

PHONE DIRECTORY / REFERENCE GUIDE

Administration Building	330.761.1661
Athletics.....	330.761.2813
Child Nutrition	330.761.1335
Child Study.....	330.761.3065
College & Career Academies	330.761.3131
Communications	330.761.2929
Community Relations, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion	330.761.3297
Community Relations, Family & Community Engagement..	330.761.1680
Elementary Schools	330.761.3076
Engagement Center/Registration	330.761.2810
English/Language Arts.....	330.761.3109
Fine Arts	330.761.3189
Gifted and Talented.....	330.761.3108
Health Education	330.761.3117
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Transportation Services	330.761.1390
Teaching and Learning	330.761.3053
Testing, Research and Evaluation.....	330.761.3071
World Languages.....	330.761.3114

Phone listings for individual schools are located on: **akronschools.com**.

Click on the **Schools** tab to find the listing for your school.

SCHOOL CLOSINGS

Parents will be notified with a district-wide “all-call” if school is canceled due to weather or other emergency. Closings will also be broadcast by local media, posted on our website and available through Facebook and Twitter.



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2023-24

Parent Handbook and Reference Guide



Akron Public Schools



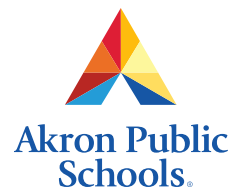
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Akron Schools



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Administrative Offices

10 N. Main St., Akron, OH 44308
330.761.1661 | akronschools.com

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Disclaimer: This Parent Handbook & Reference Guide is based in significant part on policies adopted by the Board of Education and Administrative Guidelines developed by the Superintendent. Those Board Policies and Administrative Guidelines are incorporated by reference into the provisions of this Handbook. The Policies and Administrative Guidelines are periodically updated in response to changes in the law and other circumstances. Therefore, there may have been changes to the documents reviewed in this Parent Handbook & Reference Guide since it was printed in August 2022. If you have questions or would like more information about a specific issue or document, contact your school principal or access the document on the District's website.

2023-24 Akron Public Schools Calendar

August 21, 2023	First Day for Teachers/Teacher meetings/Classroom preparation
August 22-23, 2023	Instructional Improvement Days (no school for students)
*August 24, 2023	First Day for Students in Grades 1-12 & Kindergarten Phase In
August 25, 2023	Kindergarten Phase In
*August 28, 2023	First Day for Students in Grades Pre-K and Kindergarten
September 4, 2023	Labor Day (schools & offices closed)
September 29, 2023	Instructional Improvement Day (no school for students)
November 7, 2023	Election Day; Instructional Improvement Day (no school for students)
November 23-24, 2023	Thanksgiving Break (schools and offices closed)
November 27, 2023	Parent-Teacher Conferences (no school for students)
December 22, 2023 to January 4, 2024	Winter Break (schools closed; offices closed Dec. 25-26, & Jan. 1-2)
January 5, 2024	Citywide Inservice and Records Day; (no school for students)
January 12, 2024	Instructional Improvement Day (no school for students)
January 15, 2024	Martin Luther King Jr. Day (schools & offices closed)
February 16, 2024	Parent-Teacher Conferences (no school for students)
February 19, 2024	Presidents' Day (schools & offices closed)
March 28, 2024	Instructional Improvement Day (no school for students)
March 29, 2024	Good Friday (schools & offices closed)
April 1-5, 2024	Spring Break (no school for students)
May 27, 2024	Memorial Day (schools & offices closed)
May 30, 2024	Final Day for Students
May 31, 2024	Final Day for Teachers

Akron Board of Education

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Todd Adkins, Interim Treasurer

Akron Board of Education Meetings – 2023-24

All Board meetings are held on Monday evenings at 5:30pm in the Board Room at the Sylvester Small Administration Building (10 N. Main St., Akron, OH 44308) unless a location change is announced

2023 Meetings

July 10
July 24
August 14
August 18
September 11
September 25
October 09
October 23
November 06
November 27
December 11

2024 Meetings (proposed)

January 08	June 24
January 22	July 08
February 12	July 22
February 26	August 12
March 11	August 26
March 25	
April 08	
April 22	
May 06	
May 20	
June 10	

*First Monday in November due to conflict with the OSBA Capital Conference

*First and third Monday in May - because of Memorial Day.

Important Dates

Kindergarten Student Assessments – Phase In

Kindergartners will have an individual appointment with their teacher on Thursday, August 24 or Friday, August 25, 2023. You will make an appointment for this meeting at the time you register your child for school. Meals and bus service will not be available on student assessment dates. Please contact your student's school to schedule the appointment.

Student Participation In State Testing

Akron Public School participates in a variety of Ohio Department of Education tests throughout the school year. Testing Dates for the 2023-2024 school year are as follows:

Fall: Grade 3, ELA Testing - October 16, 2023 - November 3, 2023
High School end-of-course tests - November 27, 2023 - January 12, 2024
Spring: Grades 3 - 12, ELA Testing - March 25, 2024 - April 26, 2024
Spring: Grades 3 - 12, Math, Science, Social Studies Testing - April 1, 2024 - May 12, 2024

Additional testing dates will be communicated to parents/guardians as more specific information becomes available. Federal and state laws require all districts and schools to test all students in specific grades and courses.

There is no law that allows a parent or student to opt out of state testing, and there is no state test opt-out procedure or form. If a parent withdraws a child from participation in certain state tests, there may be consequences for the student, the student's teacher, and the school and district. **Students that fail to take state assessments are not eligible for state-provided scholarships such as EdPlus, Jon Peterson and the Cleveland Scholarship program.**

Why Are State Tests Important?

State tests are critical for measuring student learning and ensuring that every Ohio student receives a high-quality education. The results from state tests are how we hold districts, schools and teachers accountable.

Possible Consequences For Students When They Do Not Take State Tests

Schools must administer state tests and students are expected to take them. If a student does not participate in state testing, there may be consequences for the student, the student's teacher, and the school and district.

1. Third Grade Reading Guarantee

a. A student who does not take the state's grade 3 English language arts test will not have a score on that test and may not be promoted to the fourth grade as part of the Third Grade Reading Guarantee, unless an exemption applies. For more information on exemptions, visit the Ohio Department of Education website.

2. High School Graduation Requirements

a. A student who entered ninth grade for the first time before July 1, 2014, must meet curriculum requirements and take and pass the Ohio Graduation Tests, or meet one of the three graduation options for the Class of 2018 and beyond to earn a high school diploma.

b. A student who entered ninth grade for the first time on or after July 1, 2014, must meet curriculum requirements and take and reach the needed score on the tests for at least one graduation option to earn a high school diploma. More information on the graduation requirements are the Ohio Department of Education website.

These options include:

- i. Cumulative performance earned on the state end-of-course tests or their approved substitutes;
- ii. A remediation-free score on the ACT or SAT college admissions test; or
- iii. A workforce ready score on the WorkKeys test, in combination with an approved industry-recognized credential.

3. English Learners

a. A student who does not take the Ohio English Language Proficiency Assessment cannot exit the English as a Second Language program.

2023-24 Calamity Day Make-Up Calendar

If Akron's schools are closed more than the required minimal number of instructional hours mandated under state law, this calendar will be followed to make up the required lost time if needed:

Calamity Days

1st - 6th Days
7th - 11th Days
12th - 16th Days
17th - 20th Days

Make-Up Days

Friday, May 31, 2024, through the week of June 3, 2024
Week of June 10, 2024
Week of April 1, 2024
Week of June 17-20, 2024

Transportation

Transportation Rules of Conduct

Transportation is a privilege and should not be abused. Safe, efficient transportation service requires teamwork from parents, students, bus drivers, school staff members and administrators. Without such teamwork, there exists an increased risk of injury or death.

Bus Stops

- A bus stop is where students wait on the bus; the bus does not wait on the students.
- Students should be at their bus stops, ready to load, not waiting in vehicles, **5 minutes before pick-up time** and waiting 10 minutes after the bus pick-up time for the bus... **Buses will only pick up students standing at designated bus stops.**
- Inclement weather, ice and snow, and traffic tie-ups can delay the bus arrival time at stops.
- Once the bus door is closed and the bus is in motion, the bus will not stop for students who are late.
- Parents are responsible for supervising students at bus stops.
- Students are picked up and returned to the **same** bus stop to ensure their safety.
- Parents should accompany kindergarten and first grade students to the bus stop in the morning and meet them in the afternoon. If an adult does not meet the afternoon bus – students will be transported back to school.
- At the beginning of the school year, young students should wear name tags pinned to their clothing, with their name, address, phone number and school, to ensure they are dropped off at the correct location.
- Stops are established according to state laws and regulations and are approved by the Board of Education.
- We recommend you know your child's school bus number and bus driver name. For the safety of students on the bus, **adults are not permitted to board the bus.**

Bus Conduct

- Safety of students is the first concern of the driver. Students **must** obey driver's instructions at all times, including all health standards as dictated by the local health department.
- Students will locate their assigned seat and remain seated for the entire ride.
- State law prohibits any food or beverage being consumed on the bus at **any** time.
- Students will keep hands, arms, heads, and legs inside the bus at all times.
- No uncontrolled, loud screaming or yelling on the bus.
- **Cell phone use on the bus or Board provided vehicle is to follow Board Policy 5136.**
- **Pupil behavior that distracts the driver is a hazard and jeopardizes the safety and welfare of all passengers.**
- To ensure that a student understands that bus rules have been violated, the bus driver will first issue a verbal warning to the misbehaving student.

Transportation

- Continued misbehavior will be written on a School Bus Incident Report and given to the school principal. Schools will notify parents of a student's misconduct and disciplinary action.
- **Misbehavior or irresponsible actions are sufficient reason to suspend transportation services to those students.**
- Buses may return to their school if students cannot control their behavior.
- If a student's transportation is suspended, the student is still expected to attend school. (ORC 3327.014 and BOE Policy 8630)

Revised April 2015

All students, grades K-8, who live more than two (2) miles from the school they attend may be eligible for transportation or a subsidy. **There is no transportation for open enrollment students. NO EXCEPTIONS.**

Grades K-8

Over 2 miles:

- Yellow Bus Service is preferred.

Grades 9-12 - all high school students

- Obtain a Request for Transportation Service High School form.
- Return Completed form to: **Akron Public Schools, Attn: Business Affairs/Metro**
10 N. Main St., Akron, OH 44308 for processing
- APS Metro bus passes will be issued to students when available.
- For questions regarding APS Metro bus passes, please call 330-761-2961

Address Changes

- Report address changes to the school secretary for students who ride yellow buses or who receive an Akron Metro bus pass.
- Report address changes for Special Education students who ride yellow buses, vans or cabs to Special Education – 330.761.3154, and also to the school of attendance.
- Change of address can take 3 to 5 school days after the Transportation Department receives it for service to begin at the new address.
- Addresses must be updated in the student database in order to schedule transportation.

Eligibility

Bus stops and eligibility may be obtained by calling your school (except those inquiring about Metro bus passes).

APS Transportation Information For information call:

APS Transportation Department	Metro Regular Route Schedule
330.761.1390	330.762.0341
6:30 am – 5 pm Monday – Friday	7 am – 6 pm Monday-Friday 9 am – 3 pm Saturday For bus stop information please go to www.akronmetro.org

Student Information and Classroom Requirements

Address and Phone Number Changes

Akron Public Schools values the safety of all children. Therefore, it is important to maintain accurate phone and address records. Please notify your child's school of any changes during the school year.

If you move from one Akron school zone to another, you may choose which school to attend. If you want to remain at the current school, request a "Long Term Continuity" form from the school office and put your request in writing. Transportation will be your responsibility. Otherwise, your student will automatically be enrolled in the school of your new address at the start of the next school year. This only applies to movement within Akron Public Schools boundaries.

Athletic Sports Eligibility Requirements Department of Interscholastic Athletics

To participate in either middle or high school sports, Akron Public Schools will use the following criteria to determine Athletic Eligibility for each student:

1. For high school students, the student must be enrolled and maintain a passing grade in a minimum of 5 one-credit courses or the equivalent.
2. For middle school students, the student must be enrolled and maintain a passing grade in a minimum of 4 classes.
3. The student must maintain an overall GPA of 2.0 or better from the previous marking period.
4. Students with an overall GPA of 1.40 – 1.99 for the preceding marking period are eligible to participate in the sport, provided they attend a study table for a minimum of 3 times a week, for 45 minutes per study session.
5. Student Athletic Eligibility is determined using the prior marking period's overall GPA.
6. Note: Semester and summer school grades are NOT used in the calculation for athletic eligibility.
7. Incoming ninth graders will not be required to meet the minimum grade point average for athletic eligibility; however, they will be required to earn the OHSAA-mandated minimum of five, one-credit courses to be eligible. After the first grading period of their ninth-grade year, all freshmen will be required to meet the grade-point average minimum delineated above.

The Akron Public Schools provides a variety of athletic activities in which students may participate, provided they meet eligibility requirements established by the Board and by the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA). Participation in these activities is a privilege and not a right, and students may be prohibited from all or part of their participation in such activities by authorized school personnel without further notice, hearing and/or appeal rights in accordance with Board Policy 5610.05.

2431 - Interscholastic Athletics

The Board of Education recognizes the value to the students of the District, and to the community of a program of interscholastic athletics for students, as an integral part of the total school experience. The program should foster the growth of school loyalty within the student body as a whole, and stimulate community interest in athletics. The game activities and practice sessions should provide many opportunities to teach the values of competition and good sportsmanship. The program of interscholastic athletics should provide students the

Student Information and Classroom Requirements

opportunity to exercise and test their athletic abilities in a context greater and more varied than that which can be offered by a school or the School District alone. It should also offer an opportunity for career and educational development.

For purposes of this policy, the program of interscholastic athletics shall include all activities relating to competitive sport contests, games, events, or sport exhibitions involving individual students or teams of students of this District with those of another district.

The Board shall approve annually a program of interscholastic athletics.

Eligibility Requirements for Participation

The Board shall determine the standards of eligibility to be met by all students participating in the interscholastic program. Such standards shall require that each student be in good physical condition, be free of injury, and have fully recovered from illness before participating in any interscholastic athletic event.

No student may practice or compete in interscholastic athletics until the student submits a form signed by his/her parent or guardian, or by a person having care or charge of the student, affirming that each has received a concussion and head injury information sheet as prepared by the Ohio Department of Health. See Form 2431 F1 and Form 2431 F2.

Academic Requirements for Eligibility and Continued Eligibility

In addition to the eligibility requirements established by the Ohio High School Athletic Association, to be eligible for any interscholastic extra-curricular activity, a student must have received passing grades in a minimum of five (5) one-credit courses, or the equivalent, in the immediately preceding grading period. Also, a student must have maintained at least a 2.0 grade-point average (based on a 4.0 scale). The grade-point average shall be based on a combination of all grades earned from course work completed during the immediately preceding marking period only; grade point averages based on combination of all grades for a semester, the entire school year or a semester examination shall not be considered for eligibility.

A student whose grade point average during the immediately preceding marking period falls below 2.0, but is greater than or equal to 1.4, shall remain eligible for the following grading period but will be placed on probation and be required to attend mandatory tutoring throughout the grading period for a minimum of three (3) days per week. If, after a grading period of mandatory tutoring, the student's grade point average is still below 2.0, the student will be referred to the school principal and Athletic Director to investigate the needs of the student, and determine whether the particular student should be allowed to participate in extracurricular activities or ruled ineligible.

Academic Requirements for Eligibility for Incoming Ninth Graders

Incoming ninth graders will not be required to meet the minimum grade point average for athletic eligibility; however, all incoming ninth graders must have passed the OHSA-mandated minimum of four (4) of all subjects in which enrolled the immediately preceding grading period, in order to be eligible. After the first grading period of their ninth-grade year, to be eligible (or to remain eligible), student-athletes must have received passing grades in a minimum of five (5) one-credit courses, or the equivalent, in the immediately preceding grading period and must also meet the grade-point average minimum delineated above.

Any student may participate in practice if he or she is academically ineligible, but may not participate in scrimmages or contests in accordance with OHSA guidelines.

Students educated at home or enrolled in a nonpublic school who are permitted to participate on a District interscholastic team must fulfill the same academic, nonacademic, and financial

Student Information and Classroom Requirements

requirements as any other participant. See Policy [9270](#).

An exception may be made by the principal if the student has been participating in an intervention program, and has shown satisfactory progress toward achieving the minimum grade-point average.

If a student who becomes ineligible under these standards improves his/her grade point average during the current grading period to meet the eligibility standard, s/he may be reinstated at the beginning of the next grading period.

These same eligibility standards shall apply to all other co-curricular and extra-curricular activities sponsored by the District. (See Policy [2430](#))

Students identified as disabled under R.C. 3323 and the IDEA are subject to the eligibility standards established by this policy, unless specifically exempted by the express terms of their individualized education program (IEP). An IEP can specify the criteria by which a grade will be determined for (a) course(s), given the student's individualized disability.

The Board believes a student who has not passed State-mandated tests would be better served by using the time that s/he would be participating in his/her interscholastic sport to participate in one or more of the District's programs for assisting students to pass the required tests.

However, if a parent believes that his/her child may be unduly affected by his/her lack of participation in a particular sport, s/he may come to the school and sign a waiver that will release the student from the State mandated test eligibility rule, and allow him/her to participate in a particular sport. The parent shall be informed, prior to signing the waiver, that State law does not allow a student to receive a high school diploma unless s/he has passed all State testing requirements.

Since the primary purpose of the athletic program is to enhance the education of participating students as indicated in this policy, the Board places top priority on maximum student participation and the values of good sportsmanship and fair play.

The Board further adopts those eligibility standards set by the Constitution of the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) that are consistent with State and Federal law, and shall review such standards annually to ascertain that they continue to be in conformity with the objectives of this Board.

No student shall be excused from a class or supervised study for an extended period of time to participate in interscholastic athletics.

The Board further directs that only those students may participate in the program of interscholastic athletics who have:

- A. maintained a satisfactory academic record;
- B. attended school regularly;
- C. demonstrated good citizenship and responsibility;
- D. returned all school and athletic equipment;
- E. refrained from participation in a contest on a non-interscholastic team, or as an individual in the same sport during the school's season.

In order to minimize health and safety risks to student-athletes and maintain ethical standards, school personnel, coaches, athletic trainers, and lay coaches shall not dispense, supply, recommend, or permit the use of any drug, medication, or food supplement solely for performance-enhancing purposes. The Superintendent shall cause to be posted in all locker rooms in buildings that include students in any grade higher than the sixth grade, the following:

Student Information and Classroom Requirements

“Warning: Improper use of anabolic steroids may cause serious or fatal health problems, such as heart disease, stroke, cancer, growth deformities, infertility, personality changes, severe acne, and baldness. Possession, sale, or use of anabolic steroids without a valid prescription is a crime punishable by a fine and imprisonment.”

The Superintendent shall develop appropriate administrative guidelines for the operation of the Athletic Program and a Code of Conduct for those who participate. Such guidelines should provide for the following safeguards:

A. Prior to enrolling in the sport:

1. each participant shall submit to a thorough physical examination by a qualified licensed medical provider;
2. parents shall report any past or current health problems along with a physician's statement that any such problems have or are being treated and pose no threat to the student's participation.

B. The District shall assume no liability for any student with a health condition who has been authorized to play by the parents and their physician but not by the District.

C. Any student who incurs an injury requiring a physician's care is to have the written approval of a physician prior to the student's return to participation.

D. Any student practicing for or competing in an interscholastic event who exhibits signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with having sustained a concussion or head injury shall be removed from the practice or competition by the student's coach (and or the referee serving during the practice or competition).

Any student who has been removed from practice or competition by a coach or referee because he/she has exhibited signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with having sustained a concussion or head injury, shall not be permitted to return to any practice or competition for which the coach or referee is responsible until both of the following occur:

1. The student's condition is assessed by a physician.
2. The student receives written clearance that it is safe to return to practice or competition from a physician.

The Superintendent and/or designee is also to develop guidelines for ensuring that sportsmanship, ethics, and integrity characterize the manner in which the athletic program is conducted and the actions of students who participate. Such guidelines should include:

A. criteria for judging these important qualities;

B. procedures by which these values will be communicated to students, parents, and supporters;

C. means for monitoring the behavior of each of these groups to ensure their behavior reflects high standards.

The guidelines should also provide a set of behavioral expectations for each type of participant, as well as a Sportsmanship Code of Conduct which each type of participant is to follow. The Superintendent is authorized to implement suitable disciplinary procedures against those who violate this Sportsmanship Code.

Students will be further informed that participation in interscholastic sports is a privilege and not a right, and that they may be prohibited from all or part of their participation in such activities

Student Information and Classroom Requirements

by authorized school personnel without further notice, hearing and/or appeal rights (see Policy 5610.05 - Prohibition From Extra-Curricular Activities).

In order to support the High School Athletic Association's program to strengthen sportsmanship, ethics, and integrity, the Board commits itself to:

- A. adopt policies (upon recommendation of the administration) which reflect the District's educational objectives and promote the ideals of good sportsmanship, ethics, and integrity;
- B. establish standards for athletic participation which reinforce the concept that athletic activities are a privilege, not a right;
- C. attend and enjoy school athletic activities, serving as a positive role model and expecting the same from parents, fans, participants, coaches, and other school personnel;
- D. support and reward participants, coaches, school administrators, and fans who display good sportsmanship;
- E. recognize the value of school athletic activities as a vital part of education.

No student will be denied the opportunity to participate in interscholastic athletics offered by a school in the District because the student has or is participating in a college credit plus program, as long as the student fulfills all academic, nonacademic and financial requirements.

Attendance

Attendance is taken electronically at the beginning of each class period for secondary schools and at the beginning of the school day/homeroom for elementary schools. Attendance calculation is done by hours, which means each and every minute of the school day counts. It is extremely important that all students are in class on time to prevent being marked absent or tardy and accumulating minutes into hours. The guidelines for absences are:

Excessive Absence

- A. absent 38 or more hours in one school month, with or without a legitimate excuse; or
- B. absent 65 or more hours in one school year, with or without a legitimate excuse.

Habitual Truancy

- A. absent 30 or more consecutive hours without a legitimate excuse;
- B. absent 42 or more hours in one school month without a legitimate excuse; or
- C. absent 72 or more hours in one school year without a legitimate excuse.

Chronic Absenteeism

Chronic absenteeism is missing 10 percent or more of the school year for any reason – excused absences, unexcused absences, and absences due to out-of-school suspensions. Students who are chronically absent are missing a significant amount of school, thus, missing out on important classroom time. Chronic absenteeism is different from truancy and from average daily attendance. If a student reaches chronic absenteeism, the Superintendent or his/her designee has the right to give zero credit for class(es) for the school year.

Student Information and Classroom Requirements

The Board considers the following factors to be reasonable excuses for time missed at school:

- A. personal illness (a written physician's statement verifying the illness may be required)
- B. illness in the family necessitating the presence of the child
- C. quarantine of the home
- D. death in the family
- E. necessary work at home due to absence or incapacity of parent(s)/guardian(s)
- F. observation or celebration of a bona fide religious holiday
- G. out-of-state travel (up to a maximum of four (4) days per school year) to participate in a District-approved enrichment or extracurricular activity. Any classroom assignment missed due to the absence shall be completed by the student.
- H. such good cause as may be acceptable to the Superintendent
- I. medically necessary leave for a pregnant student in accordance with Policy 5751.

Akron Public Schools Board of Education Policy 5200 ATTENDANCE can be referenced in its entirety at the district's website: akronschools.com; under "District"; select "Board of Education"; select "Board Policies"; select "5000 Students"; select "po5200 ATTENDANCE".

Early Dismissal

No student may leave school prior to dismissal time without a parent or guardian either submitting a signed written request or coming to the School Office personally to request the release. No student will be released to a person other than a custodial parent(s) or guardian without a prior authorization.

Care of Board-Owned Property

Damage to or loss of school property and facilities wastes taxpayers' money and undermines the school program for all students. If a student damages or loses school property, the student and/or parents/guardians will be required to pay for the replacement or repair of such property. If the damage or loss is to be determined intentional, the student will be subject to discipline according to the Code of Student Behavior and may be reported to appropriate authorities.

Student Valuables

Students should not bring items of value to school and when they do, they do so at their own risk. Items such as jewelry, expensive clothing, iPads, smart phones, electronic equipment, and the like, are tempting targets for theft and extortion. The District is not liable for any loss, theft, or damage to students' personal valuables.

Yondr Pouch

The Yondr Pouch is a secure bag that is used by all secondary schools to secure all student mobile devices during the school day. Students will be able to unlock their Yondr Pouches at the end of the school day as they exit the building. Students will maintain possession of their Yondr throughout the school day. Should a medical condition arise that requires the use of a cell phone, accommodations will be made.

Student Information and Classroom Requirements

Graduation Requirements: Class of 2023 and Beyond

As a student entering ninth grade on or after July 1, 2019, Ohio's new graduation requirements give you more flexibility to choose a graduation pathway that builds on individual strengths and passions. College & Career Academies of Akron allow students to graduate ready for the next steps regardless of the "E" they choose:

Enrollment in higher education, Employment in a career field, Enlistment in the military services or Entrepreneurship as they grow a business.

The State of Ohio requires students to do three (3) things in order to graduate: 1. Cover the Credits
2. Show Competency, and 3. Demonstrate Readiness.

1. **Cover the Credits:** Akron Public School students must earn a minimum of 21 credits satisfying the following requirements.

Akron Public Schools Credit Requirements	
English Language Arts	4
Mathematics	4
Science	3
Social Studies	3
Health	.5
Physical Education	.5
Electives*	6
Total	21

The elective total may vary based on whether or not a student uses A PE Waiver. See your school counselor for details.

2. **Show Competency:** Competency is shown by earning the designated score (684 or better) on both the Algebra I and the English II Ohio State Tests. If after attempting the test twice, students have not met the passing score, competency can be demonstrated in one of the following ways:
 - a. **Career-Focused Competency:** Meeting 2 career-focused competency measures such as proficient scores on WebXams or earning a 12-point industry credential coupled with the Ohio Means Job Readiness Seal, a passing WorkKeys score, or work-based learning hours
 - b. **Military Enlistment Competency:** Meeting all enlistment requirements and enlisting in any branch of military service upon graduation from high school
 - c. **College Coursework Competency:** Earning credit in a college-level English or math course through CCP.
 - d. **College Entrance Exam Competency:** Testing college-ready scores on a standardized test such as the ACT or SAT
3. **Demonstrate Readiness:** Readiness is demonstrated by earning a minimum of two seals. At least one seal must be a state-level seal. Students can choose seals that align with their interests and goals

State-Level Seals

Biliteracy	Honors Diploma	Ohio Means Jobs Readiness
Citizenship	Industry-Recognized Credential	Science
College-Ready	Military Enlistment	Technology

Local Seals

Community Service ~ Fine & Performing Arts ~ Student Engagement

These are minimum requirements. Your school counselor will work with you on personalizing your graduation and post-high school pathway. For more information on APS graduation requirements, see your school counselor and visit the graduation pathway site: www.tinyurl.com/apsgraduation.

Search and Seizure

Administrators may search a student and/or his/her property (including vehicles, purses, knapsacks, gym bags, etc.) with or without the student's consent whenever they reasonably suspect that a search will lead to the discovery of evidence of a violation of law and/or school rules. The extent of the search will be governed by the seriousness of the alleged infraction and the student's age. General housekeeping inspection of school property may be conducted with reasonable notice. Student lockers are the property of the District, and students have no reasonable expectation of privacy in their contents or in the contents of any other District

Student Information and Classroom Requirements

property, including desks or other containers. School authorities may conduct random searches of the lockers and their contents at any time without announcement. Unannounced and random searches may also be conducted.

Additionally, students have NO reasonable expectation of privacy in their actions in public areas including, but not limited to, common areas, hallways, cafeterias, classrooms and gymnasiums. The District may use video cameras in such areas and on all school vehicles transporting students to and from regular and extracurricular activities.

Anything that is found in the course of a search may be used as evidence of a violation of school rules or the law and may be taken, held or turned over to the police. The school reserves the right not to return items that have been confiscated.

Students Experiencing Homelessness

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act ensures educational rights and protections for children and youth experiencing homelessness. Being homeless does not always mean living in a shelter or on the street. “Homeless” is defined as lacking a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. This includes any child: living in a shelter; living in a motel or campground due to the lack of an alternative, adequate accommodation; living in a car, park, abandoned building, or bus or train station; doubled up with other people due to loss of housing or economic hardship; or not living with a parent or guardian due to hardship or an emergency circumstance. Families experiencing homelessness don’t always realize they may qualify for certain rights when it comes to their children’s education, according to federal law.

Project Rise helps families understand these rights and advocates on their behalf. We ensure that students have the same educational access as students who are not homeless. This can include access to: the school of origin to minimize student transition; immediate enrollment (to the school of origin or the school of residence); and appropriate educational services.

For further information, please contact Project Rise at projectrise@apslearns.org or 330.761.2969, or Akron Public Schools Homeless Liaison Shannah Cariño, scarino@apslearns.org.

Student Fees and Fines

Students will be provided necessary textbooks and other materials for courses of instruction without cost. In accordance with State law, schools may charge reasonable fees for activities and materials used in the course of instruction. Charges may be imposed for loss, damage or destruction of school apparatus, electronic device, equipment, musical instruments, library materials, textbooks and for damage to school buildings and property. Students using school property and equipment can be fined for excessive wear and abuse of the property or equipment.

Some fees may be waived in situations where there is financial hardship.

Students can avoid late fines by promptly returning borrowed materials.

Failure to pay fines, fees, or charges may result in the withholding of the student’s grades and credits.

Student Well-Being

Student safety is the responsibility of both students and staff. Staff members are familiar with emergency procedures such as evacuation for fire and tornado drills, safety drills in the event of a terrorist or other violent attack and accident reporting procedures. If a student is aware of any dangerous situation or accident, he/she must notify a staff person immediately.

State law requires that all students have an emergency medical authorization completed and signed by a parent/guardian on file in the school office. Parent(s)/guardian(s) of students with specific health care needs should deliver written notice about such needs, along with physician documentation, to the school office.

Student Information and Classroom Requirements

Uniform Policy for Students in Grades K-8

*****SUSPENDED FOR THE 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR*****

APS dress code requirements plus the following:	Girls	Boys	Colors
Tops/Shirts Properly sized, Tucking optional	Polo-style collared shirts/button-up blouses with collars or turtlenecks	Polo-style collared shirts/dress shirts with collars or turtlenecks	Solid colors only
Sweaters/vests/hooded apparel Must be worn over a collared shirt or blouse	Cardigans, pullover sweaters, vests, or hooded apparel (hoods down)	Cardigans, pullover sweaters, vests, or hooded apparel (hoods down)	Solid colors only
Bottoms/Pants No jeans, no denim pants or sweat suits, cargo pants are permitted	Uniform-style, classic-fit or corduroy pants, skirts, capris, skorts, jumpers and knee-length shorts	Uniform-style, classic-fit or corduroy pants and knee-length shorts	Navy blue, khaki or black
Shoes	Encouraged to wear plain shoes or athletic shoes	Encouraged to wear plain shoes or athletic shoes	Black, blue, brown or white
Belts No chain belts or belts with writing	If the slacks or pants have belt loops, students are encouraged to wear a belt	If the slacks or pants have belt loops, students are encouraged to wear a belt	Black, brown or navy

All clothing items are available at any retail store or can be ordered through catalogs or online.

Dress Code - Grades 9-12

All garments must be neat, clean, properly sized, without holes and rips, and in acceptable repair. Students may not wear anything that promotes gangs, tobacco, drug and alcohol use, sexual activity, or anything illegal or immoral.

- **Head** – Hats, caps and head coverings are not permitted to be worn indoors.
- **Tops** – upper garments must be properly sized; hooded apparel with hood down is permitted. Underwear, shoulders, chest, back and midsection may not be visible.
- **Bottoms** – All lower garments must be anchored at the natural waist and cannot drag on the ground or have writing across the seat. Garments that are tight fitting, oversized, drooping and exposing more than mid-thigh are not permitted.
- **Shoes** – All footwear must be secure on foot and not present a safety hazard. Slippers, flip-flops, stilettos and shower shoes are not permitted.

Enforcement: Any student in violation of the Dress Code may be subject to discipline and be required to change into compliant clothing before being permitted to attend classes or school activities.

Health and Nutrition Information

Accident Insurance

Student accident insurance for the 2023-2024 school year is available for parents/guardians to purchase. Please see information at www.akronschools.com under Business Affairs section for application information.

Health and Nutrition Information

Lice Prevention and Treatment

What are lice?

- Head lice are yellowish-white insects that live on the human scalp.
- Lice don't have wings; and they cannot fly, hop, or jump.
- Head lice are about 1/8 of an inch long.
- Head lice are difficult to see because they are so small and move very quickly.
- Itching of the scalp may be the first sign of head lice.
- Most often, what you will see are the oval eggs (nits) which have been laid by the lice.
- The eggs are laid close to the scalp (eggs farther than 1/2 inch from the scalp have probably already hatched or are dead).
- The nits are off-white in color and are attached to the hair by a cement-like substance.
- Lice do not cause disease; they are more of an embarrassment and nuisance.

How do you get them?

- Lice are passed from direct personal contact (head-to-head contact or combs, hats, or coats).
- Lice are not passed in swimming pools, and you cannot get them from pets.

Who gets them?

- Lice can live on any person's head—regardless of age, income, social status, or cleanliness.
- If one child has lice, check the hair of everyone else in your house.

If my child gets head lice, what do I do?

Follow these steps to get rid of head lice:

1. Apply a lice-killing hair product (shampoo or creme rinse).
2. Remove the nits.
3. Clean the home.

How to apply the lice-killing hair product (shampoo or creme rinse) correctly:

1. Only treat the hair of people who have head lice or nits.
2. Buy the lice-killing hair product from the grocery or drugstore or get it from the doctor.
3. Apply the hair product exactly according to the package directions. The label will tell you either on dry or wet hair.
4. Cover the hair completely with the hair product.
5. Leave the lice-killing hair product on the correct length of time. Use a watch or timer.
6. Wash the hair with regular shampoo. Check the contents of the regular shampoo. If the shampoo contains silicone, it may keep the head lice product from working properly.

How to remove the nits:

1. Work under a good light (sunlight, a strong lamp or a magnifying light).
2. Divide and fasten the hair in sections, working each section separately.
3. Look through each section of hair for nits, starting at the scalp and working outward.
4. Remove the nits by pulling down the length of the hair with your fingernails. Put the nits in a trash bag and throw them away.
5. A metal lice comb may help.
6. It takes time to remove nits. It may take several hours.

How to clean the home:

1. Wash all bedding, towels and recently-worn clothing in hot water and dry in a hot dryer for 20 minutes.
2. Non-washable items (such as stuffed animals or wool coats) can be dry-cleaned or sealed in a plastic bag for two weeks.
3. If unable to wash clothes or bag items for two weeks, they can be put in the dryer for 20 minutes on high heat.
4. Vacuum the upholstered furniture, rugs, and car seats.
5. Soak combs and brushes in hot (not boiling) water for 10 minutes.
6. You do not need to have a pest control company spray your home.

Follow-up steps:

- Check everyone's hair daily for at least 7–10 days.
- After 7-10 days if there are still nits or lice, use the lice-killing hair product again.
- If more lice or nits are found, you will have to remove the nits and clean the home again in addition to treating the hair again.

Call your doctor about head lice treatment:

- If you are pregnant or breastfeeding;
- For children under 2 years old;
- If the skin of the scalp is broken or infected;
- If there are lice in the eyebrows or eyelashes; and/or
- If the head lice continue after two treatments with the lice-killing hair product.

Reminders:

- Lice are passed by direct personal contact.
- Do not over-treat the hair; follow the directions on the head lice product exactly.
- Only treat the hair of persons who have head lice or nits.
- Home remedies like mayonnaise, olive oil, and petroleum jelly are not recommended.
- Do not use kerosene or gasoline.
- Do not shave the head.
- Itching may continue for a week or two after treatment because the lice-killing hair products dry the scalp.
- Check for lice often during the school year.

Remember:

- Lice do not cause disease, but it will take time and work to get rid of them.
- For additional information contact your school nurse or local health department.
- Do not use lice sprays.
- Keep a sense of humor when dealing with head lice!

Steps For Treating Head Lice, Ohio Department of Health, 246 North High Street • Box 118, Columbus, Ohio 43216-0118, J. Nick Baird, M.D., Director of Health

Health and Nutrition Information

Immunization Requirements: K-12

Unless otherwise exempt, Ohio law requires all students enrolled in public, charter or private schools to be properly immunized. The student immunization record must be on file at the student's assigned school. The full doses must be received at the proper intervals.

Enrollment is not denied due to improper immunizations; however, students who are not properly immunized will be excluded from their assigned school fourteen calendar days from the start of the school year unless their immunizations are "in progress." Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact your child's assigned school or the Office of Student Services at 330.761.2825.

Immunization Summary for School Attendance-Ohio

	FALL 2023
	IMMUNIZATIONS FOR SCHOOL ATTENDANCE
DTaP/DT Tdap/Td Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis	K-12 Four or more doses of DTaP or DT, or any combination. If all four doses were given before the fourth birthday, a fifth dose is required. If the fourth dose was administered on or after the fourth birthday, a fifth dose is not required.* Grades 7-12 One dose of Tdap vaccine must be administered on or after the tenth birthday.**
POLIO	K-12 Three or more doses of IPV. The FINAL dose must be administered on or after the fourth birthday, regardless of the number of doses.***
MMR Measles,Mumps, Rubella	K-12 Two doses of MMR. The first dose must be administered on or after the first birthday. The second dose must be administered at least 28 days after the first dose.
HEP B Hepatitis B	K-12 Three doses of hepatitis B. The second dose must be administered at least 28 days after the first dose. The third dose must be given at least 16 weeks after the first dose and at least eight weeks after the second dose. The last dose in the series (third or fourth dose) must not be administered before age 24 weeks.
VARICELLA Chicken Pox	K-12 Two doses of varicella vaccine must be administered prior to entry. The first dose must be administered on or after the first birthday. The second dose should be administered at least three months after the first dose; however, if the second dose is administered at least 28 days after the first dose, it is considered valid.
MCV4 Meningococcal	Grade 7-11 One dose of Meningococcal (serogroup A, C, W and Y) vaccine must be administered on or after the tenth birthday. Grade 12 Two doses of MCV4 by age 16 years, with a minimum interval of eight weeks between doses. If the first dose was given on or after the sixteenth birthday on one dose is required.****

NOTES:

- Vaccine should be administered according to the most recent version of the *Recommended Immunization Schedule for Children and Adolescents Aged 18 Years or Younger* or the *Catch-up Immunization Schedule for Persons Aged 4 Months Through 18 Years Who Start Late or Who Are More Than 1 Month Behind*, as published by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices. Schedules are available for print or download at <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/index.html>.
- Vaccine doses administered ≤ 4 days before the minimum interval or age are valid (grace period). Doses administered ≥ 5 days earlier than the minimum interval or age are not valid doses and should be repeated as age-appropriate. If MMR and Varicella are not given on the same day, the doses must be separated by at least 28 days with no grace period.
- For additional information please refer to the Ohio Revised Code 3313.67 and 3313.671 for School Attendance and the ODH Director's Journal Entry (available at <https://odh.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/odh/know-our-programs/Immunization/Required-Vaccines-Child-Care-School/>).

These documents list required and recommended immunizations and indicate exemptions to immunizations.

- Please contact the Ohio Department of Health Immunization Program at (800) 282-0546 or (614) 466-4643 with questions or concerns.

* Recommended DTaP or DT minimum intervals for kindergarten students four (4) weeks between doses 1-2 and 2-3; six (6) month minimum intervals between doses 3-4 and 4-5. If a fifth dose is administered prior to the 4th birthday, a sixth dose is recommended but not required.

** Pupils who received one dose of Tdap as part of the initial series are not required to receive another dose. Tdap can be given regardless of the interval since the last Tetanus or diphtheria-toxoid containing vaccine. DTaP given to patients age 7 or older can be counted as valid for the one-time Tdap dose.

*** The final polio dose in the IPV series must be administered at age 4 or older with at least six months between the final and previous dose.

**** Recommended MCV4 minimum interval of at least eight (8) weeks between dose one (1) and dose two (2). If the first (1st) dose of MCV4 was administered on or after the 16th birthday, a second (2nd) dose is not required. If a pupil is in 12th grade and is 15 years of age or younger, only 1 dose is required. Currently there are no school entry requirements for meningococcal B vaccine.



Should I keep my child home or send to school?

Do not send your child to school if any of the following symptoms or conditions were present

- **Fever of 100 degrees or higher in the last 24 hours.** Call your child's healthcare provider for guidance on when to return to school.
- **Coronavirus/COVID-19 Related Symptoms or Exposure.**
 - In the last month, your child or member of the household has been in contact with someone who was confirmed or suspected to have Coronavirus/COVID-19
 - Your child or member of the household reports symptoms of Cough, Fever, Shortness of breath, or Loss of Taste or Smell
- **Vomiting and/or diarrhea.** If your child has two or more episodes during the previous evening or night, they may not attend school. Call your child's healthcare provider if vomiting and/or diarrhea continues for more than 48 hours, your child has a fever or his/her condition worsens. Diapered children can return to school after diarrhea when stool is contained in the diaper, stool may remain loose.
- **Rash.** Call health care provider for guidance if your child can remain in school.
- **Untreated infected skin patches** that have weeping fluid and are on an exposed surface that cannot be covered with a waterproof dressing. **Preschool** requires exclusion of untreated infected skin patches per preschool regulations.
- **Bacterial infection.** Your child may return to school after taking prescribed antibiotics for 24 hours.
- **Pink eye.** If your child has thick mucus or pus draining from the eye (pink eye), call health care provider for guidance if your child can remain in school. If an antibiotic is prescribed, the child must be on the medication for 24 hours before returning to school.
- **Lice.** Contact your school health clinic to school review the school district lice policy.
- **Is currently taking prescribed narcotics.** Students are not permitted to take narcotics while at school. The student can return to school once pain can be controlled by over the counter pain relief, like Tylenol/Acetaminophen or Ibuprofen.
- **Any sick symptoms that prevent participation in school,** examples include:
 - Excessive tiredness, pale, difficult to wake, confused or irritable, lack of appetite
 - Productive coughing, sneezing, continuous coughing
 - Headache, body aches, earache, sore throat

A minor sore throat is usually not a problem, but a severe sore throat could be strep throat even if there is no fever. Other symptoms of strep throat in children are headache and stomach upset. Contact your healthcare provider as your child needs a special test to determine if it is strep throat.

Colds can be contagious for at least 48 hours. Returning to school too soon may slow the recovery process and expose others unnecessarily to illness.

If you are unsure about whether to send your child to school, please contact the school health clinic staff. School Based Health Center is available for all students in Akron Public Schools. This is a program that provides a Nurse Practitioner for sick care, well visits, immunizations, and sports physicals. To call to schedule an appointment 330-543-7242 or contact the school clinic.

American Academy of Pediatrics, 2017. Center for Disease Control, 2019. Preschool Program Licensing Rules, 2019.



Akron Public Schools

Sylvester Small Administration Building

Notice of Parent/Guardian rights Parental Consent to Access Public Benefits (Medicaid) The Ohio Medicaid School Program

The Akron Public School District has the opportunity to receive Federal Medicaid dollars through a program called the Ohio Medicaid School Program (MSP). Through this program, school districts can receive Medicaid dollars for services such as Speech, Audiology, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Nursing, Psychology, Counseling, and Social Work services. The district can receive funding when a student receives one or more of these services and the student has current Medicaid insurance coverage. In the process of billing Medicaid for these services, certain billing information must be shared with the Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services. Before the district can submit claim data for Medicaid billing purposes, we must first obtain a signed Parental Consent to Share Information and Access Medicaid.

This annual notice is to inform you of all your legal protections and rights under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

Your consent is voluntary. You have the right under 34 CFR Part 99 and Part 300 to withdraw your consent at any time. You are not required to enroll in Medicaid. Billing Medicaid will not require you to incur any out-of-pocket expenses such as a deductible or co-pay, decrease lifetime coverage, increase premiums or lead to the discontinuation of benefits, or result in you paying for services that would otherwise be covered by Medicaid. No matter whether you grant consent, refuse consent, or revoke your consent, your child will still be provided with an evaluation and/or the services listed in their IEP at no cost to you.

For a more detailed explanation of Medicaid Parental Consent, please see the following Code of Federal Regulations (CFR).

34 CFR 300.154
34 CFR 300.503
34 CFR 300.622
34 CFR 99.30

If you have specific questions regarding this notice, please contact the Special Education Department at 330.761.3068.

Respectfully,

Special Education Department

AkronSchools.com



Akron Public Schools®

Sylvester Small Administration Building Statewide Physical Education Initiative

August 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian

One of the things students will be held accountable for in physical education classes is their ability to master state performance assessments that measure progress toward meeting the state standards in physical education.

In addition to other physical education activities, there are practices that students and teachers will be engaged in that may feel new or different for a physical education class. Some of these practices include assessments related to physical fitness and homework that has students recording physical activity they do outside of school as they learn to practice healthy and active lifestyles.

Physical education teachers will be working all year to teach and assess students' mastery of the standards. The district will be reporting these results to the state based on student progress in Grades 2, 5, 8, and Physical Education II (in high school). However, all grade levels will be involved in the assessments of the standards.

Below are some "Tips and Tricks" that can help your student become more successful in physical education class this year:

1. Make sure your student has the appropriate clothing and shoes for PE class. This is a primary safety concern for the PE Teacher.
2. Help your student with any homework that relates to the class such as understanding of terms.
3. Encourage your student to exercise outside of PE class—do fitness related exercises, go for walks, or play games.
4. Ensure that your student, especially elementary students, are not absent for physical education class.

If you have questions, please feel free to contact your student's physical education teacher. He/she will answer your questions, explain the process, and offer suggestions for how your student can excel in class.

Sincerely,

Adam Motter
Learning Specialist
Physical Education

Health and Nutrition Information

Meals

We are pleased to inform you that Akron Public Schools will be continuing the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) for School Year 2023-24.

This is great news for you and your students! All K-12 students of Akron Public Schools are eligible to receive a healthy breakfast and lunch at school at no charge during the 2023-24 school year. No further action is required of you. All children will be able to participate in the meal programs without having to pay a fee or submit a meal application.

Note: Students enrolled in APS online are not eligible for the USDA meal Program.

Questions? Contact Child Nutrition Services at 330.761.1335.

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD- 3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USDA-OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form-0508-0002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

1. **mail:**
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or
2. **fax:**
(833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
3. **email:**
program.intake@usda.gov

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

12/09/2022

Policies and Procedures

Prohibition on Bullying, Harassment, Intimidation

The Board of Education is committed to providing a safe, positive, productive and nurturing educational environment for all of its students. The Board encourages the promotion of positive interpersonal relations between members of the school community. Harassment, intimidation, or bullying toward a student, whether by other students, staff, or third parties is strictly prohibited and will not be tolerated. This prohibition includes aggressive behavior, physical, verbal, and psychological abuse, and violence within a dating relationship. The Board will not tolerate any gestures, comments, threats, or actions which cause or threaten to cause bodily harm or personal degradation. This policy applies to all activities in the District, including activities on school property, on a school bus, or while enroute to or from school, and those occurring off school property if the student or employee is at any school-sponsored, school-approved or school-related activity or function, such as field trips or athletic events where students are under the school's control, in a school vehicle, or where an employee is engaged in school business.

"Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying" Means:

- A. any intentional written, verbal, electronic or physical act that a student or group of students exhibits toward another particular student(s) more than once, and the behavior both causes mental or physical harm to the other student(s), and is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for the other student(s); or
- B. violence within a dating relationship.

Disciplinary Actions

When acts of bullying, harassment, or intimidation are substantiated and a disciplinary response is warranted, students are subject to the full range of disciplinary consequences in accordance with due process and the Student Code of Conduct. Anonymous complaints that are not otherwise substantiated, however, shall not be the basis for disciplinary action, unless the behavior was independently witnessed and documented by a school staff member.

Bullying (including cyberbullying), harassment, or intimidation by any student in the Akron City School District is strictly prohibited, and such conduct may result in disciplinary action, including suspension and/or expulsion from school.

Akron Public Schools Board of Education Policy 5517.01 Bullying and other forms of aggressive behavior can be referenced in its entirety at the district website: akronschools.com; under "District" select "Board Policies"; select "5000 students"; select "policy 5517.01 Bullying."

What is PBIS?

Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) is a framework for creating safe, positive, equitable schools, where every student can feel safe, valued, connected to the school community and supported by caring adults. PBIS teams develop policies and practices that proactively define teach and support appropriate behavior. PBIS has proven to reduce disciplinary incidents and bullying behaviors, while increasing scholar's academic achievement.

Each PreK-12 APS campus developed systems that focus on:

- Teaching behavioral expectations across all environments
- Recognizing positive behavior through specific feedback and reinforcement
- Provides correction of inappropriate behavior through prompting, re-teaching, opportunities to correct behavior.

PBIS is a tiered approach providing systems and supports for all scholars while identifying additional strategies and practices for students who need additional support.

You will receive specific information about your scholar's school wide expectations and PBIS systems during your open house or family engagement nights.

Kids Safety First: Guardian Information/Procedures

Guardians shall be the only persons notified of a student's performance or actions.

Examples follow:

- This is true for a teacher contacting the guardian concerning grades;
- An administrator contacting a guardian concerning discipline; and/or
- A counselor contacting a guardian to discuss educational services.

Guardians must be the individuals to authorize a student to be transported from school prior to the regular dismissal time.

- A guardian can authorize another individual to pick up his/her student. This would be done each occasion another individual is to pick up a student.
- That authorization can be done in person, through telephone communication or through written communication.
- Anyone visiting, signing out or sending anything to a student must present a photo ID upon entering the school. This includes parents, guardians and anyone else authorized by the parent/guardian.

Those listed on the Emergency Medical Contact List are to be contacted in a medical emergency, **only** if the guardian cannot be reached. To ensure student safety, identification shall be required for any person or persons that are not recognized as an individual authorized to pick up a student and to ensure Kids Safety First.

Safe Routes to School

Akron Public Schools highly recommends any student doing a wheeled sport (cycling, skateboarding, roller skating, etc.) wear a helmet at all times, to and from school. Wearing a helmet helps to reduce brain injury by 88%. Parents, please require your student to wear a helmet at all times.

Policies and Procedures

Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) of 2015

Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 provides that parents/guardians of students enrolled in a Title I school in the District the first year following the building's identification as being in "School Improvement" have the right to transfer their children to another school in the District, provided there is a school that provides instruction at the students' grade level(s) and such school has not been identified as being in the process of school improvement, corrective action, or restructuring. However, if there is not another school in the District offering instruction at the students' grade level(s) that has not been identified as needing improvement, the Superintendent will contact neighboring districts and request that they permit students to transfer to a school in one of those districts. Supplemental Education Services (SES) will also be offered to students in any school no later than the first year following the building's identification as being in "School Improvement," regardless of whether a transfer option is available.

Additionally, if a school within the District has been designated as "persistently dangerous" as defined by State law, students have the right to transfer to another "safe" school in the District. If there is not another "safe" school in the District providing instruction at the students' grade level(s), the Superintendent shall contact neighboring districts and request that they permit students to transfer to a school in one of those districts. Further, if a student is a victim of a violent crime on school property, s/he also has the right to transfer to another school in the District. If there is not another school in the District providing instruction at the student's grade level, the Superintendent shall contact neighboring districts and request that they permit that student to transfer to a school in one of those districts providing instruction at the student's grade level.



Akron Public Schools

Office of the Superintendent

August 2023

General Information

Every Student Succeeds Act Request for Teacher Qualifications

This letter is sent to inform you that the Every Student Succeeds Act gives you the opportunity to ask for information about the professional qualifications of your student's teacher(s).

Requests for teacher information should be directed to your school's principal. You may also contact Akron Public Schools, Department of Human Resources, 10 N. Main Street, Akron, Ohio 44308 or call 330-761-2945.

1. Has my student's teacher met licensing criteria for the grade level or subject areas he/she is teaching?
2. Is my student's teacher working under emergency or other temporary licensure?
3. What kind of college degree(s) has my student's teacher earned?
4. Does my student receive any service by a qualified paraprofessional?

You may download your school's local report card at <http://education.ohio.gov>. Click "2021-22 School Report Cards," then enter the school's name in the search bar. The report card provides state and federally required school information. This includes detailed information about how your student's school performed in all tested areas and student groups, as well as a summary of the professional qualification information of the school's teaching staff.

Akron Public Schools is dedicated to the education of your student and providing the best opportunities to ensure he/she achieves. We have the most qualified, professional staff to guide your student through the education process. Our district has aligned curriculum and staff professional development to focus on student achievement in all content areas. Our current goal continues to be academic success for all students.

Sincerely,

Mary B. Outley

Interim Superintendent



Akron Public Schools®

Office of the Superintendent

August 2023

Dear APS Families:

Akron Public Schools is committed to the safety of all of our scholars when they use our various technology resources such as laptops, Chromebooks, iPads, and when they need access to the Internet. Over the years, the District has had active monitoring through a firewall platform called GoGuardian Beacon. This software identifies questionable online activities and searches, particularly in situations where a student might be exploring harm to self or others.

We know that the Internet is a remarkable resource and an essential part of today's society. With our summer vacation here and moving forward, the District will no longer be using online technology monitoring efforts through GoGuardian Beacon. Akron Public Schools will continue to provide filtering to deter academic dishonesty, aggressive behavior, and or pornography; however, parental monitoring is necessary to assure everyone's safety.

This is an invitation to our families to discuss appropriate Internet usage with your scholars. Some considerations might mean limiting online time to a few hours per day, ensuring there is adult supervision when using any device, games, and websites that are developmentally appropriate, and reviewing the types of content you would want your children to access/avoid.

Akron Public Schools reminds families that the internet should never be used by our scholars in isolation or without appropriate adult supervision.

Thank you in advance for partnering with us and ensuring your scholar's safety online.

Sincerely,

Mary B. Outley

Interim Superintendent

Policies and Procedures

Student Education Technology Acceptable Use and Safety Policy - 7540.03

Technology has fundamentally altered the ways in which information is accessed, communicated, and transferred in society. As a result, educators are continually adapting their means and methods of instruction, and the way they approach student learning, to incorporate the vast, diverse, and unique resources available through the Internet. The Board provides Education Technology so students can acquire the skills and knowledge to learn effectively and live productively in a digital world. The Board of Education provides students with access to the Internet for limited educational purposes only and utilizes online educational services to enhance the instruction delivered to its students. The District's Internet system does not serve as a public access service or a public forum, and the Board imposes reasonable restrictions on its use consistent with its limited educational purpose.

This policy and its related administrative guidelines, and the Student Code of Conduct govern students' use of the District's personal communication devices (that is, according to Policy 5136, computers, laptops, tablets, e-readers, cellular/mobile telephones, smartphones, and any other web-enabled device), network, and Internet connection and online educational services ("Education Technology" or "Ed-Tech").

The due process rights of all users will be respected in the event there is a suspicion of inappropriate use of the Education Technology. Users have no right or expectation to privacy when using the Ed-Tech (including, but not limited to, privacy in the content of their personal files, e-mails, and records of their online activity while on the network and Internet).

First and foremost, the Board may not be able to technologically limit access, through its Education Technology, to only those services and resources that have been authorized for the purpose of instruction, study and research related to the curriculum. Unlike in the past when educators and community members had the opportunity to review and screen materials to assess their appropriateness for supporting and enriching the curriculum according to adopted guidelines and reasonable selection criteria, (taking into account the varied instructional needs, learning styles, abilities, and developmental levels of the students who would be exposed to them); access to the Internet, because it serves as a gateway to any publicly available file server in the world, opens classrooms and students to electronic information resources that may not have been screened by educators for use by students of various ages.

Pursuant to Federal law, the Board has implemented technology protection measures, which protect against (e.g., filter or block) access to visual displays/depictions/materials that are obscene, constitute child pornography, and/or are harmful to minors, as defined by the Children's Internet Protection Act. At the discretion of the Board or the Superintendent, the technology protection measures may be configured to protect against access to other material considered inappropriate for students to access. The Board also utilizes software and/or hardware to monitor online activity of students to restrict access to child pornography and other material that is obscene, objectionable, inappropriate and/or harmful to minors. The technology protection measures may not be disabled at any time that students may be using the Education Technology, if such disabling will cease to protect against access to materials that are prohibited under the Children's Internet Protection Act. Any student who attempts to disable the technology protection measures will be subject to discipline.

The Superintendent or his/her approved designee may temporarily or permanently unblock access to websites or online educational services containing appropriate material, if access to such sites has been inappropriately blocked by the technology protection measures. The determination of whether material is appropriate or inappropriate shall be based on the content of the material and the intended use of the material, not on the protection actions of the technology protection measures.

Parents are advised that a determined user may be able to gain access to services and/or resources on the Internet that the Board has not authorized for educational purposes. In fact, it

is impossible to guarantee students will not gain access through the Internet to information and communications that they and/or their parents may find inappropriate, offensive, objectionable or controversial. Parents of minors are responsible for setting and conveying the standards that their children should follow when using the Internet.

Pursuant to Federal law, students shall receive education about the following:

- A. safety and security while using e-mail, chat rooms, social media, and other forms of direct electronic communications;
- B. the dangers inherent with the online disclosure of personally identifiable information;
- C. the consequences of unauthorized access (e.g., “hacking,” “harvesting,” “digital piracy,” etc.) cyberbullying and other unlawful or inappropriate activities by students online, and;
- D. unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal information regarding minors.

Staff members shall provide instruction for their students regarding the appropriate use of technology and online safety and security as specified above. Furthermore, staff members will monitor the online activities of students while at school.

Monitoring may include, but is not necessarily limited to, visual observations of online activities during class sessions; or use of specific monitoring tools to review browser history and network, server, and computer logs.

The district is responsible for providing training so that Internet users under their supervision are knowledgeable about this policy and its accompanying guidelines. The Board expects that staff members will provide guidance and instruction to students in the appropriate use of the Education Technology. Such training shall include, but not be limited to, education concerning appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms and cyberbullying awareness and response. All Internet users (and their parents if they are minors) are required to sign a written agreement to abide by the terms and conditions of this policy and its accompanying guidelines.

Students will be assigned a school email account that they are required to utilize for all school-related electronic communications, including those to staff members and individuals and/or organizations outside the District with whom they are communicating for school-related projects and assignments. Further, as directed and authorized by their teachers, they shall use their school-assigned email account when signing-up/registering for access to various online educational services, including mobile applications/apps that will be utilized by the student for educational purposes.

Students and staff members are responsible for good behavior on the Board's computers/network and the Internet, just as they are in classrooms, school hallways, and other school premises and school-sponsored events. Communications on the Internet are often public in nature. General school rules for behavior and communication apply. The Board does not sanction any use of the Education Technology that is not authorized by or conducted strictly in compliance with this policy and its accompanying guidelines.

Students shall not access social media for personal use from the District's network, but shall be permitted to access social media for educational use in accordance with their teacher's approved plan for such use with review by the district's technology committee.

Social Media Use:

A student's personal or private use of social media, such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snap-Chat, blogs, etc., may have unintended consequences. While the board respects its students' First Amendment rights, those rights do not include permission to engage in threatening or other

Policies and Procedures

destructive on-line behavior, such as cyberbullying, or any other online activity that causes, or could potentially cause a substantial disruption to the school environment. This warning includes a students' online conduct that occurs off school property, including from the student's private computer. Students who engage in such behavior will be subject to discipline under the Code of Student Behavior.

Users who disregard this policy and its accompanying guidelines may have their use privileges suspended or revoked, and disciplinary action taken against them. Users of the Board's Education Technology are personally responsible and liable, both civilly and criminally, for uses of the Ed-Tech not authorized by this Board policy and its accompanying guidelines. The Board designates the Superintendent and approved designees as the administrators responsible for initiating, implementing, and enforcing this policy and its accompanying guidelines as they apply to students' use of the District's Education Technology.

P.L. 106-554, Children's Internet Protection Act of 2000

47 U.S.C. 254(h), (1), Communications Act of 1934, as amended (2003)

20 U.S.C. 6801 et seq., Part F, Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended (2003)

18 U.S.C. 1460

18 U.S.C. 2246

18 U.S.C. 2256

20 U.S.C. 6777, 9134 (2003)

47 C.F.R. 54.500 - 54.523

Adopted 10/22/01

Revised 12/13/10

Revised 6/25/12

Revised 5/11/15

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Student Education Technology Acceptable Use and Safety Guidelines - 7540.03

Students are authorized to use the Board's computers, laptops, tablets, personal communication devices (as defined by Policy 5136), network, Internet connection and online educational services ("Education Technology" or "Ed-Tech") for educational purposes. Use of the Education Technology is a privilege, not a right. When using the Ed-Tech, students must conduct themselves in a responsible, efficient, ethical, and legal manner. Unauthorized or inappropriate use of the Ed-Tech, including any violation of these guidelines, may result in cancellation of the privilege, disciplinary action consistent with the Student Code of Conduct, and/or civil or criminal liability. Prior to accessing the Education Technology students and parents of minor students must sign the Student Education Technology Acceptable Use and Safety Agreement 7540.03F1. Parents are encouraged to discuss their values with their children and encourage students to make decisions regarding their use of the Ed-Tech that is in accord with their personal and family values, in addition to the Board's standards. Students must complete a mandatory training session/program before being permitted to access the Education Technology and/or being given access to a school e-mail address.

Smooth operation of the Board's Education Technology relies upon users adhering to the following guidelines. The guidelines outlined below are not exhaustive, but are provided so that users are aware of their general responsibilities.

A. Students are responsible for their behavior and communication using the Ed-Tech. All use of the Education Technology must be consistent with the educational mission and goals of the District.

B. Students may only access and use the Education Technology by using their assigned account

and may only send school-related electronic communications using their District-assigned email addresses. Use of another person's account/email address/password is prohibited. Students may not allow other users to utilize their account/email address/password. Students may not go beyond their authorized access. Students are responsible for taking steps to prevent unauthorized access to their accounts by logging off or "locking" their computers/laptops/tablets/personal communication devices when leaving them unattended.

- C. Students may not intentionally seek information on, obtain copies of, or modify files, data or passwords belonging to other users, or misrepresent other users on the District's Network. Students may not intentionally disable any security features of the Ed-Tech.
- D. Students may not use the Education Technology to engage in "hacking," "phishing," or other illegal activities (e.g. software pirating, uploading viruses; intellectual property violations; engaging in slander, libel, or harassment; threatening the life or safety of another; stalking; transmission of obscene materials or child pornography, including sexting; fraud; sale of illegal substances and goods).
 - 1. Slander and libel are terms defined specifically in law. Generally, slander is "oral communication of false statements injurious to a person's reputation," and libel is "a false publication in writing, printing, or typewriting or in signs or pictures that maliciously damages a person's reputation or the act or an instance of presenting such a statement to the public." (The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language. Third Edition is licensed from Houghton Mifflin Company. Copyright © 1992 by Houghton Mifflin Company. All rights reserved.) Students shall not knowingly or recklessly post false or defamatory information about a person or organization. Students are reminded that material distributed over the Internet is "public" to a degree no other school publication or utterance is. As such, any remark may be seen by literally millions of people and harmful and false statements will be viewed in that light.
 - 2. Students shall not use the Education Technology to transmit material that is threatening, obscene, disruptive, or sexually explicit or that can be construed as harassment or disparagement of others based upon their race, national origin, sex, sexual orientation or transgender identity, age, disability, religion, or political beliefs. Sending, sharing, viewing or possessing pictures, text messages, e-mails or other materials of a sexual nature (i.e., sexting) in electronic or any other form, including the contents of a personal communication device or other electronic equipment is grounds for discipline. Such actions will be reported to local law enforcement and child services as required by law.
- E. Transmission of any material in violation of any State or Federal law or regulation, or Board policy is prohibited.
- F. Any use of the Ed-Tech for commercial purposes (e.g., purchasing or offering for sale personal products or services by students), advertising, or political lobbying is prohibited.
- G. Use of the Education Technology to engage in cyberbullying is prohibited. "Cyberbullying" is defined as the use of information and communication technologies (such as e-mail, cell phone and pager text messages, instant messaging (IM), defamatory personal websites, and defamatory online personal polling websites,) to support deliberate, repeated, and hostile behavior by an individual or group that is intended to harm others." [Bill Belsey (<http://www.cyberbullying.ca>)]

Cyberbullying includes, but is not limited to the following:

- 1. posting slurs or rumors or other disparaging remarks about a student on a website or on weblog;
- 2. sending e-mail or instant messages that are mean or threatening, or so numerous as to drive up the victim's cell phone bill;

Policies and Procedures

3. using a camera phone to take and send embarrassing and/or sexually explicit photographs/recordings of students;
4. posting misleading or fake photographs of students on websites.

H. Students are expected to abide by the following generally-accepted rules of online etiquette:

1. Be polite, courteous, and respectful in your messages to others. Use language appropriate to school situations in any communications made through the Education Technology. Do not use obscene, profane, lewd, vulgar, rude, inflammatory, sexually explicit, defamatory, threatening, abusive or disrespectful language in communications through the Ed-Tech (including, but not limited to, public messages, private messages, and material posted on web pages).
2. Do not engage in personal attacks, including prejudicial or discriminatory attacks.
3. Do not harass another person. Harassment is persistently acting in a manner that distresses or annoys another person. If a student is told by a person to stop sending him/her messages, the student must stop.
4. Do not post information that, if acted upon, could cause damage or a danger of disruption.
5. Never reveal names, addresses, phone numbers, or passwords of yourself or other students, family members, teachers, administrators, or other staff members while communicating on the Internet. This prohibition includes, but is not limited to, disclosing personal identification information on commercial websites.
6. Do not transmit pictures or other information that could be used to establish your identity without prior approval of a teacher.
7. Never agree to get together with someone you “meet” on-line without parent approval and participation.
8. Check e-mail frequently, and delete e-mail promptly to avoid excessive use of the electronic mail space.
9. Students should promptly disclose to their teacher or other school administrator any message they receive that is inappropriate or makes them feel uncomfortable, especially any e-mail that contains sexually explicit content (e.g. pornography). Students should not delete such messages until expressly instructed to do so by law enforcement or the building principal.

I. Use of the Education Technology to access, process, distribute, display or print child pornography and other material that is obscene, objectionable, inappropriate and/or harmful to minors is prohibited. As such, the following material is prohibited: material that appeals to a prurient interest in nudity, sex, and excretion; material that depicts, describes or represents in a patently offensive way with respect to what is suitable for minors an actual or simulated sexual act or sexual contact, actual or simulated normal or perverted sexual acts, or a lewd exhibition of the genitals; and material that lacks serious literary, artistic, political or scientific value as to minors. If a student inadvertently accesses material that is prohibited by this paragraph, s/he should immediately disclose the inadvertent access to the teacher or building principal. This will protect the user against an allegation that s/he intentionally violated this provision.

J. Malicious use of the Education Technology to develop programs that harass other users or infiltrate a computer/laptop/tablet or computer system and/or damage the software components of a computer or computing system is prohibited. Students may not engage in vandalism or use the Ed-Tech in such a way that would disrupt its use by others. Vandalism is defined as any malicious or intentional attempt to harm, steal or destroy data of another user, school networks, or technology hardware. This includes but is not limited to uploading or creation of computer viruses, installing unapproved software, changing equipment configurations, deliberately destroying or stealing hardware and its components,

or seeking to circumvent or bypass Network security and/or the Board's technology protection measures. Students also must avoid intentionally wasting limited resources. Students must immediately notify the teacher, building principal, or Technology Services if they identify a possible security problem. Students should not go looking for security problems, because this may be construed as an unlawful attempt to gain access.

- K. All communications and information accessible via the Internet should be assumed to be private property (i.e. copyrighted and/or trademarked). All copyright issues regarding software, information, and attributions/acknowledgement of authorship must be respected. Rules against plagiarism will be enforced.
- L. Downloading of information onto school-owned equipment or contracted online educational services is prohibited, without prior approval from the Executive Director of Data and Accountability. If a student transfers files from information services and electronic bulletin board services, the student must check the file with a virus-detection program before opening the file for use. Only public domain software may be downloaded. If a student transfers a file or installs a software program that infects the District's Ed-Tech with a virus and causes damage, the student will be liable for any and all repair costs to make the Education Technology once again fully operational.
- M. Students must secure prior approval from a teacher or the Principal before joining a Listserv (electronic mailing lists), and should not post personal messages on bulletin boards or Listservs.
- N. Students are prohibited from accessing or participating in online "chat rooms" or other forms of direct electronic communication (e.g., instant messaging), without prior approval from a teacher or an administrator with the exception of email. All such authorized communications must comply with these guidelines. Students may only use their school assigned accounts/email addresses when accessing, using or participating in real-time electronic communications for education purposes.
- O. Privacy in communication over the Internet and through the District's Education Technology is not guaranteed. In order to verify compliance with these guidelines, the Board reserves the right to access, monitor, review, and inspect any directories, files and/or messages residing on or sent using its Ed-Tech. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities will be reported to the appropriate authorities.
The following notice will be included as part of the computer log-on screen:
"The Board's Education Technology (including, computers, laptops, tablets, personal communication devices, network, and Internet connection and online educational services) is to be used for educational and professional purposes. Users are reminded that all use of the Education Technology, including Internet use, is monitored by the District and individual users have no expectation of privacy."
- P. Use of the Internet and any information procured from the Internet is at the student's own risk. The Board makes no warranties of any kind, either express or implied, that the functions or the services provided by or through the Ed-Tech will be error-free or without defect. The Board is not responsible for any damage a user may suffer, including, but not limited to: loss of data, service interruptions, or exposure to inappropriate material or people. The Board is not responsible for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through the Internet. Information (including text, graphics, audio, video, etc.) from Internet sources used in student papers, reports, and projects must be cited the same as references to printed materials. The Board will not be responsible for financial obligations arising through the unauthorized use of the Ed-Tech. Students or parents of students will indemnify and hold the Board harmless from any losses sustained as the result of misuse of the Ed-Tech by the student.

Policies and Procedures

- Q. Disclosure, use and/or dissemination of personally identifiable information of minors via the Internet is prohibited, except as expressly authorized by the minor student's parent guardian on the "Student Education Technology Acceptable Use and Safety Agreement Form."
- R. Proprietary rights in the design of websites hosted on Board-owned or leased servers remains at all times with the Board.
- S. Students are prohibited from downloading and/or installing file-sharing software or programs on the Ed-Tech.
- T. Students may not establish or access web-based e-mail accounts on commercial services through the Ed-Tech (e.g., Gmail, Yahoo mail, etc.).
- U. Since there is no central authority on the Internet, each site is responsible for its own users. Complaints received from other sites regarding any of the District's users will be fully investigated and disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate.
- V. Preservation of Resources and Priorities of Use: Computer resources are limited. Because space on servers and bandwidth across the lines which connect the District's Ed-Tech (both internally and externally) are limited, neither programs nor information may be stored on the system without the permission of the Executive Director of Data and Accountability. Each student is permitted reasonable space to store e-mail, web, and personal files. The Board reserves the right to require the purging of files in order to regain space. Students who require access to the Education Technology for class- or instruction-related activities have priority over other users. Students not using the Education Technology for class related activities may be "bumped" by any student requiring access for class- or instruction related purpose.

Game playing is not permitted unless under the supervision of a teacher.

P.L. 106-554, Children's Internet Protection Act of 2000
47 U.S.C. 254(h), (1), Communications Act of 1934, as amended (2003)
20 U.S.C. 6801 et seq., Part F, Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended (2003)
18 U.S.C. 1460
18 U.S.C. 2246
18 U.S.C. 2256
20 U.S.C. 6777, 9134 (2003)
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"NOTICE AND CONSENT FOR MONITORING"

I understand that my use of the district's network and/or this computer, including my internet activity, is for school use only. I understand that I have no expectation of privacy and fully consent to the monitoring of my activities by the District. I have read and fully understand that I am bound by Board Policy 7540.03 and AG 7540.03 that I can be disciplined and/or criminally prosecuted for violating the district's Student Education

Technology Use and Safety Agreement

"Unauthorized or improper use of the District's Education Technology is strictly prohibited. Use of the District's Education Technology, including its computers, laptops, tablets, personal communication devices, network and Internet connection and online educational services must comply with the District's Education Technology Acceptable Use and Safety Policy/Agreement. This Education Technology is provided only for communication, processing, and storage of school/education-related information and/or for authorized School District use. The Education Technology is subject to monitoring for all lawful purposes (e.g., to ensure its proper functioning

and management, to protect against improper or unauthorized use or access, and to verify the presence or performance of applicable security features or procedures and operational security) and individual users have no expectation of privacy.

Monitoring includes active attacks by authorized employees and/or agents of the School District to test or verify the security of the system. During monitoring, information may be examined, recorded, copied, and/or used for authorized purposes. All information, including personal information, placed on or sent over the system may be monitored. Such monitoring may result in the acquisition, recording, and/or analysis of all data communicated, transmitted, processed, or stored in this system by a user. Unauthorized use may subject you to disciplinary action and/or criminal prosecution. Evidence of unauthorized or improper use collected during monitoring may be used for administrative, criminal or other adverse action. Use of this computer system, authorized or unauthorized, constitutes consent to monitoring for these purposes.”

Student Request Procedure to have Internet Site Unblocked

Please Note: this procedure is subject to change during a health crisis. During COVID-19 Pandemic, our visitors procedure will be adjusted and available prior to the start of school in line with guidance from the Health Department.

In the event that any student is unable to access a website that has been “blocked” by the District’s safety blocking program, he or she may send an e-mail (along with the specific website address) to Attorney@akron.k12.oh.us and request that the website be “unblocked.” A student may request a website to be unblocked anonymously.

School Building Visitors’ Procedure

Students may not bring visitors to school without prior written permission from the Principal.

The Superintendent or principal has the authority to prohibit the entry of any person onto district property, or to remove any person when there is reason to believe the presence of such person would be detrimental to the normal educational process of the school. If an individual refuses to leave the school grounds or creates a disturbance, the principal is authorized to request from the local law enforcement agency assistance required to remove the individual.

Administration Building Visitors’ Procedure

If a person wishes to confer with a member of the staff, he/she shall call for an appointment prior to coming to the Administration Office in order to schedule a mutually convenient meeting time.

Please note:

1. The Visitors Entrance is located at Door 1, 10 North Main Street
2. Visitors must sign in and out at the Engagement Center when entering the building.
3. You will be asked who you are to see and the nature of your business.
4. You will then be directed to your appointment.

The Superintendent or principal has the authority to prohibit the entry of any person onto district property, or to remove any person when there is reason to believe the presence of such person would be detrimental to the normal educational process of the school. If an individual refuses to leave the school grounds or creates a disturbance, the principal is authorized to request from the local law enforcement agency assistance required to remove the individual.

General Information

CHILD FIND NOTICE:

COULD YOUR PRESCHOOLER OR SCHOOL AGED CHILD HAVE A DISABILITY OR NEED SUPPORT SERVICES?

Child Find is a continuous process of public awareness activities, screening, and evaluation designed to locate, identify, and refer as early as possible young children with disabilities and their families who are in need of an Early Intervention Program or Pre-School Special Education Services through the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

To receive an Early Intervention Program or Special Education, children must meet eligibility guidelines according to the IDEA. IDEA requires all states to have a "comprehensive Child Find System" to assure that all children who are in need of early intervention or special education services are located, identified, and referred.

If you believe that your pre-school child may have a disability or in need of support services, please contact the Office of Special Education Early Learning Program at 330-761-3296. Additional supports are available through "Help Me Grow" (330) 376-7273 for children ages 0-3 years old who may have a disability or need support services.

Equal Education Opportunity

This District provides an equal educational opportunity for all students.

Any person who believes that s/he has been discriminated against on the basis of his/her race, color, disability, religion, gender, sexual orientation, sexual identity, or national origin while at school or a school activity should immediately contact the school Principal or the District's Civil Rights Compliance Officer, 330-761-2734.

Notification of Sex Offenders

Local County Sheriff's offices are required to notify the Superintendent of schools when a sex offender moves into the Akron Public Schools attendance area. You may obtain further information for each sex offender in Summit County by referring to the Sheriff's website at www.co.summit.oh.us, or by calling the Sheriff's office.

Students with Disabilities

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act (Section 504) prohibit discrimination against persons with a disability in any program receiving Federal financial assistance. This protection applies not just to students, but to all individuals who have access to the District's programs and facilities.

The laws define a person with a disability as anyone who:

- A. Has a mental or physical impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities;
- B. Has a record of such an impairment; or
- C. Is regarded as having such an impairment.

The District has specific responsibilities under these two laws, which include identifying, reviewing and, if the child is determined to be eligible, affording access to appropriate educational accommodation.

Additionally, in accordance with State and Federal mandates, the District seeks out, assesses and appropriately services students with disabilities. Staff members use a comprehensive child study process to systematically screen, assess and, if appropriate, place students in special education and related services. Students are entitled to a free appropriate public education in the "least

restrictive environment.”

A student can access special education and related services through the proper evaluation procedures, Parent involvement in this procedure is important and required by Federal (IDEIA), ADA Section 504 and State law. Contact Robert Kubick, Jr., Ph.D. at 330-761-3151 email: rkubick@apslearns.org, or your student’s principal to inquire about evaluation procedures, programs and services.

Akron Public Schools Parental Notice of Section 504/ADA Procedural Information and Rights

Below is a description of the rights granted by Federal law to individuals with disabilities. You have the right to:

1. Have your child take part in, and receive benefits from, public education programs without discrimination because of his/her disability;
2. Receive written notice of any decision regarding the identification, evaluation or educational placement of your child;
3. Have your child receive a free appropriate public education (FAPE), this includes the right to be educated with students who are not disabled to the maximum extent appropriate and to receive regular or special education, accommodations, related aids and services, etc., that are designed to meet the individual educational needs of students with disabilities as adequately as the needs of non-disabled students are met, except for those fees that are imposed on non-disabled students or their parents. Insurers and similar third parties are not relieved from their obligation to provide for services to a disabled student;
4. Have your child educated in facilities and receive services comparable to those provided students without disabilities;
5. Have evaluation and educational placement decisions made based upon a variety of information sources, and by persons who know your child and are knowledgeable about the evaluation data and placement options (504 Team);
6. Have your child be given an equal opportunity to participate in non-academic and extra-curricular activities offered by the District;
7. Examine all relevant education records, including, but not limited to, those documents related to decisions regarding your child’s identification, evaluation, educational program and placement and to information contained in the record(s) that is accurate, misleading or otherwise in violation of the privacy rights of your child;
8. Periodic re-evaluations (generally every three years) and an evaluation before any significant change in program/service modifications;
9. File a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education’s Office for Civil Rights, Cleveland Office, 600 Superior Av., Suite 750, Cleveland, OH 44114;
10. File a complaint with the District’s Section 504 Coordinator;
11. Be provided your 504/ADA Procedural Information and Rights (1) when evaluations are conducted, (2) when consent for an evaluation is withheld, (3) when eligibility is determined, (4) when a Section 504 Plan is developed, and (5) before there is a significant change in the Plan.

If you have any questions concerning your child’s eligibility under Section 504, or wish to challenge the actions of your child’s Section 504 team in regard to your child’s eligibility, accommodations or provision of a FAPE, please contact Robert Kubick, Jr., Ph.D., Section 504

General Information

Coordinator (see below).

Complaints, including complaints of disability-based harassment/discrimination and Section 504 due process requests, must be put in writing and must identify the specific circumstances or areas of dispute that have given rise to the complaint or request for a hearing, and offer possible solutions to the dispute (BP 2260 & 2260.01). Complaints must be filed with the District Section 504/ADA Compliance Officer. The Board of Education has designated Robert Kubick, Jr., Ph.D. as the District Section 504 Coordinator. Dr. Kubick can be reached at the following address and phone number: Robert Kubick, Jr., Ph.D., 504 Coordinator, Child Study Department, Sylvester Small Administration Building, 10 N. Main Street, Akron, OH 44308. Phone: 330-761-3151.

Nondiscrimination

The Akron Board of Education does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, genetic information, religion, national origin, creed or ancestry, age, gender, military status or disability in employment or in its educational program activities. The following employees have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination:

Kathy McVey, Title IX Coordinator, kmcvey@apslearns.org, phone 330.761.2945 and
Dr. Wanda Lash, Title IX Coordinator, wlash@apslearns.org, phone 330.761.2810.

Please be advised that the District has updated its sexual harassment/discrimination policies under Title IX due to recent regulations issued by the U.S. Department of Education. Information about the policy is available on the district's website at: akronschoools.com; under "Departments"; select "Student and Family Services"; scroll to the bottom of the page for additional details and the ability to complete a Title IX Discrimination Complaint Form.

General Counsel, District Civil Rights Compliance Officer, Phone 330.761.2911.

You can report discrimination and discriminatory harassment to any building, school principal (deputy civil rights coordinators) or, to the individuals listed above. For a copy of the District's nondiscrimination policy and procedures, contact your school District office or view it online on the district's website at: akronschoools.com; under "District"; select "Board of Education"; select "Board Policies" which will redirect you automatically to the Policy Manual in BoardDocs; search active policies by typing the word of choice in the search box.

Positive Behavior Notification**Akron Public Schools®**
Sylvester Small Administration Building

Dear Parent/Legal Guardian:

RE: Parents/Guardians Notification (Ohio Department of Education Policy on Positive Behavior Interventions and Support, and Restraint and Seclusion)

- Implementation of positive behavior intervention and supports. Each school district shall implement positive behavior intervention and supports on a system-wide basis.

“Positive behavior intervention and supports” means:

- A school-wide systematic approach to embed evidence-based practices and data-driven decision making to improve school climate and culture, in order to achieve improved academic and social outcomes and increase learning for all students, and that
- Encompasses a range of systemic and individualized positive strategies to reinforce desired behaviors, diminish reoccurrences of challenging behaviors, and teach appropriate behaviors to students.

The purpose of this policy is to create a statewide policy that applies to all school districts regarding the use of positive behavior intervention and supports and the limited use of restraint and seclusion. The Ohio Department of Education promulgates this policy in accordance with the Governor’s Executive Order 2009-13S, the State of Ohio Policy on Restraint and Seclusion Practices dated May 17, 2010, and in accordance with guidance from the United States Department of Education.

Informing Parents and Guardians Generally (District Policy) - Ref: Board Policy 5630.01

- As a part of the Akron Public Schools pre-established emergency safety intervention procedures that are in place in our schools, any student who poses an imminent/immediate risk of injury to him/herself or others may be physically restrained and/or placed in seclusion by school staff in accordance with State and District policies. As soon as possible after any such incident, the parents or guardian will be informed when any of these actions have occurred.
- Each use of seclusion or restraint shall be reported to the parent immediately and documented in a written report. A copy of the written report shall be made available to the parent or guardian within 24 hours, and the school shall maintain a copy of the report in the student’s file.
- These policies are available with other school board policies to all parents electronically via our website or as a hard copy upon request.

Respectfully,

Special Education Department

AkronSchools.com

General Information

NOTICE TO LEP PARENTS

Free language assistance is available to Akron Public Schools Parents regarding school programs and activities. A parent does not have to be of limited English proficiency in speaking, reading, writing, and comprehending English in order to be considered of limited English proficiency (LEP), but rather it is only necessary that a parent be limited in at least one of these areas in order to be eligible to receive language assistance as needed. No other verification is necessary in order to receive language assistance. Services may be requested for, but not limited to, the following events: parent-teacher conferences, disciplinary hearings, IEP meetings, and 504 meetings. Please be advised that while parents may bring family members and friends to all school activities and meetings, the District shall be responsible for providing any necessary interpreting or translating services. For assistance, please contact the ESL Department at 330-761-3114.

اعلام للآهالي الذين لغتهم الإنجليزية محدودة (Notice to LEP Parents- Arabic)

توفر مساعدة مجانية باللغة الإنكليزية لأهالي طلاب مدارس أكرون العامة والذين لغتهم الإنجليزية محدودة فيما يخص البرامج والأنشطة المدرسية. ليس من الضروري أن تكون المحدودية في القراءة والكتابة والتحدث وفهم اللغة الإنجليزية وإنما يكفي أن تكون المحدودية في واحد من هذه المجالات ليعتبروا مؤهلين للحصول على هذه المساعدة عندما يحتاجونها، ولا يطلب منكم تقديم أي إثبات. يمكن طلب هذه المساعدة في الحالات التالية دون أن تكون محصورة بها كاجتماع الأهالي والمدرسين، جلسات الاستماع التأديبية، اجتماعات برامج التعليم الفردية IEP واجتماعات 504. ونعلمكم بأنه رغم أنه بإمكانكم إحضار أحد أفراد العائلة أو الأصدقاء إلى جميع نشاطات واجتماعات المدرسة فإنه من مسؤولية المنطقة التعليمية تأمين الترجمة في حال الحاجة. لطلب المساعدة الرجاء الاتصال بدائرة ESL على الرقم 330.761.3114

اطلاع رسائی به والدین LEP (Notice to LEP Parents- Farsi)

کمک کننده های رایگان زبان برای والدین مکاتب دولتی اکرون در مورد برنامه ها و فعالیت های مکتب در دسترس میباشد. برای اینکه والدین مهارت های LEP را در نظر بگیرند مجبور نیستند که صحبت کردن به زبان انگلیسی، خواندن، نوشتن و درک آنرا بدانند، اما حد اقل یکی از موارد ذکر شده را والدین برای بدست آوردن کمک زبان در صورت لازم باید بدانند. هیچ تایید دیگری برای دریافت کمک زبان لازم نیست، اما در هنگام مواقع ذیل کمک کننده زبان نمیشاند: جلسه والدین، جلسه استادان، جلسات انضباطی، جلسات LEP و جلسات 504. لطفاً از این باخبر باشید که فامیل ها میتوانند اعضای فامیل ویا دوستان خود را به برنامه ها و جلسات بیاورند، و مکتب مسئول ارائه ترجمان میباشد. برای کمک لطفاً با بخش ESL در شماره ۳۳۰۷۶۱۳۱۱۴ تماس بگیرید.

अग्रजी भषा म सिमित दक्षत भएक अभिभ वकहरुल ई सूचन (Notice to LEP Parents- Nepali)

बिद्यालयका बिभिन्न कार्यक्रम र गतिविधिहरुको सन्दर्भमा एक्रोन सार्वजनिक स्कूलले अभिभावकहरुका लागि निशुल्क अंग्रेजी भाषा सहायता उपलब्ध गराउँदछ। अभिभावकहरुले अंग्रेजी भाषा बोल्ने, पढ्ने, लेख्ने, वा बुझ्न सक्नु हुन्न भने यो कार्यक्रमको लागि योग्य हुनु हुनेछ। तपाईंले निम्न उल्लेखित वा अन्य कुराहरुको लागि बिद्यालयमा यी सेवाहरु अनुरोध गर्न सक्नुहुनेछ। जस्तै: अभिभावक-शिक्षक सम्मेलन, शास्त्रीय सुनवाई, IEP भेला, ५०४ सभाहरु आदि। कृपया तपईहरुले सबै बिद्यालय गतिविधिहरु र बैठकहरुमा परिवारको सदस्य र साथीहरु ल्याउन सक्नु हुनेछ। जिल्लाले कुनै पनि आवश्यक व्याख्या प्रदान वा सेवाहरु अनुवादका लागि जिम्मेवार हुनेछ। सहायताकोलागि ESL विभागको फोन नं. ३३०-७६१-३११४ मा सम्पर्क गर्नुहोला।

General Information

د لیپ کورنیو ته خبر

(Notice to LEP Parents-Pushto/Pashto)

د اکرون د دولتي بنوونځیو هغه والدین چې په انګلیسي ژبه کې مشکل ولري کولای شي په وړیا ټول د بنوونځیو د فعالیتونو او پروګرامونو په اړه معلومات په خپله ژبه تر لاسه کړي. د ترجمې د خدماتو د ترلاسه کولو لپاره، حتمي نه ده چې والدین دي په انګلیسي ژبه هیڅ نه پوهېږي. که د لیکلو، لوستلو، خبرو کولو یا پوهېدو څخه په هره یوه برخه کې هم مشکل ولری کولای شي دا خدمات تر لاسه کړي. د ژبې او ترجمې د خدماتو د تر لاسه کولو لپاره نور هېڅ اسنادو او تصدیق ته اړتیا نشته. د ژبې او ترجمې خدمات د لاندې پروګرامونو په شمول د نورو ډېر فعالیتونو او پروګرامونو لپاره غوښتل کېدای شي. د بېلګې په ډول: د بنوونکو او والدینو تر منځ لیندنه، غوښتنه، ای اې پی لیندنه، او ۵۰۴ غوښتنه. والدین کولای شي د نورو غړو د ملګري د بنوونځیو ټولو غوښتنو ته له ځان سره راوړي خو د ژبې او ترجمې خدمات د اکرون د بنوونځیو لخوا ورکول کېږي. د ټولو معلوماتو او مرستې غوښتل لپاره زموږ د ترجمې له څانګې سره اړیکه ونیسئ. چې شمېره یې ۳۳۰۷۶۱۳۱۱۴ ده.

LEP မိဘများသို့ အသိပေးချက်
(Notice to LEP Parents-Burmese)

ကျောင်းအစီအစဉ် များ၊ ကျောင်းလှုပ်ရှားမှုများနှင့်ပတ်သက်၍ Akron ပြည်သူ့အစိုးရကျောင်းများမှ မိဘများအတွက် အမဲဘာသာစကားအက္ခရာအညွှန်း ရရှိနိုင်ပါသည်။ မိဘတစ်ဦးသည် အင်္ဂလိပ်ကျွမ်းကျင်မှုအကန့်အသတ်ရှိသည့်ဟုသတ်မှတ်ခံရရန် အင်္ဂလိပ်စကားအပြော၊ အဖတ်၊ အရေး၊ နယ်ပယ်အားလုံးတွင်အကန့်အသတ်ရှိရန် မလိုအပ်ပါ။

အထက်အကျဉ်းချုပ် အတိုင်း အချင်းပြည့်မီစရိတ်ခွင့်အတွက် မိဘတစ်ဦးသည် အနည်းဆုံး အင်္ဂလိပ်စကားအပြော၊ အဖတ်၊ အရေး၊ နယ်ပယ်များထဲမှ တစ်ခုခုတို့တွင် အကန့်အသတ်ရှိရန်သာ လိုအပ်ပါသည်။ ဘာသာစကားအက္ခရာအညွှန်းရယူရန် အခြားအတည်ပြုချက်တစ်ခုစီလိုအပ်ပါသည်။ အောက်ပါအီအေအိုင်အက္ခရာအတွက် အကန့်အသတ်မရှိ ဘာသာစကားဝန်ဆောင်မှုများရရှိနိုင်ပါသည်။ မိဘဆရာအစည်း အဝေး၊ စည်းကမ်းကြားနာပွဲများ၊ IEP အစည်းအဝေးများနှင့် အစည်းအဝေးများ-

မိဘများသည် ကျောင်းလှုပ်ရှားမှုများနှင့် အစည်းအဝေးများအားလုံးသို့ မိသားစုဝင်များနှင့် သူငယ်ချင်းများကို ခေါ်ဆောင်လာနိုင်သော်လည်း လိုအပ်သောစကားပြန်၊ ဘာသာပြန် ဝန်ဆောင်မှုများကို ပေးရန် ခန့်ခွင့်မှ တာဝန်ယူဆောင်ရွက်ပေးရမည်။ အက္ခရာအညွှန်းရရှိရန်အတွက်၊ ကျေးဇူးပြု၍ ESL ဌာနသို့ 330-761-3114 သို့ ဆက်သွယ်ပါ။

Notes:

[illegible]

Notes:

Notes:

[illegible]

Notes:

School List and Phone Numbers

High Schools

	Phone	Fax
Akron Alternative Academy	330.761.1609	330.761.3103
Akron Early College	330.972.6450	330.972.5305
Buchtel CLC 9-12	330.761.7945	330.761.7947
East CLC 9-12	330.761.7920	330.784.1859
Ellet CLC	330.761.2770	330.794.4245
Firestone CLC	330.761.3270	330.836.2001
Garfield CLC	330.761.2895	330.773.6046
North	330.761.1761	330.761.2661
STEM	330.761.7965	330.761.7966

Middle Schools

	Phone	Fax
Bridges	330.761.7979	330.761.1344
Buchtel CLC 6-8	330.761.7960	330.761.7961
East CLC 7-8	330.761.7928	330.784.2015
Hyre CLC	330.761.7930	330.761.7932
Innes CLC	330.761.7900	330.848.5212
Jennings CLC	330.761.2002	330.761.2611
Litchfield CLC	330.761.2775	330.836.2293
Miller South	330.761.2610	330.761.1764
National Inventors Hall of Fame® School Center for STEM Learning	330.761.3195	330.761.5576

Elementary Schools

	Phone	Fax
Helen E. Arnold CLC	330.761.2828	330.376.7765
Barber CLC	330.761.7911	330.784.0451
Betty Jane CLC	330.761.2602	330.794.6970
Bridges	330.761.7979	330.761.1344
Case CLC	330.761.1670	330.873.3360
Crouse CLC	330.761.1625	330.761.1371
Findley CLC	330.761.7909	330.761.1327
Firestone Park	330.761.1517	330.773.1025
Forest Hill CLC	330.761.1645	330.761.3175
Glover CLC	330.761.7964	330.773.1065
Harris-Jackson CLC-Main Campus	330.761.1315	330.916.9090
Harris-Jackson CLC-at Essex	330.761.2884	330.873.3300
Hatton CLC	330.761.7980	330.794.4208
David Hill CLC	330.761.1630	330.773.7308
I Promise School	330.761.1516	330.761.3197
King CLC	330.761.7962	330.873.3364
Leggett CLC	330.761.1735	330.761.1351
Mason CLC	330.761.2711	330.761.3309
McEbright CLC	330.761.7940	330.761.7942
Miller South	330.761.2610	330.761.1764

School List and Phone Numbers

Elementary Schools

Elementary Schools	Phone	Fax
Pfeiffer	330.761.1510	330.848.5249
Portage Path CLC	330.761.2795	330.761.1383
Resnik CLC	330.761.1633	330.873.3325
Rimer CLC	330.761.7905	330.848.3614
Ritzman CLC	330.761.7903	330.794.4106
Robinson CLC	330.761.3170	330.761.5566
Sam Salem CLC	330.761.3222	330.848.5213
Schumacher CLC	330.761.7934	330.761.7936
Seiberling CLC	330.761.7956	330.794.4103
Voris CLC	330.761.2773	330.773.8073
Windemere CLC	330.761.7937	330.761.7939

Auxiliary Schools/Programs Alphabetically

Auxiliary Schools/Programs Alphabetically	Phone	Fax
APS Online	330.761.3115	330.761.3247
College & Career Classroom	330.761.7969	
Transition to Work Program	330.761.7969	
Early Learning Program at Essex	330.761.3226	330.873.3300
Early Learning Program at North	330.761.3296	330.873.3392
Early Learning Program at Stewart	330.761.3296	330.873.3392
Early Learning Program at Summit Lake	330.761.3296	330.873.3392
Juvenile Detention Center	330.643.2960	
Project GRAD Akron	330.761.3113	330.761.3246
SOAR	330.761.7971	330.761.3244

Akron Council of PTA 2023-24

Council email:	akroncouncilpta@gmail.com
Website Address:	akroncouncilofptas.org
Facebook:	Akron Council of PTA

