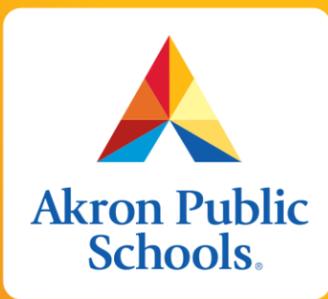




APS DAILY COVID-19 UPDATE



Thursday, May 28, 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 71

This news concerns me, as superintendent of a larger school system. Americans' concern over the virus and perceived sense of risk are declining. Today, the share of Americans who are "very" concerned about the spread of the coronavirus is at 53%*, its lowest point since mid-March, according to one survey. Furthermore, now 26% of Americans say there is a "severe" health risk in their local community, down from a high of 41% in early April. This decreasing concern is also corresponding with an uptick in the share of U.S. adults who are engaging socially. I encourage our families to remain cautious and careful. *From MorningConsult.com

News of the Day

Merkle's Mental Health Moment: Emerging from COVID-19 stronger than before

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

In the traditional Japanese art of kintsugi, artisans fill the cracks in broken pottery with gold or silver, transforming damaged pieces into something more beautiful than they were when new. Post-traumatic growth is like kintsugi for the mind. [We all have the possibility of emerging from COVID-19 with a new perspective and resiliency skills that allow us to be stronger than before.](#)

Teacher of the Year Building Winners – Buchtel and Firestone Clusters

This week, we are recognizing the building winners for APS Teacher of the Year. Today's list is from the Buchtel and Firestone clusters. Kenmore-Garfield and North were recognized yesterday. East and Ellet will be recognized Friday.

BUCHTEL CLUSTER

- Buchtel CLC, Rebecca Butler, science teacher
- Crouse CLC, Kathy Mills-Brantley, intervention specialist
- Early Learning Program (ELP), Janet Willse, support services teacher
- Helen Arnold CLC, Margaret Oliver, intervention specialist
- I Promise School, Kelsey Kent, intervention specialist
- Schumacher CLC, Katelyn Neff, first grade teacher

FIRESTONE CLUSTER

- Case CLC, Aubrey Luther, intervention specialist
- Firestone CLC, Therese Chadbourne, family consumer science teacher
- King CLC, Melissa Yost, gifted/talented teacher
- Litchfield CLC, Bobbi Gurley, English language arts teacher
- Miller South School for the Visual & Performing Arts, Ruth Roope, science teacher
- Portage Path CLC, Erin Robinson, kindergarten teacher
- Resnik CLC, Rebecca Murray, gifted/talented teacher

Akron Zoo gets initial approval to open, awaiting Governor's official reopen date

The Akron Zoo was inspected by the Summit County Public Health Department (SCPHD), which has approved the zoo's Responsible Restart Plan. This approval will allow the zoo to reopen once the Governor's office chooses a reopening date for Ohio's accredited zoos. The approved reopening plan covers critical key points such as social distancing, time-ticketing, a one-way path, regular disinfecting, reduced touch points, usage of masks by staff and special hours for high-risk guests.

Akron Financial Empowerment Center offers free financial coaching/tax assistance

Whether you have a quick question about your finances or need more in-depth help to navigate your financial challenges, the Akron Financial Empowerment Center is available to help with coaching via phone or video chat. Call 2-1-1 or [click here](#) to schedule an appointment. Households earning less than \$60,000 annually are eligible for FREE tax preparation that can be completed remotely. The deadline to file federal returns has been extended to July 15. [Click here](#) to schedule an appointment.

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](#)

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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](#)