

*Office of the Assistant Director of Education
Programs Division (Central & Western Region)*

MEMO

TO: School Administrators

FROM: Daniel O'Brien, Assistant Director of Education - Programs (Central/Western)

RE: **SOY BUTTER PRODUCTS**

DATE: September 9, 2021

This is to advise again this school year, we will continue to adhere to risk reduction strategies when considering the many food allergens that are present in our schools.

In previous correspondence received from Dr. Kamra (Pediatrics and Allergy Consultant), it was recommended in order to minimize the risk of an anaphylactic reaction, that schools should restrict all peanut and peanut-containing products where a student in the school has a peanut allergy. Dr. Kamra did not have any concerns about soy butter in schools.

In 2011, after close examination of the peanut butter replacement products that are currently on the market and in consultation with legal counsel, the former Eastern School District determined that given the similarities in appearance, texture and taste they would restrict these products in schools where a student has a peanut allergy. Please be advised that this practice will continue.

We recognize that these products present no risk of anaphylactic allergy; however, having these products in our schools does undermine our capacity to enforce our restriction of peanut butter. Teachers on duty would not be able to distinguish between the two products; therefore, both products will be restricted in a school where a student has a peanut allergy.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your Family Director of Schools.