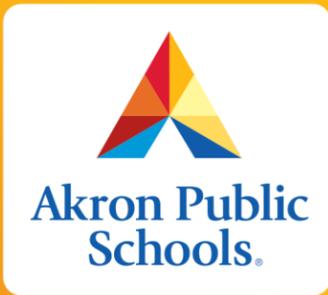




APS DAILY COVID-19 UPDATE



Tuesday, May 19, 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 63

Akron is fortunate to have an extremely capable and bright person directing the finances of its public school system in conjunction with the Akron School Board. CFO/Treasurer Ryan Pendleton has delivered what he called "...one of the more challenging forecasts I've ever put together in my career in the public or the private sector." His five-year projection delivered at last night's board meeting shows the effects of COVID-19 on future revenue collection from both the state and local property taxes (an Ohio public school's main sources of revenue). The future is fairly murky at this point due to uncertainty about the virus' effects on our operations. Read more below and keep washing your hands.

News of the Day

Merkle's Mental Health Moment: Helping kids find social media balance

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

The current COVID-19 pandemic is creating anxiety for adults and children alike. One major source of concern for many parents is the significant increase in daily screen time as grown-ups and children alike turn to technology for education, work, entertainment and social connection. Magination Press of the American Psychological Association offers [these tips](#) to parents to help their children navigate social media during our present COVID-19 lives.

APS graduation plan receives approval from Summit County Public Health

Members of the class of 2020 at all Akron Public High Schools will be able to walk the stage in their cap and gown and receive their diplomas in person in a plan approved by Summit County Public Health. Students will be scheduled over the course of multiple days to walk the stage while keeping safe through social distancing and masks. The ceremonies include the student and up to four guests. They will be filmed and compiled into a keepsake digital graduation ceremony. The announcement of the student and his or her walk across stage will be streamed live to allow family and friends to attend virtually. Students will also receive professional photos and be able to take family photos at the event.

Five-year forecast presented to Akron School Board

APS CFO/Treasurer Ryan Pendleton shared an updated five-year forecast with the Akron Board of Education on May 19. The district will receive \$10 million in federal stimulus funding in fiscal year 2020, which is partially offset by a \$3.5 million budget cut from the state of Ohio. Without additional stimulus funds, APS will likely be unable to fill additional holes in the budget from potential state and federal budget cuts in the 2020-21 school year. APS also anticipates losses in property taxes, investment income and state aid, yet continue to strategically plan to offset the lost revenue and offer innovative educational programming for students.

More "Artifacts with Edie"

Edie Steiner, an APS music therapist, volunteer and shepherdess with the Summit County Historical Society has been using her creativity to reach students learning from home. "Artifacts with Edie" brings historical information to life from the grounds of the Historical Society, incorporating games and lessons. There are currently more than 20 episodes available. Visit the [Historical Society's YouTube](#) page for pre-recorded episodes.

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](#).

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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- Facebook [@akronpublicschools](#)
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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](#)