ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST SCHOOL
HEALTH OFFICE
ALLERGY AWARENESS POLICY

Dear Parent/Guardian,

This letter is to inform you about our food allergy policy. Although we are focusing on peanut/tree nut allergies in this letter, we are implementing a more comprehensive allergy awareness education for staff and students because of life-threatening allergies to other foods, insect stings and other products that are prevalent and seem to be increasing. Everyone in our SJB community can benefit from learning to decrease risk of exposure to the offending substance and to assist someone during an allergic reaction. We have a large number of students throughout the building who have food allergies, primarily peanuts and nuts. If any of these students are exposed to the offending food, they may develop a life-threatening allergic reaction requiring emergency medical treatment. Strict avoidance of the food is the only way to prevent a life-threatening allergic reaction.

To reduce the risk of students who are allergic to nuts and peanuts, we will continue to try to provide a **peanut/tree nut safe environment**. We ask that you continue to refrain from sending any peanut or nut containing products for your child to eat during snack or lunch while in the school building.

It is important to understand that even exposure to the oils or residue from peanuts or foods containing nuts can cause an allergic reaction. For this reason, please be sure your child has washed his/her hands and face thoroughly before coming to school if they have eaten any peanut/nut containing foods at home for breakfast. We further ask that you encourage your child not to share foods at snack or lunch time, since some of our younger students may not yet be able to distinguish “safe” from “not safe”, especially since nuts are often hidden ingredients in foods. **Any child who accidentally enters the school with peanut/nut containing foods will choose a friend and be moved to a separate location to eat. **

We will continue to update our policy as new medical information about allergies is made available in order to better serve the St. John the Baptist School community.

We greatly appreciate your support with this plan to make SJB a safe learning environment for all of our students. Please complete and return the bottom of the form so we can be sure that every family has received this information. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,
Shannon Chaves, RN
SJB School Nurse

I have read and understand the allergy awareness school policy. I agree to do my part in trying to keep the school peanut/nut safe.
Child/children’s Name(s) and Grade(s)

Parent’s
signature_____Date_____