



## Important Policy Relating to Nuts & Sesame Seeds at BPC

### **BLACK PINE CIRCLE SCHOOL IS A NUT AND SESAME SEED-AWARE SCHOOL**

Our highest priority at Black Pine Circle School is to keep all students safe. In order to meet this objective, Black Pine Circle School will continue to be a nut and sesame seed-aware school.

What does this mean?

- **Our goal is for classrooms with students with severe allergies to be a nut/sesame seed and sesame byproduct-free environment.** We need to ensure that *all* of the food that students and families in those classrooms bring to school, either for lunch or for special events, **is nut/sesame seed and sesame byproduct free.** (You will be informed if this is a requirement for your student's classroom.)
- ***Our Nourish You Lunch Program, school events and meetings, Extended Daycare snacks, and our emergency earthquake food supplies are all nut/sesame seed and sesame byproduct free.***
- The following areas on campus are nut/sesame seed and sesame byproduct free: **The Q Lab, the lower school music room, the lower school art studio, the climbing wall, the library, and the BPC field.**
- We invite all students and families to be sensitive to students who have life-threatening nut and sesame-seed allergies. Remember that we are a diverse community in many ways, and that our goal is to foster inclusion, empathy, and equity. Our faculty, administration, and parent community will work together to ensure that no students or family members will be harassed, teased, or bullied because they have food allergies. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and other state and federal protections, prohibit bullying of any student receiving special accommodations. This behavior at Black Pine Circle School can be grounds for suspension and/or expulsion.
- Please try to limit the food that contains nut/sesame seed and sesame byproducts that your children bring to school and **please do not bring in food treats for any class celebration that contain nut/sesame seed and sesame byproducts.**
- **If being nut/sesame seed and sesame byproduct free will be a significant hardship for your family, then please *let us know*** and we will help your child to be aware of keeping their food, lunch containers, and lunch bag with them during morning snack and lunchtime. BPC staff will be reinforcing these best practices.

*If you and your family are interested in learning more about alternative snacks and recipes, please check out these online resources:*

Safe Snack Guide: <https://snacksafely.com/safe-snack-guide/>

Easy Lunchboxes: <https://tinyurl.com/yanpeedc>

FARE (Food Allergy Research and Education): <https://www.foodallergy.org/resources/schools>