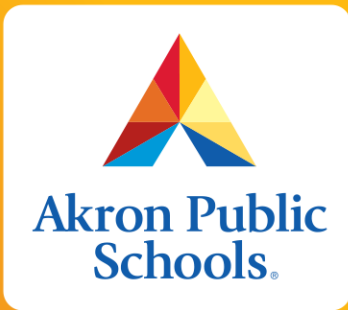




APS DAILY COVID-19 UPDATE



Wednesday, April 29, 2020

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 44

In the middle of the tumult of COVID-19, we have a student whose artwork, depicting her expression of how this pandemic is affecting her and her friends, made headlines around Ohio today. Takya Primus-Blackmon is in eighth grade at Litchfield CLC. Principal Jessica Sax shared Takya's drawing with us, and we in turn shared it with Governor Mike DeWine. The governor showed Takya's beautiful work at the very beginning of his 2 p.m. briefing today and talked about the wonderful work being done by teachers and students during this unusual semester. Congratulations, Takya and thank you. Wash your hands. Stay well.



News of the Day

Should you wear a mask?

With stay-at-home orders being loosened and businesses starting to reopen, there has been much discussion about wearing masks. Dr. Thomas File, chair of Summa Health's infectious disease division and president of the Infectious Diseases Society of America, answers questions from Beacon Journal reporter Betty Lin-Fisher about the COVID-19 pandemic and wearing masks. [Read the story.](#)

Avoid quarantine fatigue

Thanks to APS school psychologist Erich Merkle, Ph.D., Ed.S. NCSP, who will be providing daily mental health resources and information for us.

With many days of prolonged isolation, mental health and public health experts are worried that people are simply growing weary and tired of social distancing. Despite how exhausted we are feeling and want life to resume to some normalcy, this is not the time to give up or give into pressures. Taking time to get outside, exercise, eat well, maintain routines and practice self-care will ensure we can continue these efforts. Read more about taking care of your mental health at <https://www.verywellmind.com/protect-your-mental-health-during-quarantine-4799766>.

Registration for 2020-21 now online for new families/incoming kindergartners

Families who are new to APS (including incoming kindergartners) may register their student(s) online through our website akronschools.com. [Click here](#) for step-by-step instructions. Questions? Call the Engagement Center at 330.761.2810.

UA free homework hotline now available

The College of Education at The University of Akron's free K-12 homework hotline for Summit County youth and families is now up and running. This tutoring program gives students additional homework help from trained education majors in math, science, social studies, and language arts. Tutoring takes place via phone or video call. Help is available Mon.-Fri. from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. until the end the school year. [Sign up here](#). Questions? Contact Cheyenne at cko2@zips.uakron.edu or Matt at mrd103@zips.uakron.edu.

District Updates

Online lessons/APS Connected Learning live/family resources available

Students can access APS Connected Learning at akronschools.com. Our [family resource page](#) has important dates, messages, learning tools and more. Call 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. at most APS schools and Reach Opportunity Center in Summit Lake (390 W. Crosier St.). No meals at Ott, Essex, Stewart, Early College, NIHF STEM, STEM HS, I PROMISE or Miller South. Meals are also being distributed at the Steve Wise Boys & Girls Club location at 889 Jonathan Ave., Akron, Mon.-Fri. from 12-1 p.m. Nearly 250,000 students have been fed through the meal program at APS schools.

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](#)

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Available Downloads

- [APS coronavirus and helpful hygiene tips poster](#)
 - [Arabic](#)
 - [Farsi](#)
 - [Karen](#)
 - [Mon](#)
 - [Nepali](#)
 - [Pashto](#)
 - [Spanish](#)
 - [Swahili](#)
- [Cover your Cough](#)
- [Wash your Hands](#)
- [Sick = Stay Home](#)
- [Bullying/harassment Complaint Form](#)