



St. Joseph Catholic School

Academic Excellence Rooted in a Faith Based Environment

201 East Cass Street
St. Johns, MI 48879
(989)224-2421

Christopher Wells, Principal
Terrilynn Voisin, Secretary

Dear Parents:

This letter is in reference to accommodating children with special dietary needs. Federal regulations are in place to ensure that children with disabilities have the same opportunities as other children. This includes education and education –related benefits, such a school meals.

St. Joseph Catholic School, in conjunction with the Michigan Department of Education, is required to obtain a written medical statement for any student requiring a food substitution due to an allergy, food intolerance, or a disability. Each special dietary request must be supported by a statement; which explains the food substitution that is requested. It must be signed by a recognized medical authority (i.e. licensed physician, physicians assistant, or nurse practitioner). The medical statement must include:

- An identification of the medical or other special dietary condition which 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

The Food Service staff at St. Joseph school **MUST** make food substitutions for any child with a disability, and will do so under the written orders of a physician. We are encouraged, but not required, to provide food substitutions for children without disabilities with medically certified special dietary needs who are unable to eat regular meals. Substitutions for students without disabilities must still be based on a statement by a recognized medical authority.

When the Food Service Manager is asked to make a menu substitution for a student, it is the responsibility of the parent /guardian making the request to submit a properly filled out and documented medical statement form.

Sincerely,

Ann Parker, Food Service Manager

Christopher Wells, Principal

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