

## **Food in Schools: Expectations for the Health and Safety of All Students**

Loudoun County Public School (LCPS) students have the right to a quality education in a supportive, safe, and healthy environment. As stated in the LCPS guidelines presented in 2010, *Caring for Students with Food Allergies in School*, healthy eating habits and proper nutrition are important for all students.

- The Individual Health Care Plans of students in the classroom must be followed. Parents/guardians will be notified so they can determine in advance whether a particular food item is safe for a child with life-threatening allergies.
- All students are encouraged to eat healthy snacks. Foods containing allergens should not be consumed in the classrooms of students with food allergies.
- Sharing or trading food in the classroom or cafeteria is not permissible and is a safety practice that has been in place in LCPS for several years.
- When student birthdays are recognized at school, only non-food treats are allowed.
- Non-food items will be used when classroom rewards are considered. Inclusion of all students in classroom rewards is essential.
- Foods containing allergens specific to a student are not to be used for class projects, parties, holidays and celebrations, arts, crafts, science experiments, cooking, or other purposes.
- Students are encouraged to assume increasing responsibility for healthy and safe food choices as they progress from elementary to middle and high school.

*Caring for Students with Food Allergies in School* is available on the LCPS website under Administration—Pupil Services—Keeping All Students Safe.