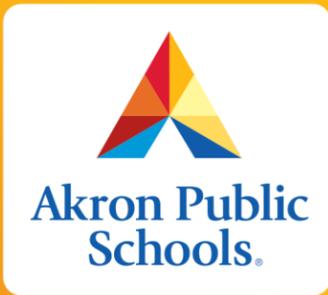




# APS DAILY COVID-19 UPDATE



Monday, May 11, 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 56

Numbers can be fun. We haven't been publicly announcing our meal distribution numbers for several weeks. As of today, APS has made and given meals to close to 350,000 Akron children. Our Department of Child Nutrition is to be commended for its ongoing efforts. Those same folks are happy to be distributing, with meals, protective masks made by Goodwill Industries, and supported by GAR Foundation. Goodwill has made 15,000 masks. Finally, we have a big number from United Way. It is making a third distribution (\$286,000) to community organizations selected to receive funding in the local pandemic relief campaign. The fund has raised \$3.1 million this year. Wash your hands. Stay well.

## News of the Day

### Merkle's Mental Health Moment: Sometimes doing nothing is being productive too

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

A strong work ethic is a cornerstone of America and certainly everyone who works in education. We are being told that social isolation and working from home affords us lots of time to work through our "honey do lists," learn something new, and keep on keeping on. Yet, these are disruptive and highly stressful times, unlike we have ever known before. [Remember, we have worth beyond our productive output.](#) We can see this as a new beginning to give ourselves permission to just be in the moment too, [where maybe we just do not get something done.](#) [We also have to be careful not to try to be too productive](#) - and that's okay too. Here are some affirmations in the time of quarantine

*I am allowed to rest. I don't have to be productive to be worthy. My feelings are real. I am doing enough. I am allowed to take a break from the news cycle. I deserve to be cared for. I am allowed to be fearful. I can spend extra time on myself.*

### Akron Summit County COVID-19 Emergency Support Fund distributions approved

Third round funding totaling \$286,000 will be distributed as follows: Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank (\$50,000) for food acquisition and distribution; Goodwill Industries of Akron (\$40,000) to make reusable and washable cloth masks for community members; Catholic Charities, Salvation Army and International Institute of Akron (\$10,000 each) for utility assistance; Battered Women's Shelter (\$25,000) to provide services and meet increased demand; United Way of Orrville (\$25,000) for pandemic response efforts. AxessPointe Community Health (\$25,000) for telehealth expansion. Project Ujima (\$21,000) for essentials supplies for babies and families; Akron Children's Hospital, Cleveland Clinic Akron General and Summa Health (\$15,000 each) to meet the needs of health-care providers; Direction Home Akron Canton Area Agency on Aging and Disabilities (\$15,000) to assist at-risk senior citizens; Stewart's Caring Place (\$10,000) increased need for case management services.

### Akron Zoo offering meal takeout and shopping opportunities

The Komodo Kingdom Café will be offering a new "Meals to Go" service every Thursday from 4-6 pm. A different menu will be offered every week. Cost is \$40 for entrees that serve four. Desserts, beverages and alcoholic drinks are available for an additional fee. Meals to Go may be picked up via drive-thru in the zoo parking lot and will include a social distant meet and greet with a zoo mascot. Dinner patrons will also receive a special "zooprize" via email to enjoy with their meal. Purchase meals at [akronzoo.org/meals-to-go](http://akronzoo.org/meals-to-go). Shopping in the zoo gift shop is available by appointment. Appointments are required and available from 11 am-4 pm and must be scheduled at least 24 hours in advance by phone 330.375.2550 or email [info@akronzoo.org](mailto:info@akronzoo.org).

## 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](http://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](http://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

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.

### UA free homework hotline

Free online homework help for K-12 students is available Mon.-Fri. from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. [Sign up here](#).

### APS Story Sharing at 3

APS librarians are sharing stories for students of all ages every day at 3 p.m. Story Sharing at 3 is live every day and is recorded for viewing later. [Click here](#) to learn more and view past story recordings.

## 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](#)