouraged to serve only nut-free food items.
- d. All outside organizations shall receive notice of the prevention section of this policy (below) when reserving school facilities.

Life-Threatening Allergies and Glycogen Storage Disease Management
Students with Special Health Care Needs – Policy 5141.25

Prevention Section

- A. The District's Leadership Team will develop a Pre-K-12 Plan for the management of life-threatening allergies, including food allergies, aligned to the CSDE Guidelines for Managing Life-Threatening Food Allergies and Glycogen Storage Disease. The District-wide team shall factor into the plan the developmental and psychological needs of all students.
- B. The District-wide, K-12 Leadership Team will annually review the Management Plan, Procedures, and Guidelines.
- C. Food in Schools
 1. Peanut and tree nuts cause the most allergic reactions in schools. In classrooms and clusters designated by schools as "peanut/nut free", parents/guardians sending snacks from home for consumption in the classroom must be mindful of this heightened risk and those snacks must not contain peanuts and/or tree nuts. The District, in partnership with school staff, shall counsel all parents against providing children with food items containing tree nuts and peanuts to consume as classroom snacks in peanut/nut free classrooms; all stakeholders share in the responsibility of keeping children safe in the classroom by complying with this policy.
 2. Building Principals will provide the following information to parents:
 - a. A suggested snack list on identifying nut-free snacks for their children.
 - b. An intervention plan for students who bring nut-containing snacks to the classroom.

3. All in-school birthday celebrations shall be food free.
4. All schools will designate food free zones.
5. All classrooms will provide hand wipes for students to use after snack if hand washing is not available. Students will be required to remain at their desks while eating snacks to contain the spread of allergens.
6. All cafeteria tables will be cleaned with soap and water or other approved cleaning agents.
7. Community/PTA and any school sponsored events use of school facilities:
 - a. No food is allowed in any classroom;
 - b. Any event in which food will be served or consumed must be held in an appropriate place designated by Administration or outdoors;
 - c. Outside organizations are encouraged to serve only nut-free food items.
 - d. All outside organizations shall receive notice of the prevention section of this policy when reserving school facilities.

D. Food in Schools – Generally

1. Peanuts and tree nuts and substances containing peanuts and tree nuts must not be present in or used in any classroom for any purpose, including but not limited to curricular activities, school nutrition, class projects, arts, crafts, science experiments, food for laboratory or other classroom work.
2. If a clearly non-compliant food is present in a classroom or restricted area, the noncompliant food will be removed from the classroom or restricted area.