

School City of Hammond

Food Service Department

41 Williams Street • Hammond, IN 46320 • (219) 933-2400

Fax (219) 554-4502



Walter J. Watkins Ph.D., Superintendent

December 1, 2017

Dear Parent,

School City of Hammond serves healthy meals to our students each day. Menus contain a choice of foods that appeal to our diverse group of students. If your child has a health condition that affects the foods that he can eat it is important to complete a **Medical Statement for Students Requiring Special Meals or Accommodations** and submit it to the Food and Nutrition Services Department, 41 Williams Street, Hammond, IN 46320. In order to protect your child, it is very important that we have accurate information regarding your child's health condition as it relates to their diet. Menu substitutions and accommodations cannot be made for your child unless a current copy of this form is on file. A copy of the form is included with this letter.

If your child's medical condition has changed and they no longer require a diet modification, please complete the top section of the enclosed form and indicate on the third (3rd) line that they no longer need an accommodation, sign and date the form and return to the Department of Food and Nutrition.

Students with disabilities requiring diet modifications will be accommodated when the modifications are specified and certified by a licensed physician or other medical personnel authorized to write prescriptions (USDA regulations 7 CFR Part 15b). For students with disabilities, a **MD, DO, RNP, or PA must sign** the Diet Substitution Plan. Allergies and intolerances are not considered disabilities unless they result in a severe, life-threatening (anaphylactic) reaction.

School City of Hammond is not required by law to accommodate diet modifications for **students without disabilities**, however, in the interest of providing good customer service we try to do so as long as we have a completed **Medical Statement** on file. For students that do not have disabilities, the Diet Substitution Plan **must be signed by a recognized medical authority** such as a licensed physician, nurse, nurse practitioner, physician's assistant, or registered dietitian. Because milk intolerances and allergies are common it is important to note that we are required to substitute a nutritionally equivalent product such as soy milk (allergies) or lactose-free milk (intolerances) and not juice when these conditions are specified.

The Food and Nutrition Department does not make menu modifications for religious/cultural reasons or for student preferences. Sufficient menu choices are available at breakfast and lunch that should allow students to select a meal that accommodates preferences.

Modifications are indicated in our point of sale system so that cashiers can assist students with special diet requirements; however, parents should review menus with their children so that they are able to select items appropriate for their needs. Parents are always welcome to discuss their child's needs with the school foodservice dietitian or the foodservice manager at their child's school. Labels for all menu items are kept on file in the Food and Nutrition Services office. To make an appointment to discuss your child's diet modifications or to review the labels please contact Christine Clarahan RDN at 219-933-2400 or email cclarahan@hammond.k12.in.us.

Sincerely,

Christine Clarahan MS, SNS, RDN
Director of Food and Nutrition
School City of Hammond

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