



Akron Public Schools LEARNING 2020-2021



ADAPTIVE RESPONSIVE SUPPORTIVE

WEEKLY UPDATE

Thurs., March 25, 2021

Merkle's Mental Health Moment – Discussing societal violence with our children

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

The past two weeks there have been major incidents of societal violence in our mainstream media. Hate and biased aggression against members of the Asian American/Pacific Islander community and shootings in Atlanta and Boulder, Colo., have made these weeks emotionally difficult. Media exposure to these events can frighten children while making them concerned their families and friends are at risk. Below are a few resources for teachers and our community to learn how to discuss racism and violence with children.

- [Child Mind Institute: "Talk to Kids About Racism and Violence"](#)
- [NASP: "Talking to Children About Violence: Tips for Teachers & Parents"](#)
- ["10 Ways to Fight Hate: A Community Response Guide"](#)

APS Kindergarten registration opens April 21

Kindergarten registration opens April 21 for children who will be five years old on or before Sept. 30. Our comprehensive registration flyer will help guide parents and guardians through the enrollment process. The flyer includes information on:

- Required registration documents and immunizations.
- Finding your child's school.
- Scheduling kindergarten screening and more.

[Click here](#) to download the flyer.

March 31 is deadline to submit change in learning location

Families wishing to switch their child/children from in-person learning to remote instruction, or from remote instruction to in-person learning for the remainder of the year must do so by March 31. APS will only honor one change request. If you have already requested a change, no further action needs to be taken. For questions or concerns, call our help line at 330.761.2810.

Potential \$100 million federal stimulus funding coming to APS

After the March 22 school board meeting, our CFO Ryan Pendleton announced the district could be receiving as much as [\\$100 million to help recover](#) from the impact inflicted on learning due to COVID-19. The funds are part of the next round of federal stimulus investing in public education. These are designed to help schools reopen after being remote all year and to guard against any potential funding cuts at the state or local level. The funds could be used for reimbursement of expenditures such as purchasing protective equipment, making improvements to buildings or adding staff.

Fine arts programs continue virtually

Amidst a chaotic year, APS fine arts programs found ways to highlight and honor student achievements. APS middle school students will have their artwork on display at The Akron-Summit County Public Library now through April 16. A virtual awards presentation is also scheduled for today, Thurs., March 25, at 4 p.m. Download [this flyer](#) for more details. East CLC honored its choir students' achievements through its virtual winter concert series. [View their performances.](#)

Getting back to "normal"

Children at King CLC are celebrating the return to in-person learning. [View photos](#) of students as they enjoy the first few weeks back in the classroom.

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](#)