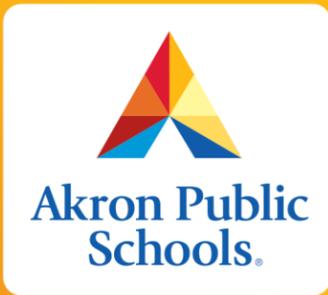




APS DAILY COVID-19 UPDATE



Thursday, April 30, 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 45

We have added a new resource to our Daily Update. As we continue dealing with the pandemic and its restrictions on our daily lives, we may face psychological consequences we never expected. Some people are bullheaded and not interested in following the rules. But, most of us are doing our best to do what is right for our community, region, state and country. To help with some of the 'side effects' we can face, we asked Erich Merkle, Ph.D., Ed.S. NCSP each day to share brief advice and information to assist you and your family. Erich is a highly credentialed psychologist here at Akron Public Schools. He is a terrific resource for our students and families, and we'd like to share him a bit. Wash your hands. Stay well.

News of the Day

Merkle's Mental Health – It starts with wearing pants

From Erich Merkle, Ph.D., Ed.S, NCSP – APS psychologist

Two days ago, ABC news correspondent Will Reeve learned a valuable lesson about teleworking and continuing to be professionally prepared. He neglected to wear bottoms during his virtual reporting from home, becoming a fast Internet celebrity for his fashion miscue. These days, all of us have taken some latitudes in our work appearance but keeping our hygiene and professional dress routines as we would on any other workday remains essential to our emotional well-being. Learn more about the case for getting dressed: <https://www.refinery29.com/en-us/2020/03/9601567/reasons-to-get-dressed-in-coronavirus-quarantine>

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.](#)

Social distancing - fun things to do this weekend

- Take a covered bridge tour - [Details](#)
- Visit Stan Hywet Hall and Gardens - [Details](#)
- Make a movie with the 48 Hour Film Project- [Details](#)
- Visit the Cuyahoga Valley National Park - [Details](#)
- Watch free movies from the Ohio Independent Film Festival - [Details](#)

District Updates

Online registration for 2020-21 is open 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.

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.

UA free homework hotline

The College of Education at The University of Akron's free K-12 homework hotline gives students additional homework help from trained education majors in various subjects. Tutoring takes place via phone or video call. Help is available Mon.-Fri. from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. [Sign up here.](#)

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](#)