

**Food Allergies, Food Intolerances and Special Diet Needs**  
at **Champ's Café**  
School Food & Nutrition Services  
Charlotte County Public Schools

All meals served by Champ's Café meet nutritional standards set by the USDA, the United States Department of Agriculture. If a child has a disability as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act and that disability prevents the child from eating the regular school meal, Champ's Café will make substitutions prescribed by a medical doctor.

Champ's Café is not required to make a substitution for a food allergy (hypersensitivity) or food intolerance (adverse reaction to food not involving the body's immune system). However, through the wide variety of well-planned nutritious foods offered each day, the child can make appropriate safe food choices. We work with our customers to create healthy meals that meet their nutritional needs and food preferences.

If a child has a special dietary need Champ's Café must have a medical statement from a licensed physician\* that must include:

- an identification of the medical or other special dietary condition that 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

This medical statement must be placed on file with the School Nurse. The School Nurse will notify the Champ's Café Manager.

Feel free to contact your School Champ's Café Manager, School Nurse or the Food Service Central Office (941-575-5400) with questions you may have regarding this documentation.

Terri Whitacre  
Director of Food & Nutrition Services

\* **MILK** is one of the USDA's 4 food items offered at Breakfast and 5 food items offered at Lunch. If a child has a medical or special dietary need involving **MILK**, such as lactose intolerance, that is, the child cannot drink milk, or can drink milk only on an infrequent basis, a **PARENT NOTE** to the **School Nurse** will allow the Food & Nutrition Services staff to substitute lactaid milk as a beverage. If a child does not have a medical need, but does not like the taste of milk, the child may purchase a non-dairy beverage, such as juice.

For more information about Champ's Café, including the free/reduced price meal benefits program, please visit the district's website:  
[www.yourcharlotteschools.net](http://www.yourcharlotteschools.net)