

MONONA GROVE SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD POLICY 453.5

**Monona Grove School District
Life Threatening Allergy (LTA) Policy**

Background

Life Threatening Allergic (LTA) reactions such as anaphylaxis may occur when the allergic person accidentally ingests or is exposed to the offending allergen. Anaphylaxis is a collection of symptoms that affect many body systems. The most dangerous and potentially fatal symptoms include breathing difficulty, drop in blood pressure, or shock. Food allergies are an especially growing problem in the U.S. The foods that most commonly cause allergic problems are peanuts, tree nuts, shellfish, fish, milk, egg, soy and wheat. Other examples of potentially life threatening allergic reactions may occur from stinging insects, medication and latex rubber. The AAAAI (American Academy of Asthma, Allergy and Immunology) states that the most important aspect of the management of life threatening allergies is avoidance of the allergen. Furthermore, the AAAAI advises that the first line treatment of choice for anaphylaxis is an injection of epinephrine.

Goal

The primary goal is to create a safe learning environment for students who have life threatening allergies by minimizing the risk of exposure to the offending allergen; and to support the individual student in avoidance of the offending allergen. School staff, student's parents or guardian, health care providers, and the student with the allergy all have some responsibility in meeting this goal.

Guidelines and Communication

The Monona Grove School District shall develop guidelines and procedures for dealing with LTA in the school district setting. The guidelines shall be available to parents and district staff in each school site office and on the district website at www.mononagrove.org.

SCHOOL BOARD APPROVAL: May 14, 2008