

## **Peanut/Nut Policy**

No food products made with peanuts/nuts are allowed in the school. This includes items such as peanut butter, trail mixes, or candies made with nuts. Peanut oil or nuts will not be used in food preparation by cafeteria staff.

Research is unclear why, but more children are becoming allergic to certain foods including peanuts and tree nuts (e.g. walnuts, pecans, and almonds).

What makes peanuts/nuts especially harmful to allergic individuals is:

- Peanut dust can become airborne.
- Nuts are more likely to cause severe and potentially life-threatening reactions than most other foods.
- Cross-contamination from peanut butter residue on a table, handrail, etc. can cause a reaction.

We currently have students enrolled with these allergies. The ASLS peanut/nut policy is designed to help provide a safe environment for students and staff diagnosed with life-threatening peanut/nut allergies. Although all staff are trained in recognizing the symptoms of anaphylactic shock and in the use of Epi Pens, our goal is to not have to put children at risk to use these measures. *(Adopted 12/09)*