

## **STUDENTS WITH SEVERE FOOD ALLERGIES**

The RSU 9 School Board recognizes that food allergies can pose a significant health problem and, for some students, a life-threatening risk. In addition, students with severe allergies may be considered as persons having disabilities under the Americans with Disabilities Act or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

School personnel will immediately use the Anaphylaxis and Allergy Emergency Plan Template, **tailored to individual students with severe allergies as needed**. Such plans will include measures for managing food allergies at school, at school-sponsored events, and on field trips. A Section 504 Plan will be developed if necessary.

Parents of students with food allergies will be responsible for notifying the school of their child's allergy and for providing requested documentation. RSU 9 is not an allergen-free district but is an allergen-aware district who strives to work with students and parents. Parents of food-allergic students are expected to work with the 504 Coordinator, Principal, school nurse, staff, and their child's health care providers to minimize risks and promote a safe environment for their child.

The Superintendent, in consultation with the school nurse and school physician, 504 Coordinator, Food Service Director (if applicable), and Principal shall be responsible for developing and implementing guidelines that will provide a safe and supportive environment for students with food allergies and ensure that emergency medical needs of food-allergic students are met. Such guidelines shall:

- Comply with applicable state and federal laws and regulations, including but not limited to those related to nondiscrimination and confidentiality;
- Clarify the expectations and responsibilities of parents, student, and school personnel;
- Implement strategies for managing allergies that minimize disruption in the students school activities;
- Implement strategies that reduce exposure to allergens;
- Encourage communications between school and home; and
- Implement an annual and regular review of procedure for food allergy emergencies.

Adopted: January 28, 2025