



FREEDOM AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT HEALTH SERVICES

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Dear Parents/ Guardians:

We hope your school year is off to a great start! We are excited to be back in session and serve your children! We would like to remind you that Freedom Elementary is **NUT FREE***.

We have a significant number of students at Freedom Elementary School with allergies to nuts. Some of these students do not have to consume them to have a reaction. They can react from being in close proximity to the allergen. Their reaction can be life threatening.

We are aware that this is a challenge when preparing birthday treats, snacks and lunches, but we need to keep Freedom Elementary a safe place for all students. It is important to read the labels of the snacks you are sending. A lot of products are made on the same assembly line as items that have nuts. You will see a note by the ingredient list that states "made with items that may contain nuts". These items are **NOT** okay to send with your child. **Also please remember homemade baked goods are not allowed.** Another thing to remember is that coconut and coconut oil is not allowed either. Coconut is classified as a fruit, however most children with nut allergies are also highly allergic to coconut. You can find a list of items that are safe to send on our website at www.freedomschools.k12.wi.us or on www.snacksafely.com. We also will be sending this information in an email next week so please watch for that.

Thank you for taking this seriously so all children have a safe environment to learn and families feel comfortable knowing we are doing our best to keep their children safe! Please contact health services with any questions.

Sincerely,

Emily Wendt, RN & Lori Vandenberg, LPN

*While every attempt is made to make Freedom Elementary School a Nut Free environment, we recognize that there will be some instances where an individual may unknowingly bring a product that was manufactured in a facility where nut residue was present or the product itself may contain nuts or nut byproducts. Other individuals may unknowingly transmit or transfer nut related airborne allergens after eating a nut product or may transfer the nut residue by physical contamination.