



Akron Public Schools LEARNING 2020-2021



ADAPTIVE RESPONSIVE SUPPORTIVE

WEEKLY UPDATE

Thurs., Oct. 1, 2020

Merkle's Mental Health Moment

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

Young people, like adults, experience stress from many sources. It may come from events, doing well in school, making and sustaining friendships or managing perceived expectations from their parents, teachers or coaches. Stress may also be positive and can improve our performance or efforts. But it may be harmful too, adding hardship and impacting our physical health. The American Psychological Association offers caretakers guidance on [recognizing signs of stress in our children](#) as an important part of providing support in these broader, stressful times.

District launching APS Plus After-Hours Support Center

Starting Oct. 5, APS Plus After-Hours Support Center will be providing Akron Public Schools families and students with additional resources after the school day has ended. The center will be staffed with high-quality educators, tutors and other professionals that will use Google Meet and phone calls to assist students and families in a variety of services including: K-12 tutoring and academic support, family support services, social-emotional urgent support, technology and Google Classroom troubleshooting. The center will be open Monday-Thursday - 4-7 p.m. and Saturday - 10 a.m. -2 p.m. It will be closed on holidays. The program will be available whether students are working in a 100% remote model or a blended learning model. Call 330.761.7943 for assistance starting Oct. 5. For more information, visit [akronschools.com](#).

The Student Voice Part 2 of 5: On Essential Experiences

Dreama Whitfield, K-12 career advising manager, moderates a panel of amazing students sharing their real thoughts and feelings on topics ranging from virtual learning to mental health. These incredible students belong to the student board member team consisting of one member from each high school. *Note: Not all team members were able to be present for this recording.* [Watch now.](#)

Annual Dream Day for seniors launches Oct. 5 in a virtual environment

APS's annual Dream Day event is going virtual this year and will give seniors a chance to explore the next phase of their career planning throughout the month of October. Dream Day is designed to connect seniors to the next phase of their career by exposing them to information and opportunities to enroll in college/trade school, enlist in the armed services or become employed after graduation. Senior students will have the opportunity to meet virtually with college representatives and attend sessions to learn more about enrolling, enlisting or gaining employment. Virtual opportunities start Oct. 5 and run through October. Students should contact their school counselor who will help them register in the app.

Watch your speed – school zone lights now active

Just a reminder for those traveling through school zones during all-remote learning. Even though students are not on school campuses every day, they and their parents may be there during lunch time. Since our grab and go meals are being distributed at 37 of our buildings between 10 a.m. and 12 p.m. every weekday, we ask that motorists obey flashing school zone signs to keep folks safe who are going to and from these sites. The city of Akron has reactivated these signs just for this purpose.

Akron Zoo Hosts Howl-O-Ween Celebration

A Howl-O-Ween Celebration (presented by Acme Fresh Market) will take place at the Akron Zoo four weekends in October - Oct. 10-11, 17-18, 24-25 and 31 from 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Guests may dress up in costumes and visit themed selfie stations and participate in socially-distanced meet-and-greets with costumed characters. Children will receive a pre-stuffed treat bag. Guests with food allergies can request a non-food treat bag as part of the Teal Pumpkin Project. A Zoothing Howl-O-Ween event for guests with special needs will be held Saturday, Oct. 24, from 5:30-7 p.m. Tickets may be purchased online in advance. (Non-members: \$10 for adults and \$13 for children; members: free for adults and \$7 for children; infants under 2 are free but will not receive a treat bag). There are a limited number of daily tickets so [reserve tickets early](#). Guests ages 10 and older, must wear a face covering at all times when in the zoo.

There's still time to be counted – 2020 Census

If you haven't filled out the 2020 Census, there is still time! Visit [2020census.gov](#) today. It will only take about 10 minutes to complete your information. Census information helps determine federal representation in our area and the allocation of billions of dollars in federal funding for the next 10 years.

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](#)