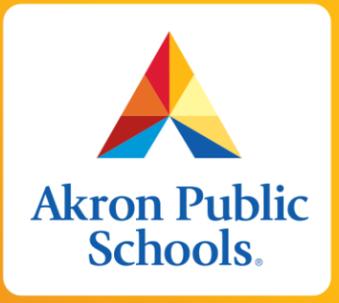




APS DAILY COVID-19 UPDATE



Friday, May 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 46

With so much going on in our schools, from planning each day to figuring how we might do graduation, summer school and even next fall, sometimes it can be difficult to find time to sort out what else is happening with COVID-19. In Ohio, we have seen quite a few changes this week that have been a bit confusing to some. To provide clarity, this afternoon Governor DeWine announced the Ohio Department of Health has issued a "Stay Safe Ohio Order." This is new, and it changes some previous directives. Please learn as much as you can about this by going to www.governor.ohio.gov. Wash your hands. Stay well.

News of the Day

Merkle's Mental Health Moment: May is Mental Health Awareness Month

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

Each year, millions of Americans face the reality of living with a mental illness. Many of these challenges have been exacerbated by the global pandemic, illness, social distancing and quarantine requirements. Since 1949, May has been designated as Mental Health Awareness Month through the efforts of Mental Health America and their affiliates. The goal is to fight stigma, provide support, educate the public and advocate for policies that support people with mental illness and their families. You can access a toolkit with more information at <https://mhanational.org/mental-health-month>.

University of Akron offers contests, at-home activities for students

- **Zip Pitch: Students or small teams in grades 7-12 are invited to** pitch their idea for a business or solution to a COVID-19 pandemic dilemma. Prizes of \$100 will go to winning students. The contest is open from April 30- May 13. [Click here for details.](#)
- **Science at Home:** The Akron Global Polymer Academy released [easy science experiments to do from home](#). Additionally, their "Professor Polymer" has a daily science demonstration on [their Facebook page](#).
- **Engineering Virtual Tours:** Students interested in engineering careers can learn more about the different engineering disciplines in [these virtual tours](#) from UA College of Engineering. Or, hear from recent graduates as they explain what a [day in the life](#) of a professional engineer looks like.

Akron Zoo staff, volunteers develop medical masks

Akron Zoo volunteers and staff are sewing medical-grade masks made from kits developed by the zoo's veterinary team. A portion of the masks, which can be sterilized and reused, will be donated to the Summit County Health Department and other community partners. The remaining masks will be used by the zoo staff and will replace about 1,400 N95 masks the zoo donated from its emergency stockpile several weeks ago.

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](#)