



Akron Public Schools LEARNING 2020-2021



ADAPTIVE RESPONSIVE SUPPORTIVE

WEEKLY UPDATE

Thurs., Oct. 15, 2020

Merkle's Mental Health Moment

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

During times of disruption and increased stress, we need to take time to focus on the key elements of mindfulness and self-care. Mindfulness refers to the moment by moment awareness of our thoughts and feelings. Self-care prioritizes putting ourselves first, focusing on our physical, emotional, psychological, relationship and spiritual needs as a framework towards helping others. The [University of Michigan Trails to Wellness offers a comprehensive guide](#) to self-care practices for everyone during the COVID-19 pandemic. Remember, "you are not required to set yourself on fire to keep others warm."

APS awaiting decision for learning plan for final weeks of 2020

The Akron Public Schools (APS) Board of Education has more challenging decisions to make in the coming weeks, as it now considers a plan to return students to the classroom. A detailed proposal was presented at the Oct. 12 board meeting that would bring students back in mid-November with a mix of in-person and online learning. The plan includes six feet of social distancing, mandatory masks in each building and strict cleaning protocols. Students in every grade would have the option to continue learning online. The board is now considering the proposal and will vote on next steps in the coming weeks.

Community Legal Aid launches new eviction assistance program

Community Legal Aid has launched a new program called the Tenant Assistance Project (TAP) to provide legal help to those facing or fearful of eviction. Tenants can call the dedicated hotline at 330.983.2528 from 8:30 a.m. -4:30 p.m. to get advice from an attorney. Virtual advice clinics are held every Tuesday at 4 p.m. Tenants can get general information on the eviction process and ask an attorney questions. Registration is not required. To attend a clinic, [click here at the appropriate time](#). To attend by phone, call 1.312.626.6799 and enter Meeting ID 848-2069-2162. Legal Aid is also providing an online toolkit that walks renters through the eviction process, helps prepare them for court and provides template documents they will need. For details, [click here](#).

Looking for Employment?

RAISE Good Jobs for Akron Ohio can connect you with employers in the Greater Akron area with open positions. For details, [click here](#). RAISE is also hosting a FREE virtual job and training fair on Tues., Oct. 20 from 4-7 p.m. [Click here](#) for information on the event and how to register.

APS plus After-Hours Support now open

APS plus After-Hours Support assists 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. It is staffed with high-quality educators, tutors and other professionals. The center is open Monday-Thursday from 4-7 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. -2 p.m. It will be closed on holidays. The program will be available whether students are working 100% remotely or in a blended learning model. Call 330.761.7943 for assistance. For information, visit [akronschools.com](#).

The Student Voice Part 4 of 5: On Mental Health

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](#).

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](#)