

Jim Ned Consolidated Independent School District

Food Allergy Management Plan

Anaphylaxis

Anaphylaxis is a sudden, severe allergic reaction. The most dangerous symptoms include breathing difficulties, a drop in blood pressure or shock. Common examples of potentially life threatening allergies are those to foods or stinging insects. Other allergic reactions may also occur to medications, latex or while exercising.

The emergency treatment is epinephrine, which is usually supplied in epinephrine auto-injectors (example: EpiPen and EpiPen Jr, or TWINJECT). Jim Ned CISD has developed guidelines to manage students with these life threatening allergies, so that they may safely participate in the educational process. **If an EpiPen has been prescribed for a child, it is the parents responsibility to provide the EpiPen with medication, orders, and an emergency action plan from the licensed healthcare provider. Jim Ned CISD does not provide EpiPens for students.**

Students who are at risk for developing anaphylaxis are entitled to carry and self-administer their anaphylaxis medications (epinephrine auto-injectors) while at school or a school event, if they have met the legal requirements below:

- the medication and the self-administration must be authorized by a physician or licensed health care provider
- the student must demonstrate to the physician, other health care provider and to the school nurse, if available, the skill level necessary to self-administer the medication
- the parent or student must return to the school a completed **allergy action plan** developed by JNCISD or one that has been supplied by the physician that contains all the legal components

Food Allergy (including, but not limited to, peanut allergy)

Awareness training providing an overview of food allergies and anaphylaxis, and basic instruction on how to identify and take emergency action in the event of allergic reactions will be provided for all staff annually.

A form will be provided to the parent/guardian of each child enrolling in Jim Ned CISD to disclose whether the child has a food allergy or a severe food allergy which will require that the district take special precautions regarding the child's safety, the specific food/foods to which the child is allergic, and the nature of the allergic reaction.

Jim Ned CISD food allergy management plans will be individualized to all students who have food allergies. Once notified of the student's allergy, a working partnership with: students, parents, student's physician, school nurse and other Jim Ned CISD personnel as appropriate begins the foundation for the development of an individual health plan (IHP). Upon receipt of signed **medical plans/allergy action plans** and parental consent, the IHP is developed.

The first to be addressed is the emergency response. This ensures that a team of principal-designated staff members, daily working with the affected student, are trained to recognize an allergic reaction, have that student's rescue drugs readily available and quickly treat the student. This will include training of these staff members at least annually, or more frequently, as needed.

In the event of a physician diagnosed, severe life threatening allergies, especially in the elementary aged student, the school principal will consult and collaborate as needed with the school nurse to determine the specific actions to be taken such as, but not limited to: sending letters to other parents of the class requesting parents to voluntarily refrain from sending the allergen food in their child's belongings during school or for after-school activities, celebrations or parties. Depending on physical constraints within the school, the principal may designate a food-allergy friendly area or lunch table. Each case will be considered on an individual basis.

The Food and Nutritional service department in collaboration with the parents and school nurse will follow their policy for medical documentation for meal substitution, when applicable. Also, site-based Food Service Managers will flag the child's account through the point-of-sale system.

Correct hand washing guidelines for staff and students will be enforced.

The custodial department will be instructed to use commercial wipes and cleaners that remove the allergen from hard surfaces.

Non-food items will be adapted in curriculum for those classes who have students with food allergies.

The transportation department will also be notified, and trained to recognize the specific reactions to life threatening allergies, if applicable.

A review of policies and procedures regarding anaphylaxis will be done annually or anytime a student has an anaphylaxis reaction.

While Jim Ned CISD cannot guarantee an allergy-free environment at school, the district is committed to doing everything possible to ensure the safety of every child who has allergies.