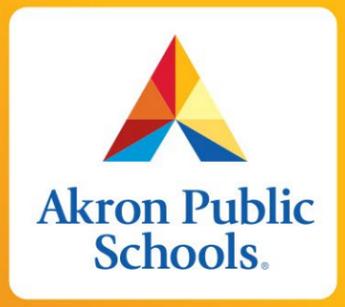




APS DAILY COVID-19 UPDATE



Monday, June 1, 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 75

While watching news accounts of demonstrations across our country this weekend, it became clear that concerns over social distancing and the rules guiding our response to the COVID-19 pandemic have been relaxed... by the public. It was also clear that, suddenly and with little warning, our priorities have shifted to an issue that also affects all our nation in an equally insidious way. As one who works in education, I see learning opportunities all around for our children; I encourage everyone reading this to seize both opportunities to talk to children about these two seismic events in their lives. (Please do it with care). Stay safe.

News of the Day

Merkle's Mental Health Moment: Racial tensions – what do we tell our children?

Dr. Erich Merkle, Pupil Adjustment Program, Office of Special Education, Akron Public Schools

Racial tensions have escalated in the past few days after the tragic death of George Floyd. Media has shown graphic images of Mr. Floyd's suffocation along with some volatile public demonstrations with occasional militarized policing responses. Children are viewing and hearing about these difficult news accounts, thrusting parents into having challenging conversations about police, race and racial tensions. All of this is occurring while society continues to struggle living in a global pandemic that adds to the emotionality and compounds the contagion risk that especially hits communities of color disproportionately. [Courtesy of USA Today, how to discuss these race issues with our children.](#) Here are some additional resources for parents on race and racial tensions:

- For books dealing with social justice topics: [Social Justice Books](#)
- For teenagers dealing with police shootings: [The Hate U Give](#) by Angie Thomas.
- For young children (ages 4-8): [Something Happened in Our Town: A Child's Story about Racial Injustice](#), by Marianne Celano, Marietta Collins, and Ann Hazzard
- Especially useful for White parents: [Raising White Kids: Bringing Up Children in a Racially Unjust America](#) by Jennifer Harvey
- [Daddy Why Am I Brown?: A healthy conversation about skin color and family](#) by Bedford F. Palmer
- [A Terrible Thing Happened](#) by Margaret Holmes

Teacher of the Year Finalists – elementary schools

This week, we are recognizing the teacher of the year finalists. Today's list includes two of our elementary building winners. Additional finalists for elementary and secondary schools will be announced throughout the week. Congratulations to our first two finalists.

- Amanda Brown, Findley CLC, third grade teacher
- Kelsey Kent, I Promise School, intervention specialist

City of Akron to resume bulk trash pickup on June 8

Akron's sanitation customers can once again schedule bulk pick up of items starting the week of June 8. These items include anything outside a customer's normal trash cart on the customer's normal collection day. Three pickups are provided free to residents as part of the city's regular sanitation services. To schedule a bulk pick up, call the city's 3-1-1 line (or 330.375-2311) to schedule pick up for weeks of June 8-12 and June 15-19 to help the city plan for increased volume. For more information on what is accepted, visit www.akronohio.gov/trash.

JA Virtual Trivia Challenge helps you keep your mind sharp

Join Junior Achievement on Thursday nights at 7 p.m. in June for virtual trivia with your friends and family. Each week, the winner will walk away with a weekly prize and the person with the highest overall combined score after three nights will win an outdoor activity prize valued at more than \$600. Dates and themes include:

- June 11: All things Disney, Pixar and Marvel
- June 18: General pop culture
- June 25: Binge-worthy shows and movies

To register, [click here](#). JA suggestions a \$15 donation per night for each household, but it isn't mandatory. Proceeds will fund entrepreneurship, financial literacy and career-readiness programs for K-12 students.

District Updates

Student meal pick up for all children ages 1-18

Most APS schools and Reach Opportunity Center Mon.-Thurs. from 9:30-11:30 a.m. Steve Wise Boys & Girls Club location at 889 Jonathan Ave., Akron, Mon.-Fri. from 12-1 p.m.

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.

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](#)