

The official COVID-19 news source for members of the Akron Public Schools community



## From the Superintendent

David W. James, Ed.D., superintendent

#### **Dear APS and Community**

Social Distancing, Day 28

We do not yet know if COVID-19 is responsible for the death of a wonderful APS teacher, but Dan Spak's death this weekend was a shock to everyone. A loving, kind, fun teacher is gone. Dan was an innovator within Akron Public Schools who brought international recognition to our strong engineering and robotics programs. We send our prayers to his family. He was a beloved teacher. The stresses to our health care system caused by COVID-19 most certainly contributed to his death. And APS early learning speech therapist Emily Gifford's recent death has left a significant void here and at Stewart Early Learning where she worked. We mourn their passing and remember their contributions to our students and families.

## **News of the Day**

#### Meal site options for spring break week

APS is suspending meal distribution during spring break. Here is a list of alternate meal options.

- Akros Middle School/The Edge Academy, 265 Park St., Akron Mon.-Fri., 9-11 a.m. This is a drive through program.
- Spring Hill Elementary School, 660 Lessig Ave., Akron Mon.-Fri., 11 a.m.-12 p.m.
- Sheetz is offering "Kidz Meal Bags" April 2-16. Ask the employee at the register. One meal per child. Two Akron area locations - 20 W. Waterloo Rd. and 11651 E. Turkeyfoot Lake Rd.
- First Apostolic Faith Church, 790 East Ave., Akron Mon., Tues. and Thurs.10 a.m.-2 p.m.
- The Peter Maurin Center of Akron, 1096 S. Main St., Akron Tues. 12- 2 p.m., Fri. 1-3 p.m.
- Middlebury Chapel Food Pantry, 92 Arlington St., Akron Mon.-Fri. 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
- Feed My Sheep, 265 E. Cuyahoga Falls Ave., Akron Fri. 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
- St. Augustine School, 195 7th St. NW, Barberton, Mon. Fri. 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
- OPEN-M Mountain of Food, 941 Princeton Ave., Akron Fri., April 17, 9-11 a.m. Drive up or bring something to carry food - 80-100 pounds of per person. Summit County residents only.
- Main Street Preparatory Academy, 1035 Clay St., Akron Mon.-Fri., 12-2 p.m.
- Middlebury Academy, 88 Kent St., Akron Mon. only 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Israelite Missionary Baptist Church, 1300 Atwood Ave., Akron) Lunch April 13-17, 9:30-11:30 am. FREE to Akron children 18 years of age and younger.

#### APS "connectors" match students, families with services

APS is now using trained "connectors" to help families and students with access to resources such as housing, food assistance and more. These connectors are APS staff members, tutors, intervention specialists, educational assistants and family liaisons that know how to make referrals to outside agencies as well as APS counselors and case management staff. Call the Engagement Center at 330.761.2810 for more information.

### Census iobs available

Full- and part-time positions are available with the Akron Census Office. Positions include recruiting assistants, field supervisors, operations supervisors, enumerators and clerks. Pay ranges from \$16-\$25/hour. For more information call 888.480.1639 or visit 2020census.gov/jobs.

### New resources for families

- KidsHealth: Social distancing with children
- Greater Good Magazine: Helping teens shelter in place
- Psychology Today: Talking to teens and young adults about social distancing Psychology Today: Social distancing and adolescence

# **District Updates**

### Online lessons/APS Connected Learning live/family resources available

Students should be logging on and accessing lessons through APS Connected Learning at akronschools.com. Our family resource page has important dates, messages from the district, access to learning tools and other information. Call the Engagement Center at 330.761.2810 if you have questions.

### Student meal pick up for all children ages 1-18

Student meals are available at APS schools Mon.-Thurs. from 9:30-11:30 a.m. as most APS schools. Meal distribution will be suspended April 13-17 for spring break. It will resume Monday, April 20. The Akron Canton Regional Foodbank has an interactive map families may use to find food sources.

### Attendance program with Browns aims to keep kids in school

APS and the Cleveland Browns are teaming up to keep kids in school. Students who are absent from school (even remotely) miss important learning opportunities. The Get 2 School network provides resources to tackle chronic absenteeism. Learn more.

### APS is still hiring

We are continuing to hire for positions that are open and are important to the education of our students. For a list of open positions and to apply, visit <a href="https://www.applitrack.com/akron/onlineapp/">https://www.applitrack.com/akron/onlineapp/</a>.

# **Other Resources**

### Government resources

- Summit County Public Health
- State of Ohio Governor
- State of Ohio Department of Education
- Federal government

### Health information and other resources

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Updates
- Ohio Department of Health Updates
- Ohio Mental Health & Addiction Services:
- Managing Coronavirus-related Stress
- World Health Organization Updates Summit County ADM Board - Managing Stress
- and Anxiety Around Coronavirus How to talk to your kids about coronavirus
- ANIMATED VIDEO: What coronavirus does to
- the body
- **NAMI Support Group for Families** PBS learning resources

## Follow us on social media

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LinkedIn linkedin.com/company/akron-public-schools

# **Available Downloads**

- APS coronavirus and helpful hygiene tips poster **Arabic** 
  - <u>Farsi</u> 0
  - Karen 0
  - Mon
  - Nepali
  - <u>Pashto</u>
  - **Spanish**
  - Swahili
  - Cover your Cough
  - Wash your Hands
  - Sick = Stay Home **Bullying/harassment Complaint Form**