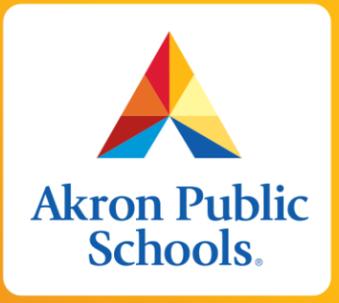




# APS DAILY COVID-19 UPDATE



Wednesday, May 27, 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 70

Along with making our nine high school graduations virtual this year, Akron Public Schools is working on plans to do a virtual Teacher of the Year program. We could argue that this year our Teacher of the Year is every teacher. Parents and families are aware of the hard work their children's teachers have put in since the middle of March to reach out to students through our Connected Learning platform. Keep watching our social media sites for features on our 40+ candidates (one from each school building) and then watch for details on the teacher we select as our final APS Teacher of the Year. Keep washing those hands.

## News of the Day

### Merkle's Mental Health Moment: Endless decisions can wear us down.

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

These days, life is made far more complicated by living with the ever-looming threat of viral contagion. We have to pre-plan many of our daily activities and then ensure we take care while doing them. All of this creates psychological and mental exhaustion. [Psychologists describe this phenomenon as decision fatigue, but you can overcome it through shifting your thought patterns and putting a few key strategies in place.](#) While you're working on your decision processes and cognitive fatigue, be sure to take a moment to reflect on the importance of psychology in helping us understand ourselves and one another on International Psychology Day.

- [May 27 is United Nations International Psychology Day](#)

### Teacher of the Year Building Winners – Kenmore-Garfield and North Clusters

This week, we are recognizing the building winners for APS Teacher of the Year. Today's list is from the North and Kenmore-Garfield clusters. Remaining clusters will be in the Thursday and Friday updates.

#### KENMORE- GARFIELD CLUSTER

- Akron Early College High School, Tim Hendrix, science teacher
- Firestone Park Elementary, Julia Spangler, second grade teacher
- Glover CLC, Shelana Perry, kindergarten teacher
- Innes CLC, Kris Johnson, science teacher
- Kenmore-Garfield High School, Rebecca Grajzl, English language arts teacher
- McBright CLC, Stephanie Baugh, third grade teacher
- Pfeiffer Elementary School, Jackie Workman, second grade teacher
- Rimer CLC, Tami Stecz, intervention specialist
- Sam Salem CLC, Sheila Mosteller, first grade teacher
- Voris CLC, Camille Bivens, kindergarten teacher

#### NORTH CLUSTER

- Akron Alternative Academy, Stephanie Leslie, intervention specialist
- Findley CLC, Amanda Brown, third grade teacher
- Harris-Jackson CLC, Julie Hughey, kindergarten teacher
- Jennings CLC, Jennifer Russ, Intervention specialist
- Leggett CLC, Anthony Gosmer, fourth grade teacher
- NIHF-STEM Middle School, Sheneeka Rodgers, guidance counselor
- NIHF-STEM High School, Monique Binkley, science teacher
- North High School, Dana Starvaggi, science teacher

### City of Akron bringing safe, socially distant Akron Games to residents

Residents and visitors to Akron can take part in a series of scavenger hunt challenges throughout the city thanks to The Akron Games, which are challenges that might take you through your neighborhood or around a specific Akron location or landmark. Challenges can be completed through the free GooseChase app (for Apple or Android devices) or by using a flyer available at [www.Lock3Live.com](http://www.Lock3Live.com). The first and longest challenge, *Walking With Akron: a summer walking series*, is sponsored by Cleveland Clinic Akron General and will run through Labor Day. There will be a new *Walking with Akron* hunt posted each week for 16 weeks. Prizes, yet to be determined, will be awarded for highest total points and consistent participation throughout the series. In order to be eligible for prizes, you must use the GooseChase app.

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

### Follow us on social media

Facebook [@akronpublicschools](#)  
Twitter [@akronschools](#)  
LinkedIn [linkedin.com/company/akron-public-schools](https://www.linkedin.com/company/akron-public-schools)

### 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](#)