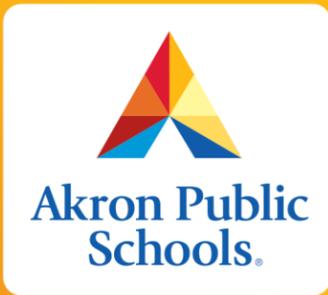




APS DAILY COVID-19 UPDATE



Tuesday, May 12, 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 57

There is a division in our country over the way we are responding to COVID-19. We certainly feel the strain of the economic side effects from this virus and expect much of its impact to continue to hit us for a long time to come. In the meantime, Ohio is continuing the discussion of day care operations and whether to reopen. The risks are substantial and concerning as there are more cases of children coming down with a mystery illness, as some are calling it, possibly connected to this virus. There are still many unanswered questions and variables. As Ohio opens, please try your best to maintain some social distancing for everyone's sake. Wash your hands. Stay safe.

News of the Day

Merkle's Mental Health Moment: Caring for the caregiver during times of crisis

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

Parents, teachers, and other caregivers play a critical role in helping children cope with crises such as what we are experiencing in today's COVID-19 pandemic. Following a crisis, teachers are frequently called upon to help support the social emotional needs of their students. Unfortunately, this increases the likelihood of stress, burnout, and secondary trauma among our educational colleagues. The National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) recognizes these concerns and offers an instructive Care for the Caregivers panel experience to try to help.

- [Care for the Caregiver Panel](#)
- [Care for the Caregiver Guidelines:](#)

Eligible students across Ohio to receive additional SNAP benefits

Governor Mike DeWine announced today some welcome news for many APS families on the SNAP (food stamps) program. Federal authorities have approved Ohio's pandemic plan that will distribute \$300 to approximately 850,000 qualifying, needy families. This extra income will help families feed children who otherwise may not have access to free meals every day. The total in federal dollars is \$250 million.

New program to check-in on, help older adults stay connected

The Ohio Department of Aging is now offering a free, daily check-in call for adults age 60+ to ensure they are doing okay and to connect them to live support if they need it. To register yourself or a loved one for the Staying Connected program, visit aging.ohio.gov or call 1.833.ODA.CHAT (1.833.632.2428).

Self-guided learning for high school students helps with work and career readiness

Junior Achievement is providing free, self-guided activities for high school-age students in a pilot program designed to help with work and career readiness. Activities include interviewing, transferable skills, responding to failure and understanding job postings. Each activity is five-to-15 minutes long and participants are asked to complete a short survey at the end of each activity. Students may test one activity, multiple activities or all activities on the site. [Details.](#)

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.

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

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.](#)

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](#)