



# Akron Public Schools LEARNING 2020-2021



ADAPTIVE RESPONSIVE SUPPORTIVE

## WEEKLY UPDATE

Thursday, Feb. 18, 2021

### Merkle's Mental Health Moment – Fighting indoor boredom

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

Cold and snowy winter weather occasionally brings coveted snow days, but time off from school also makes it difficult to keep children entertained in between instructional hours. Fortunately, you don't have to spend a fortune to have high quality and creative playtime with your children. [Nationwide Children's Hospital and its On Our Sleeves program offers this guide to fighting winter boredom and ideas to engage your children in fun activities.](#) When creating fun experiences, don't forget to limit your child's/children's screen time and encourage breaks from video games and other technology.

### Free flu clinics available for organizations

AcessPointe Community Health is offering flu shot clinics for organizations such as churches, clubs, senior centers and other groups with multiple members. Their team members will come to the location any day of the week at no cost. [Learn more or schedule a call.](#)

### Family selection survey due Feb. 19

Feb. 19 is the deadline for parents to complete the family selection survey for their child's/children's placement for remote or in-person learning for the remainder of the year. [The survey](#) closes at 5 p.m. on the 19<sup>th</sup>.

### COVID-19 vaccination scams

Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost is warning citizens of vaccination scams.

[Here are a few warning signs of a potential scam:](#)

- You are asked to pay out of pocket for the vaccine.
- You are asked to pay to put your name on a vaccine waiting list.
- You see advertisements for vaccines through social media, email, phone calls, or other online or unsolicited sources.
- You receive marketing offers to sell the vaccine for payment.

The CMS (Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services) advises citizens to never give out personal information and to report if you have been the victim of COVID-19 fraud.

### CDC's new guidelines

On Feb. 12, the CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) issued new guidelines for schools operating during COVID-19. The information provides considerations for schools when returning to in-person learning along with an [operational strategy](#) for phased mitigation. APS is implementing all of these new protocols.

### Plan in process to reopen schools for in-person learning

APS is working on a new plan for its 21,000 students and their families to consider in response to Governor Mike DeWine's directive to reopen schools for in-person learning. [Details are scheduled to be released early next week.](#) APS had planned on returning in mid-March but is working on opening schools sooner.

### STEM EXPO on Feb. 20

[The Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math EXPO](#) will take place virtually on Sat., Feb. 20. The EXPO is designed to provide students an opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge and passion of the related subjects and showcase their hard work as they present projects to the community.

### 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 \(ODE\)](#)
- [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](#)