



January 19, 2009

Dear Metz Dining Service Managers, School District Administrators, Students, and Parents:

Over the past week or so you may have all been hearing and reading news stories about a possible outbreak of Salmonella poisoning that has occurred in 43 states around America. Once again, peanut related products are the suspect. While there is evidence that the outbreak may be limited to peanut pastes used in the manufacture of further processed foods, National Health Authorities have suggested that Americans be cautious in their use of peanut related products until further notice.

At Metz, it is our ultimate responsibility to protect our customers from any possible food borne risk, real or suspected. We will always go the extra mile to err on the side of caution. In that objective, we have instructed our managers to remove and hold all peanut butter and peanut related products from our menu and meal offerings as of the start of the service day, Monday, January 18th, 2009. The remove and hold from service will be until further notice and food safety clarification.

Nationally, some manufacturers and suppliers have received Notice of Recall for specific further manufactured products that may contain the suspect peanut pastes. While those specific products do not appear to be currently available in our managed school system, we are taking every added precaution by educating our managers about those specific products, and by eliminating the use of all peanut and peanut butter products until we receive the "all clear" from National Health Authorities.

We apologize to our customers for any inconvenience this may cause, but we feel this to be in their best interest at this time.

Sincerely,

Toby Horner
Division Vice President
K-12 School Dining Services
Metz and Associates, Ltd.

Craig Phillips
Vice President of Purchasing
The Metz Group