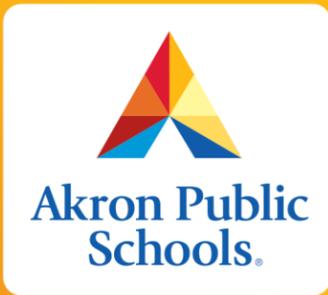




APS DAILY COVID-19 UPDATE



Monday, May 4, 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 49

In 1999, there was a country music hit, "How Do You Like Me Now?" by Toby Keith. Now, I'm not a frequent listener of country music, but that song title popped into my head this morning when I thought about it being Teacher Appreciation Week. Many people have forgotten how challenging teaching really is. But, if you're a parent trying to assist your children's at-home-learning, take a moment. During Teacher Appreciation Week, please think about your child's teachers, especially now as we have pivoted to all online learning, virtual classrooms and challenges over proms, graduations, lunch and more. I would not fault any teacher for asking the question during COVID-19, How do you like me now? Wash your hands. Stay well.

News of the Day

Merkle's Mental Health Moment: May the fourth be with you.

Dr. Erich Merkle, Pupil Adjustment Program, Office of Special Education, Akron Public Schools
For Kent State students and alumni, May 4 marks the solemn remembrance when armed National Guardsmen opened fire on students on campus. This year is the 50th anniversary. And while the in-person events are cancelled, many [virtual events are available](#) as a forum for reconciliation and healing. In a galaxy far away from Kent State, popular culture celebrates May 4 as a pun on Star Wars iconic expression of good fortune, "May the force be with you." Lucasfilm assembled a powerful message of hope and positivity in commemoration of this year's May the Fourth, available at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=up3Y_yQlma8.

Teacher appreciation week – pandemic brings new appreciation for our educators

From USA Today: "Teacher Appreciation Week: They wanted respect. It only took a coronavirus pandemic and worldwide economic collapse." A coronavirus pandemic and quarantine orders showed millions of families that America's teachers are not just convenient, but essential. [Read the story.](#)

APS librarians keep kids in front of books

APS teachers aren't the only educators working in a virtual environment to enrich our students. Our 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.

Don't avoid the ER if you really need it

One of the unexpected consequences of stay-at-home orders has been the significant reduction in ER visits. While it is understandable that patients don't want to be exposed to COVID-19, it can be even more dangerous to avoid symptoms of other serious medical issues such as heart attacks and strokes. A recent article from Beacon Journal reporter Betty Lin-Fisher discusses the importance of treating life-threatening issues and avoiding delays in necessary medical treatment. [Read the story.](#)

More educational resources from The University of Akron

- **Bird Blitz:** [An aviary scavenger hunt](#) for birds native to Northeastern Ohio that can be spotted in your own backyard.
- **5-Minute History Lessons:** Prepared by UA's Cummings Center for the History of Psychology, this is a [series of short films](#) about interesting people in history.

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](#)