

## Kingsview Middle School

18909 Kingsview Road Germantown, Maryland 20874 Main Office: 240-740-7130 Counseling Office: 240-740-7140 FAX: 301-601-4610 http://montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/kingsviewms

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Dear Kingsview Families,

Food allergies have become common among students nationally and within our school system. For the upcoming school year, one or more students at our school have a severe food allergy to peanuts and/or tree nuts that could result in a life-threatening reaction called anaphylaxis. As such, the Kingsview Middle School Instructional Leadership Team (ILT) is committed to minimizing these risks by promoting healthy practices and implementing school policies to ensure a safe school environment for all students and especially for those susceptible to these allergens.

In order to strengthen the healthy habits of all of our students while being mindful of the risks of cross-contamination, we are encouraging students to wash their hands before and after eating. We are also reminding them not to share food with their classmates. We ask for your support in reinforcing these habits at home.

In addition, we urge you to send food items <u>that do not contain any peanuts or tree nuts</u> such as walnuts, cashews, pecans, pine nuts, almonds, hazelnuts, and pistachios. Some online resources and nut-safe food lists include: <u>www.foodallergy.org</u>, <u>www.peanutfreelife.com/safe-food-list/</u> and <u>www.snacksafely.com/snacklist.pdf</u>.

If you would like to provide food for a classroom celebration, please provide only food items that are store-bought, labeled, and contained in a sealed package. Food products with labels indicating that the product contains any peanut or tree nut ingredients or stating that the food product was manufactured in a facility that also processes peanuts or tree nuts are not permitted for classroom celebrations. Additionally, students are NOT permitted to bring any food items for distribution in the cafeteria during lunches, including, but not limited to, pizza, candy, cupcakes, cookies, and doughnuts. This decision was made in collaboration with ILT.

We strive to enable all students to fully participate in activities while maintaining a safe learning environment. Thank you for your understanding and assistance in making this a safe and healthy school year for all our students.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or any of the Kingsview administrators at 240-740-7130.

Sincerely,

Dyan L. Harrison

Dyan L. Harrison Principal

DLH:agp

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