

**BOARD POLICY: FOOD ALLERGY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM**

**8235**

**Section A - Food Allergy Management Program**

School attendance may increase a student's risk of exposure to allergens that could trigger a food-allergic reaction. A food allergy is an adverse reaction to a food protein mediated by the immune system which immediately reacts causing the release of histamine and other inflammatory chemicals and mediators. While it is not possible for the District to completely eliminate the risks of exposure to allergens when a student is at school, a Food Allergy Management Program using a cooperative effort among students' parents/guardians, District staff members, and students helps the District reduce these risks and provide a healthy learning environment and appropriate accommodations, supports and/or proper management of allergic reactions.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop and implement a Food Allergy Management Program for the management of students with life-threatening food allergies enrolled in the District. The Food Allergy Management plan shall:

1. Implement the following goals established in The School Code: (a) procedures for responding to life-threatening allergic reactions to food; (b) protocols to attempt to prevent exposure to food allergens; (c) a process for implementing individual health care and food allergy action plans for every student with a life-threatening food allergy; and (d) educating and training school personnel who interact with students with life-threatening food allergies about the health management of students with food allergies, including administration of medication with an auto-injector.
2. Implement an in-service training program that provides training at least every two years for school personnel who work with students, administered by persons with expertise in anaphylactic reactions and management.
3. Address the District's specific needs and be consistent with the guidelines provided in the joint Illinois State Board of Education and Illinois Department of Public Health publication, *Guidelines for Managing Life-Threatening Food Allergies in Schools*.
4. Comply with State and federal law and applicable Board policies.

Approved:        March 14, 2011