

MORRISVILLE BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: 200

TITLE: LATEX SAFE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT

ADOPTED: APRIL 27,2016

REVISED:

209.2 LATEX SAFE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT	
1. Purpose	Latex allergies have dramatically increased during the last decade. This increase can be directly attributed to the increased use of latex products, especially gloves and balloons. Efforts to protect both the caregivers and consumers from pathogens have precipitated the use of latex gloves for many purposes.
2. Definitions	Latex refers to the natural rubber content in a product. These products contain particles, latex proteins, which when touched or inhaled create an allergic reaction within a latex sensitive individual.
3. Guidelines	<p>The latex allergy is an acquired allergy, meaning the sensitization has occurred through past exposures to the allergen, in this case latex. The symptoms of latex allergy can vary from mild to severe and occur after the exposure to a latex product or the latex protein on a surface or in the air. The symptoms of a latex allergy may include hives, runny nose, sneezing, headaches, itchy eyes, sore or hoarse throat, abdominal cramping, chest tightness, wheezing or shortness of breath (asthma), or anaphylaxis.</p> <p>Populations at risk to develop latex sensitivity/allergy are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students with spina bifida. 2. Students who have had multiple surgeries. 3. Students who have had multiple allergies (such as ragweed or food allergies to avocado, potato, banana, tomato, chestnuts, kiwi, fruit, papaya). 4. Staff with occupational exposure (custodian, food service, school nurse and health aides).
4. Delegation of Responsibility	The Superintendent or designee shall establish administrative regulations regarding latex allergies.