

## **PLUMSTED TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT'S ALLERGY SAFETY PROTOCOL**

Some allergies can be life threatening. The risk of accidental exposure can be reduced in the school setting when schools work with students, parents, and physicians to minimize risks and provide a safe educational environment for food/insect-allergic students. The Plumsted Township School district uses this protocol to ensure the safety of our students and staff regarding serious allergies.

### **District's Responsibility**

- Each new school year staff members are made aware of the seriousness of allergic reactions and the procedures to follow if a student is exposed to a potential allergic substance.
- Students are educated about food/insect allergies and non-compliance will be viewed as harassment and/or bullying.
- During lunch periods students with food allergies will be given an area that is "free" of potential allergic food/drink.
- Teachers will refrain from having peanuts/peanut products in their classrooms.
- The school nurses and trained delegates (including the athletic trainer) are able to administer epinephrine in the event of anaphylaxis.
- Additional information on food allergies may be found on [www.foodallergy.org](http://www.foodallergy.org)

### **Family's Responsibility**

- Notify the school (Nurse/Teacher) of the child's allergies and provide emergency contact information.
- Work with the school team to develop a plan that accommodates the child's needs throughout the school including the classroom, cafeteria, after-care programs, school-sponsored activities, and on the school bus.
- Provide written medical documentation, instructions, medications and pertinent allergic information as directed by your physician. If possible include a photo of the child.
- Provide properly labeled medications and replace medications after use or upon expiration.
- Educate your child in the self-management of their allergy including:
  - Use of allergy medication including diphenhydramine (Benadryl) and epinephrine
  - Safe foods
  - Strategies for avoiding exposure to insects or unsafe foods
  - Symptoms of their allergic reaction
  - How and when to tell an adult they may be having an allergy-related problem.
  - How to read food labels (age appropriate).