



William Van Patter

General Manager, Aramark @ Downingtown Area School District

August 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian of a student with food allergies or special dietary needs,

Aramark is a global leader in the food service industry who partners with DASD to promote a safe and healthy learning environment that includes the school cafeteria. Our staff will partner with you to make the cafeteria a safer place for your student with food allergies or with special dietary needs. To help you more confidently make your decision to permit your student to purchase food or to eat in our cafeteria, we are providing some general tips:

- To ensure each student's safety, please encourage your student not to share food, whether brought in from home or purchased at school.
- For privacy reasons, our cafeteria staff does not have access to students' allergy information, so they are not able to make a decision concerning the consumption of a particular food or beverage item on behalf of a student.
- Our Food Service team is dedicated to serving nutritious and safe food to our students, however, students with severe allergies should remain aware of the possibility of cross-contact.
- While Nutrition Facts and Ingredient labels are required to disclose common allergens listed in the actual product, allergens in the manufacturer's facility that are not a part of the food item itself may not be disclosed.
- Our wellness policy prevents our K-8 schools from serving any products containing peanuts. At our high schools, all products containing peanuts are clearly labeled with that information.
- If you have a question about a particular food item, first check our new website found on the Food Services page on the DASD website (dasd.org/Page/2664)! Coming in Fall 2019, we will be able to begin providing an increasing amount of information about our products on this site to help parents/guardians make better-informed decisions for their student's breakfast and lunch options. Please note that this information will not reflect any menu or product changes that may occur on the day of service.

If you have a more specific question or don't see the information you're looking for on our website, please reach out to our Food Service team at FoodServiceInformation@dasd.org. We are happy to answer any questions you may have to ensure that you have confidence in your decision to participate in our Food Service program at DASD.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "William Van Patter". The signature is fluid and cursive.

William Van Patter

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