



GOSHEN

Central School District

Creating Lifelong Learners

**Food Allergy Awareness:
Actionable Recommendations for
changes in practice**



1. Outside food coming into the classroom

Put in place an administrative “procedure” that eliminates/controls outside food for classroom celebrations, such as birthday and holiday parties.

- **Replace celebratory food with alternative festivities; for example:**
 - **Provide a special guest book to be signed by classmates in honor of the birthday girl/boy**
 - **Announce birthdays over the school’s PA system during morning announcements**
 - **Create a craft or small art project**
 - **Supplying “safe” allergy-free food, provided by the Food Services Department**
- **Communicate with families about procedural changes**



2. Communications with students

Help educate students about food allergies, including how to be safe, how they impact lives and how to help a friend in need.

- **Host informal peer discussions/presentations between younger students and their older peers who have food allergies**
- **Host at least one educational assembly per year at Scotchtown Avenue and Goshen Intermediate**
- **Host a Food Allergy Awareness Week with numerous activities, including but not limited to:**
 - **Invite guest readers to read food allergy-related stories**
 - **Teach students to effectively read food labels**
 - **Teach proper hand washing**
 - **Show educational, food allergy-related videos**
 - **Host a poster contest**
- **Create age-appropriate posters to hang around Scotchtown Avenue and Goshen Intermediate for awareness**



3. Communications with parents and staff

Help educate staff about food allergies and how they can help keep students safe.

- Host trainings for substitutes during orientations
- Provide resources for teachers to use at their discretion

Help educate parents about food allergies and how they can help keep students safe.

- Reinforce food allergy policies during parent orientations
- Revise form letters to communicate and remind parents about food allergy policies
- Develop/provide educational materials for parents to raise awareness
- Use SchoolMessenger e-mails to effectively communicate with parents throughout the school year



4. Other goals

- **Utilize PTOs for outreach**
- **Review concessions for fundraisers**
- **Contact Pupil Personnel Services Department regarding severe food allergies**
- **Contact school nurse/building administrator regarding changes in health issues**



5. Efforts to continue

- **Continue epi-pen training and food allergy training for all district staff**
- **Continue administrator training on legal and practical application**
- **Continue food service training and awareness**
- **Continue cleaning protocols through Buildings & Grounds**
- **Continue building allergy awareness: signs, symptoms and protocols for allergic reactions**
- **Permission slips**

