



Akron Public Schools LEARNING 2020-2021



ADAPTIVE RESPONSIVE SUPPORTIVE

WEEKLY UPDATE

Thursday, Nov. 19, 2020

PLEASE NOTE: LAST WEEKLY UPDATE UNTIL DECEMBER

Please note, there will be no Weekly Update next week due to the Thanksgiving holiday. Our next weekly update will be Dec. 3. We hope you have a great holiday break.

Summit County, health department, state of Ohio urging caution regarding COVID

The Summit County Executive and Health Commissioner issued a [Stay At Home Health Advisory](#) today urging all residents to stay at home to the greatest extent possible due to the rise of COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations in the county. Also, beginning tonight at the order of Governor DeWine, the Ohio Department of Health has issued a 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. statewide curfew. This curfew will be in effect for at least the next 21 days. It does not apply to those going to or from work, those who have an emergency or those who seek medical care. [Click here](#) for the full details of the order. This order is in addition to a Nov. 17 state-wide order limiting mass gatherings. [Click here](#) for full details of that order.

Merkle's Mental Health Moment

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

The busy holiday season starts next week with the arrival of Thanksgiving. Unfortunately, with the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, our holiday plans are going to be a lot different than usual. Because of factors like travel complications, susceptible family members and restrictions on large gatherings, there will be plenty of rethinking plans and, possibly, canceling them altogether. The result will be adding more anguish to a period already filled with immense stress and disappointment. Here are a few resources to talk to your children and families about shifting the holiday experience, staying safe, but above all else, still finding a way to enjoy these precious celebrations with our loved ones:

- [National Child Traumatic Stress Network: Supporting Children & Teens During This Holiday Season](#)
- [American Academy of Pediatrics: Thanksgiving During COVID-19 - Keep Safety on the Table](#)
- [CDC Holiday Celebrations & Small Gatherings During COVID-19](#)
- [Mayo Clinic: Stress, Depression and the Holidays - Tips for Coping](#)
- [NIH: Planning Your Holidays During COVID-19](#)
- [Boston Children's Hospital: Preparing Your Kids for the Holidays During COVID-19](#)

APS open enrollment applications for 2021-22 due TOMORROW – Friday, Nov. 20.

Families wishing to open enroll a student in a school outside of their designated neighborhood school or into one of APS specialty schools must submit an open enrollment application by Nov. 20 at 4 p.m. The [OE application is available online only this year](#). OE is required for Akron Early College High School, Miller South School for Visual and Performing Arts, National Inventors Hall of Fame STEM (NIHF STEM) middle and high schools, Akron Early College High School, Firestone CLC's Akron School for the Arts and its International Baccalaureate program. (Additional applications or auditions may apply for certain schools/programs.) **Please note: Families with an elementary school student who is currently open enrolled and have an incoming kindergartener and you wish to open enroll for 2021-22, apply for open enrollment now. [Apply today](#). It is also important for eight graders to select a high school via Open Enrollment based upon the pathway they want to follow as part of College & Career Academies of Akron.**

STEM Expo goes virtual

The annual APS STEM EXPO is going virtual this year. This is the 65th year for the event, which provides students an opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge and passion for science, technology, engineering and math. Students who are interested in participating can find guidance by visiting the [Akron Public Schools STEM EXPO family site](#). Registration begins Dec. 14, 2020 – Jan. 14, 2021.

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. Hours are **Monday-Thursday from 4-7 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. -2 p.m. It will be closed on holidays.** Call 330.761.7943 for assistance. For information, visit [akronschools.com](#).

Path to Graduation website developed to help students/families

APS has developed a Path to Graduation website to help students and families understand graduation policies and requirements. Students can demonstrate competency and preparedness in a variety of ways including credits, demonstrating competency and earning seals. Visit the [Path to Graduation](#) website for guidance and additional information.

Affordable Care Act Enrollment application period open through Dec. 15

The enrollment period for consumers shopping for health insurance plans under the Affordable Care Act started Nov. 1 and runs through Dec. 15. for coverage beginning Jan. 1, 2021. This is the eighth annual open enrollment for the ACA plans, which are available for those without health insurance through a job, Medicare, Medicaid or other source. For more information, click [here](#).

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](#)