

## ZCS Elementary Safe Snacks

Our school is a safe and welcoming place for all students. We have created guidelines for parents to help support our teachers during classroom parties and events. Guidelines from state and federal agencies related to the prevention of childhood health issues, including childhood obesity and the prevalence of life-threatening food allergies, inform our decisions involving healthy food choices for students.

If you are sending food for a classroom party or event, all food items must follow the nutrition guidelines in the ZCS Wellness Policy [http://www.zcs.k12.in.us/apps/pages/food\\_service](http://www.zcs.k12.in.us/apps/pages/food_service). Room parents are asked to share the snack plan for classroom parties with the classroom teacher at least one week in advance of a celebration. The classroom teacher will review the snack options and make adjustments to ensure student safety.

All snacks and celebration food must be provided in the original packaging with an attached nutrition/ingredient label. Homemade snacks are not permitted. This includes pre-cut fruits and vegetables. While these might be the healthiest options, there are severe risks of cross-contamination during washing or cutting. Packaged food items only period.

Parents are welcome to join their child(ren) for lunch at our elementary schools. All visitors, including lunchtime visitors, must have their driver's license scanned at the office before entering the cafeteria. We have guest tables designated for you. This is a special time for you and your child to eat together.

In our elementary schools teachers recognize student birthdays in various ways. No birthday treats (food or otherwise) or birthday balloons are allowed at school and must not be sent. We do not allow party invitations to be distributed at school unless the entire class is invited.

Thank you for your help and support in making our schools safe and welcoming for all students.

