



# Oyster Bay - East Norwich Central School District

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[www.obenschools.org](http://www.obenschools.org)

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August 28, 2019

To all OBEN Families:

I hope you all are enjoying the summer. As we approach the new school year, I wanted to inform you of a new District policy.

The District-wide Wellness Committee took a year-long look at current practices in our buildings as it relates to outside food and classroom celebrations, and made associated recommendations. In an effort to reduce potential food allergy risks, and to promote the overall well-being of our students, the Board of Education revised Policy #5670 *Student Wellness* to specifically include the following:

- While food is allowed in the classrooms for celebrations and instruction, per the revised policy: "Home baked items are not permitted as per the Nassau County Health Department."
- A pre-approved list of allowable foods will be created by the District-wide Wellness Committee – it will be distributed early in the school year.
- As an alternative, families are encouraged to celebrate birthdays and other occasions with a brief craft, signing a t-shirt or picture frame, etc.

Please note that these changes do *not* apply to the individual snacks that our younger students bring each day. I understand that there will be an adjustment period so District personnel, including myself, are available to assist you in any way. If you have any questions about this matter, please contact your building principal or me at (516) 624-6515.

Thank you very much for your consideration and please enjoy the remaining days of summer!

Sincerely,

Ryan Butler  
Assistant Business Official