

Food Allergies, Food Intolerances and Special Diet Needs

At Babcock Neighborhood School

All meals served by Babcock Neighborhood School meet nutritional standards set by the USDA, the United States Department of Agriculture. The staff at Babcock Neighborhood School works with our customers to create healthy meals that meet their nutritional needs and food preferences.

Regarding a request to make a substitution for a food allergy (immune-mediated adverse reaction) or food intolerance (abnormal reaction to food not involving the body's immune system) for a disabled or a non-disabled child: Through the wide variety of well-planned nutritious foods offered each day, the child can often make appropriate safe food choices. Babcock Neighborhood School will make substitutions prescribed by a licensed healthcare provider with prescriptive authority within 15 school days or the dietary modification requested may be discontinued until the medical statement/prescription has been received.

If a child has a special dietary need, Babcock Neighborhood School must have a signed medical statement from a licensed healthcare provider with prescriptive authority that must include and address these three items:

Medical Statement/Prescription Requirements:

- an identification of the medical or other special dietary condition that restricts the child's diet.
- the food or foods to be omitted from the child's diet and
- the food or choice of foods to be substituted

This medical statement/prescription must be placed on file with the School Nurse and the Food Service Manager. Feel free to contact Babcock Neighborhood School Cafeteria Manager with questions you may have regarding this documentation.

* MILK is one of the USDA's 4 food items offered at Breakfast and 5 food components offered at Lunch.

If a child has a medical or special dietary need involving MILK, such as lactose intolerance, that is, the child cannot drink regular milk, or can drink milk only on an infrequent basis, a PARENT NOTE to Champ's Café will allow the Food & Nutrition Services staff to substitute Lactaid Milk as a beverage with the meal. Please note: USDA does not permit Babcock Neighborhood School Food Service to provide juice or a bottle of water instead of milk. Neither Juice nor Water provides the same nutrients as milk or Lactaid Milk.

For the Lactose Intolerant Student who has a PARENT NOTE on file, the choices are:

- select a Lactaid Milk--just ask the cashier if you do not see any available,
- decline milk—it is not requirement for a child to take milk with a meal,

OR --purchase a juice as an ala carte USDA "Smart Snack"

If a child does not have a medical need, but does not like the taste of milk, the child may purchase a non-dairy beverage, such as juice or bottled water. If a child does have a medical need, please comply with the Medical Statement/Prescription Requirements.