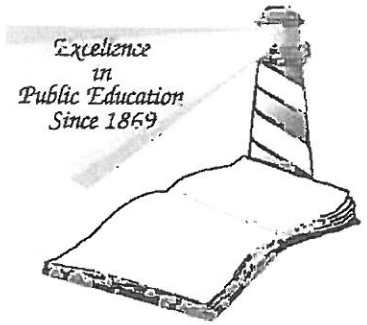


**St. Johns County School District**  
40 Orange Street  
St. Augustine, Florida 32084  
(904) 547-7500  
www.stjohns.k12.fl.us

Joseph G. Joyner, Ed.D.  
Superintendent



August 30, 2012

**Memorandum**

**To:** School Principals

**From:** Sean Prevatt, Director of Food & Nutrition Services *SP*  
Melissa Petty, Coordinator for Health Services *MP*

**Subject:** Food Allergies and Intolerances

Schools participating in the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program are required under federal law and regulations to make accommodations for children who are unable to eat the prepared meals because of a disability. These accommodations may range from food substitutions to texture modifications. To make these modifications schools must have a written statement on file that is signed by a licensed physician.

The statement must identify

- The child's disability
- An explanation of why the disability restricts the child's diet
- The major life activity affected by the disability
- The food(s) to be omitted from the child's diet
- The foods or choice of foods that must be substituted

Schools may, at their discretion, make substitutions for students who do not meet the definition of disability under the federal law but are medically certified as having a special medical or dietary need, such as food intolerances or allergies that do not have life-threatening reactions (anaphylactic reactions). In this case the school must have a written statement signed by a recognized medical authority identifying the following:

- St. Johns County School Food and Nutrition Services and Student Health Services will only recognize a licensed physician as a medical authority.
- An identification of the medical or other special dietary condition which restricts the child's diet
- The food or foods to be omitted from the child's diet
- The food or choice of foods to be substituted

SP/cia

*The St. Johns County School District will inspire good character and a passion for lifelong learning in all students, creating educated and caring contributors to the world.*

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