



Akron Public Schools LEARNING 2020-2021



ADAPTIVE RESPONSIVE SUPPORTIVE

WEEKLY UPDATE

Thursday, Jan. 28, 2021

Merkle's Mental Health Moment – What you need is what you're feeling

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

On these complex days, most of us can identify feeling something, or lots of somethings! But understanding what those feelings are is an entirely different matter. Identifying our feelings helps us create a pathway toward supporting ourselves emotionally and physically. [Psychologist Mariana Plata in Psychology Today offers a guide to our feelings and what we can do to support our emotional needs once we know what they are.](#)

APS seeking input from families on return to school - survey due Jan. 29

APS is asking families to [complete a survey](#) to share if they are leaning toward keeping their children in 100% remote learning or returning to full-time, in-person classroom learning. This survey is NOT asking families to make a final decision right now. Results will help the district finalize plans and communicate details about future learning options.

APS begins working on plan to vaccinate interested staff

The district recently surveyed staff members about their interest in getting a COVID-19 vaccine. The response shows roughly 3,000 staff members requesting to be vaccinated. APS will work with Akron Children's Hospital to coordinate the distribution and delivery of the vaccinations to those wanting it. There will be two different vaccinations that will be given a month apart, meaning APS will need more than 6,000 doses for employees. However, the district has not yet been told how many vaccines it will receive. Employees and families will be notified once more information is available.

AxessPointe offers free community flu clinics

AxessPointe is offering free [community flu clinics](#) to area groups and organizations (churches, clubs, senior centers, etc.) and will come to your location any day of the week. For more information or to schedule a clinic, contact Community Impact Manager Marihelyn Horrigan, LPN, at 234.571.0323.

Pandemic food stamps program extended for school children

The [Pandemic Electronic Benefits Transfer Program \(P-EBT\)](#) for households with eligible school children has been extended through June 30. Children are eligible if they would have received free or reduced meals at their school through the National School Lunch Program.

Good Samaritan Hunger Center offers free food distribution Jan. 29

Good Samaritan Hunger Center is providing free drive-thru food distribution Friday, Jan. 29 from 1:30 to 3 p.m. at Patterson Park Community Center (800 Patterson Avenue, Akron). Recipients must wear masks and have their car trunk open and empty when they arrive.

USA Today uses augmented reality to show how the COVID-19 vaccine works

USA Today recently shared an [informative, interactive story](#) about how the COVID-19 vaccine works and moves through the body. The augmented reality video can be viewed on the USA Today app.

APS teachers receive Thomas Edison Awards

Several [APS teachers were honored as recipients of the Thomas Edison Awards for the 2019-20 school year](#). The Thomas Edison Awards are the governor's awards for excellence in research and STEM education, targeting teachers who extend education beyond typical classroom activity.

APS plus After-Hours Support for students and families

After-hours support has reopened for the semester. APS **plus** After-Hours Support assists students and families with K-12 tutoring and academic support, family support services, social-emotional urgent support, technology and Google Classroom troubleshooting. Hours are **Monday-Thursday from 4-7 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. It will be closed on holidays.** Call 330.761.7943 for assistance. For information, visit [akronschools.com](#).

HELPFUL RESOURCES

All the resources below have clickable links for your convenience.

General resources

- [Akron Summit County Library](#)
- [APS Covid-19 Dashboard](#)
- [APS District Website](#)
- [APS Family Resources](#)
- [APS Learning 2020-21 Google Site](#)
- [Get 2 School/Stay in the Game](#)
- [Ohio Department of Education \(ODE\)](#)
- [Parent and Caregiver Resources](#)
- [Summit County Public Health](#)
- [United Way 2-1-1 Resource Referral](#)

Forms and downloads

- [Bullying/harassment Complaint Form](#)
- [Help Desk Form](#)

Educational and mental health resources

- [5 Things Parents Can Do to Support Learning at Home](#)
- [9 Tips for Parents Navigating Online Learning](#)
- [22 Remote Learning Tips for Parents](#)
- [CDC: Help Children Learn at Home](#)
- [Online Learning Tips for Families](#)

APS social media

- Facebook [@akronpublicschools](#)
- Twitter [@akronschools](#)
- LinkedIn [@akron-public-schools](#)
- YouTube [@Akron Schools](#)