



# Akron Public Schools LEARNING 2021-2022



ADAPTIVE RESPONSIVE SUPPORTIVE

## WEEKLY UPDATE

Thursday, Feb. 24, 2022

### Weekly Update is changing formats — sign up to receive future updates

Get Weekly Update delivered right to your email! Soon, a mobile-friendly version of Weekly Update will be sent to those who opt in every Thursday while school is in session. To receive district and community news, updates, resources and other information, please sign up [here](#).

### Participate in the Be Kind 330 campaign and learn about the benefits of kindness

Last week, the district kicked off its [Be Kind 330](#) campaign that encourages students, staff and community members to spread kindness. The campaign is an extension of [Kindland](#), a kindness movement in Cleveland founded by Values in Action. This week, the district is encouraging APS students and staff to [learn about the benefits of kindness](#) which include:

- Lower blood pressure
- Reduced pain
- Increased happiness
- [And more!](#)

Learn more and follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#) for updates, kindness challenges and tips. Be sure to use #BeKind330 and tag us when sharing content.

### Merkle's Mental Health Moment – choose kindness to boost yourself and others

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

Psychological science supports that kindness is important to our human condition. Since the evolution of language and the human species, science shows that kindness enriches and nourishes our lives and well-being. Psychology Today explains [the science behind kindness](#) and how performing acts of kindness can increase our life satisfaction, mood and acceptance of others. James Boswell, an 18<sup>th</sup> century Scottish biographer, wished that "we could witness our vessels being filled drop by drop with acts of kindness, until, at last, our hearts run over." [Use these ideas](#) to practice kindness in your life and the lives of others.

### Keeping students a priority as COVID-19 numbers decrease

While COVID-19 cases continue to decrease, the CDC errs on the side of caution, especially where children are concerned. APS continues to closely follow medical recommendations of public health experts in order to keep APS students and staff safe. The district also continues to revisit its health and safety mandates to see if it will be possible to relax COVID-19 protocols. Learn more regarding the [latest COVID-19 trends](#).

### First statue of a Black woman to be erected in Akron

The Summit Suffrage Centennial Committee is erecting [the first statue of a Black woman in Ohio](#). The statue will honor Sojourner Truth, a former slave, abolitionist and women's rights activist. In 1851, Truth traveled to Akron, Ohio and delivered what came to be one of the most important abolitionist and women's rights speeches in U.S. history known as "Ain't I a Woman?". Community members and members of the APS Teaching and Learning Department have supported creation of the new statue and provided educational materials for learners at all grade levels to learn about Truth's story and work. [Learn more](#).

### APS *plus* After-Hours Support for students and families

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. **Support hours are Monday through Thursday from 4-7 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.** For more information or to call the support squad, visit [akronschools.com/apsplus](#).

## 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](#)
- [Get 2 School/Stay in the Game](#)
- [Ohio Department of Education \(ODE\)](#)
- [Summit County Public Health](#)
- [United Way 2-1-1 Resource Referral](#)

#### Forms and downloads

- [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](#)