SOUTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: FOOD ALLERGY

MANAGEMENT

ADOPTED: 12/03/07

REVISED: 5/12/14

209.1 FOOD ALLERGY MANAGEMENT

1. Purpose

The Board is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for all students and staff.

2. Authority

The Board authorizes the Superintendent in conjunction with the district's certified school nurses, to prepare detailed administrative procedures to ensure the safety and well-being of students and staff. The purpose of this policy shall be two-fold: to safeguard the health and well-being of students and employees and, concurrently, to protect the rights of the individual.

3. Definitions

Food Allergy – A food allergy is any reaction to food or food component that involves the body's immune system. A reaction occurs when the body's immune system responds abnormally to the protein or proteins in that particular food. The body reacts by flooding the system with histamines and other chemicals to fight off what is perceived as an invader in the body. Reactions to food or food ingredients that do not involve the immune system are called food intolerance or sensitivities.

4. Guidelines

Parents

- Contact the certified school nurse each year to complete and/or update all medical records including specific information pertaining to any and all known allergies.
- 2. Provide written documentation from the attending physician to the certified school nurse regarding the specific allergy, severity and treatment.
- 3. Follow the school district's policy on Student Wellness when sending food to school.

School Staff

1. The certified school nurse will review all medical records including documentation from the attending physician on the student's allergy.

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- 2. The nurse will notify the staff of any life-threatening allergies of a student in their class.
- 3. An individual Health Care Plan will be developed by the certified school nurse, in consultation with the parents and incorporated into a 504 agreement if accommodations are necessary.
- 4. Annually, the certified school nurse shall plan and implement a program, with the support of the building principal, to inform all staff in the building of methods and guidelines for recognizing symptoms of student allergies, and providing emergency treatment.
- 5. Annually, the certified school nurse shall plan and implement a program, with the support of the building principal, to provide students and staff with pertinent and timely information on allergies, their symptoms, precautions at both home and at school, and in emergency situations.

General

- 1. It is understood that due to the ages of students and the varying intensity of allergies, it is likely that the comprehensiveness of the Health Care Plan for an elementary student will be different than for a secondary student.
- 2. Regardless of the allergy, the district will not support a complete ban of specific or specified foods in the cafeteria that may contribute to the student's allergy unless approved by the Board of School Directors.