



Peru Elementary School District 124

Northview Elementary School

2100 Plum Street
Peru, Illinois 61354

School District Office

1800 Church Street
Peru, Illinois 61354

Parkside Middle School

1800 Church Street
Peru, Illinois 61354

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Birthday Treats, Snacks, and Classroom Parties

Due to health concerns, all treats and snacks (including birthday treats) must be store bought and factory prepackaged. Baked goods from home or from a bakery are not allowed as a birthday treat. This includes Hy-Vee, Walmart, and any local bakery. Treats and snacks cannot require refrigeration and must have a clearly printed list of ingredients on the packaging. We strongly encourage you to select a treat or snack with nutritional value.

We encourage parents to send a birthday book to school on your child's birthday or half birthday instead of a food treat. The book can be one of your child's favorite that they want to share with the class and then bring back home OR it can be a book that you would like to donate to the classroom library. Teachers will have book donation labels to put in books noting that it was a "birthday book donation" so that it makes it even more special for the child.

The only acceptable birthday treats are listed below. Anything not on this list will be returned home with your child.

- * Individually prepackaged baby carrots
- * Individually prepackaged apple slices
- * Cutie oranges
- * Bananas
- * Individually wrapped cheese sticks or Babybels
- * Hostess Muffins – mini or regular
- * Chips Ahoy
- * Keebler Fudge Stripes, Fudge Grahams, Lorna Doone, Nilla Wafers
- * Oreos (regular, Golden or Minis)
- * Raisins, Craisins and other dried fruits
- * Kraft Handi-snacks with cheese (with red sticks)
- * Triscuits, Wheat Thins, Vegetable Thins (all flavors)
- * Ritz crackers/dinosaurs/sticks (NOT Ritz bits or sandwiches)
- * Town House, Club, Toastedos
- * Veggie Straws/Chips
- * Popped popcorn
- * Cheez-Its, Cheese Nips, Better Cheddars
- * Saltines, Oyster crackers
- * Wheatables, Air Crisps, Munch'ems, Keebler Snack Stix
- * Kashi Tasty Little Crackers (TLC)
- * Goldfish crackers
- * Annie's Bunnies
- * Graham crackers, Graham cracker sticks
- * Teddy Grahams or Teddy Graham character brand
- * Animal crackers (Austin Zoo, Barnum)
- * Vanilla wafers
- * Kellogg's Rice Krispie Treats
- * Angie's Kettle Corn
- * Nutri-Grain Bars
- * Pretzels (NOT Snyder's)
- * Fruit Snacks
- * Cereal bars

If your child's teacher allows snacks during the school day, students in all grades will bring their own snacks from home. This is to ensure that each child has food that is safe for him/her. Please only send dry snacks such as pretzels, gold fish crackers, granola bars, raisins, or any fruit like apples, oranges, bananas, etc. Fruit cups, applesauce, yogurt and pudding cups (if it must be eaten with a spoon) are not allowed. Soda is not permitted at school.

There are three (3) Holiday parties that are celebrated in the classrooms throughout the school year. Classroom teachers pre-arrange volunteers who provide these holiday snacks. Do not send any holiday treats to school without being requested to do so by the classroom teacher. Avoidance of all foods with nuts is the safest for students with specific allergies. Reading ingredient labels will help everyone know what is in the foods brought in for class parties. We require treats and snacks to follow the following guidelines:

1. Only store bought items that are sealed in the original package with ingredients listed are permitted in the classrooms during the school day when students are in attendance.
2. Baked goods from home or from a bakery are not allowed during holiday parties. This includes Hy-Vee, Walmart, and any local bakery.
3. All snacks and treats intended to be shared with classmates must be nut free.

Please note the nut products that may be listed in the paragraph of ingredients or in bold type underneath. You may also find the phrase..."made in the same factory with peanuts and/or tree nuts". These foods are also NOT safe for children with peanut/nut allergies. If you are unsure of the ingredients, please do not bring it in.

No treat bags are allowed for holiday parties. This includes treat bags with food items AND non-food items. If treat bags are sent to school for holiday parties, they will be sent back home with your child. For Valentine's Day, please send cards only, no candy. Pencils, erasers, stickers, tattoos, etc. are allowed to be attached to the Valentines.

Please contact the school office at 223-1111 if you have any questions at all about this updated Northview Policy!

Sincerely,

Heather Baker, Principal