

April 11, 2013. JoAnn Eudy reported on Allergies in schools. Awareness Presentation: Allergies in School with a hand-out adapted by Andrea Gulley, Attorney from Amarillo's indicate that 16-18% of children with food allergies have reactions to accidental ingestion of food which allergic to at school. 25% of the reactions indicate there was no previous history of the food allergy. 90% of food allergies are caused by milk, eggs, fish, shellfish, soy, wheat, peanuts, and tree nuts. The only way to prevent an allergy is to totally avoid the food. Be aware of issues with skin, respiratory tract, gastrointestinal tract, and cardiovascular system. Anaphylaxis is the most severe reaction which, if left untreated, can result in death. Immediate medical attention is essential. In schools, accommodations under Section 504 would be appropriate for a child with food allergies. The school nutrition department may, but is not required to, make food substitutions for the child. Substitutions are provided on a case-by-case basis, medical statement must be in the student's file, substitutions, if provided, are at no additional cost, substitutions must be documented.