



*Our mission is to prepare tomorrow's critical thinkers and global citizens  
through language immersion and inquiry-driven study.*

March 20, 2018

Dear Parents:

You've all read the headlines and seen the news stories: food allergies are a growing concern in schools across America. Millions of children - children who are perfectly healthy and normal in every other way - must watch every single bite they eat, or risk suffering a severe or even life threatening reaction. In fact, food allergies claim an estimated 200 lives and are responsible for more than 200,000 emergency room visits each year. This potentially deadly disease affects 1 in every 13 children in the U.S., that's roughly one to two in every classroom. A major health issue such as this must be taken very seriously, and it has always been the policy of LILA to make the safety and well-being of our students a top priority.

Over the years, we have had several students with mild to severe allergies. A child with a serious peanut allergy can suffer a reaction merely by touching a peanut-containing food. Therefore, we are asking your help in making LILA as tree nut and peanut free as possible. To that end, we have designated a space in the elementary school lunchroom that is peanut and tree nut free, we have made the child's classroom peanut and tree nut free, and we have completed training for Epi-pen use (emergency injections to counter-act allergic reactions) for LILA staff members. If you receive a letter from your child's teacher because your child is in a grade level with a child with an allergy, please take all of the guidelines seriously.

This is a learning process for all of us, but we trust that you understand how deeply important it is to the families affected. We, as a school, will continue to investigate ways to address the needs of all of our students. If throughout the course of the year you have any questions or concerns about food-allergy-related issues, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Jill Rosenthal BSN, R.N., LSN  
LILA Health Services

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