

Nicholas Russo Principal

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Dear Families,

Our Conant Cub family needs your assistance in a very important matter. Our school has a number of students who are allergic to all nuts and nut products. These allergies are so severe that any peanut product can cause a severe or even fatal reaction.

This year, Conant Elementary will be a nut-restricted environment. What this means is no nuts or tree nuts are permitted into the school. I am personally asking this from each and every family as a precaution and safety measurement for ALL students at Conant.

Furthermore, I am asking you to read food labels carefully when sending in snack and lunch. Please carefully read all packaging. Food labels that read, "May contain" should be interpreted as, "contains." Labels reading, "Made in a facility where nuts may have been present," should be avoided. As delicious as they are, because we cannot guarantee their nut-free status, homemade treats should no longer be brought for class distribution. Students who eat a nut product before school should thoroughly wash their hands and brush their teeth, prior to coming to school. If you send your child with a peanut butter substitute (such as soy butter) please label the sandwich bag. Birthdays will be celebrated in ways that do not include food. Please talk with your child's classroom teacher about creative, food-free ways to acknowledge your child's special day.

Nut allergies can vary from contact reactions resulting in hives to more severe and life-threatening reactions called anaphylactic shock. Contact with even the smallest amount of peanut or nut residue can trigger a reaction. I thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Nicholas A. Russo Principal