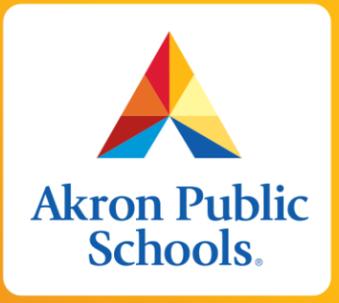




# APS DAILY COVID-19 UPDATE



Tuesday, June 2, 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 76

As we near the finish line of another school year, this one will go down in the books as the most unusual for all of us, regardless of age. I'd like to think Akron Public Schools has acted as responsively and responsibly as any school district could have. This is not a perfect system even when all our kids have school buildings to go to and classrooms to sit in to learn. That is why we are constantly working on innovative approaches to make the learning experience better and more effective. The huge bump in the road from COVID-19 will not change our resolve. Stay safe. Stay well.

## News of the Day

### Merkle's Mental Health Moment: Healing from pandemic losses

Many people are confronting the loss of a loved one to the novel coronavirus—a challenge made even more difficult by physical distancing orders that prevent them from saying goodbye in person or gathering with others to mourn. Deaths aren't the only losses that people are reckoning with, however. Millions of people are facing loss of employment and financial upheaval as a result of the pandemic. [The American Psychological Association offers these pointers for helping us navigate grief and loss](#) during the pandemic and in these socially volatile times.

### Teacher of the Year Finalists – elementary schools

This week, we are recognizing the teacher of the year finalists. Today's list includes two more of our elementary building winners. Additional finalists for secondary schools will be announced tomorrow and Thursday. All finalists will be recognized on Friday. Congratulations to today's finalists.

- Aubrey Luther, Case CLC, intervention specialist
- Margaret Oliver, Helen Arnold CLC, intervention specialist

### Ohio adds COVID-19 assistance including money for school districts

The state's Controlling Board has approved another round of funding (\$873 million) to support efforts to control the COVID-19 outbreak statewide and provide relief for Ohio's schools and small businesses. State funds approved include:

- \$238.4 million - Ohio Department of Health for COVID-19 lab testing
- \$3 million - Ohio Department of Medicaid for emergency preparedness in nursing home facilities related to COVID-19
- \$3.9 million - Ohio Department of Health for reagents and lab supplies

The Controlling Board approved an additional \$628 million in federal funds including:

- **\$280 million from the federal CARES Act to support Ohio school districts**
- \$162 million over the next two years for community development and services grants
- \$120 million for low-income housing and home energy assistance grants
- \$31 million - Ohio Department of Aging for nutritional programs, caregiver support for seniors and other services
- \$10 million to establish a direct loan fund for small businesses impacted by COVID-19 in Ohio's 32 Appalachian counties
- \$20 million to establish a personal protective equipment (PPE) manufacturing grant program

### The root costs of COVID

Some dentists across the country are beginning to add a so-called infection control charge to their bills. Practices, according to NBC News, may add a charge to defray the costs of masks, gowns and other equipment needed to guard against COVID-19. According to the [NBC report](#), many insurance companies will not cover this charge. Dental practices reportedly need the extra money to cover the cost of face shields, air purifiers and more rudimentary safety gear, to help keep their offices free of the coronavirus. The price of equipment has risen dramatically because of unprecedented demand from health care workers. Dentists say they struggle to pay the extra costs, particularly after most states shut down dental offices in March and April for all but emergency care to reserve protective equipment for hospital use. They are also seeing fewer patients than before the pandemic.

## 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](#)

### Follow us on social media

- Facebook [@akronpublicschools](#)
- Twitter [@akronschools](#)
- LinkedIn [linkedin.com/company/akron-public-schools](#)

### 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](#)

### 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](#)