

September 2, 2008

Dear Riverview Parent / Guardian,

We understand how important parents feel it is to keep our children safe while at school. Within our school community there are a couple of students who have a potentially life-threatening allergy (anaphylaxis) to foods, predominantly to peanuts and all types of nuts.

I'm writing to you on behalf of one of our young students, Jack, and his parents Bob and Martha. Jack is almost 4 years old and will be in Miss Hagen's JK class. Jack has a life threatening reaction to all nuts he's exposed to (through his eyes, nose or mouth). His face swells, his skin breaks out in hives, and his throat swells and tightens severely restricting his breathing. Jack could die within minutes when exposed, and he needs immediate medical attention.

We in the Riverview school community feel the best way to reduce Jack's and other students' risks of accidental exposure to peanuts and all types of nuts is to respectfully ask for parents'/guardians' co-operation to avoid sending peanut butter and all products with peanuts or nuts listed in the ingredients. To provide a safe environment for students with nut allergies we are enlisting the support of all parents to help make our school a "peanut and nut-aware environment." I know every parent would hope for their school community's assistance if their child had a similar life threatening risk.

We appreciate your cooperation and understanding of this matter. I thank you for doing your part to ensure we do everything possible to keep our children safe while at school.

Yours truly,

Nancy Blandford-McFadden
Principal