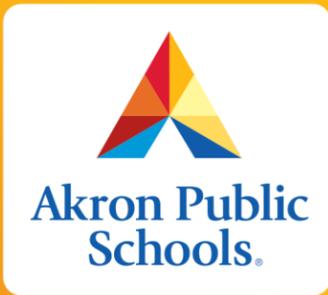




APS DAILY COVID-19 UPDATE



Wednesday, June 3, 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 77

Our governor has made the announcement many of us in the field of education expected. We fully expect Ohio's public schools to be open and in session this fall. The governor is not dictating what dates schools are to begin. That is up to each individual district to decide. Ohio has taken a methodical, one-step approach throughout this pandemic. I think it has served us well. The *next* step, then, is to decide just what school will look like when students and teachers do return. We're working on that now. The next significant announcement will deal with safety, security, distancing, etc. We appreciate your patience. Stay well. Be safe.

News of the Day

Merkle's Mental Health Moment:

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

While summer vacation usually conjures ideas of beach and pool time, amusement parks, and lots of travel, life will definitely be different during the summer of 2020. Continuing to live in a pandemic means we will have to take extra precautions and likely change some of our expectations for summer fun. [Pediatrician, Dr. Nicole Baldwin, offers families ideas of how to navigate the intersecting challenges of enjoying summer while keeping everyone safe too.](#) Remember, home is the safest place to be right now but there are steps you can take to minimize your risk as you venture out.

Teacher of the Year Finalists – secondary schools

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

- Rebecca Butler, Buchtel CLC, science teacher
- Eric Frantz, Ellet CLC, automotive technology instructor

Governor announces return to class in the fall

Akron Public Schools plan to reopen for classes this fall, following an announcement by the governor yesterday afternoon. Governor Mike DeWine told reporters in his daily briefing that Ohio is planning to have K-12 students return to classrooms this fall. "We fully intend to have school in the fall," DeWine said. "Our goal is to have kids in the classroom." K-12 students were initially sent home from school for a three-week break beginning on March 16 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. According to APS Superintendent David W. James, Ed.D., each district still determines starting dates for school. The state will not have a say in that decision. Over the coming weeks, Governor DeWine said the state will continue working on health and safety guidelines for schools to implement upon return.

ACF awards emergency response funding to programs benefitting APS students

[Akron Community Foundation](#) (ACF) announced \$118,500 in its latest round of grants to assist nonprofits during the coronavirus outbreak through its [Community Response Fund for Nonprofits](#). APS students will benefit from several grants including:

- [Akron Public Schools](#) - \$5,000 to support online learning by deploying 42 hotspot devices in weak internet areas
- [Boys & Girls Clubs of Northeast Ohio](#) - \$5,000 to augment daily meal pick-up packs with essential items, including shampoo, toothpaste and toilet paper
- [Buchtel Community Learning Center PTA](#), \$5,000 for groceries and essential items for grandparents raising grandchildren and other non-traditional family arrangements
- [Grace Academy of Small Wonders](#) - \$3,000 to provide Barber CLC students with gift cards to purchase food and essential items to relieve some financial burden for parents
- [Students With A Goal](#) - \$3,000 to support Akron students and families with basic needs

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](#)

Follow us on social media

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

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](#)