

2025 – 2026 Parent Handbook and Reference Guide









Administrative Offices



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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 2025. 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.

2025-26 Akron Public Schools Calendar

August 18-20, 2025	Convocation/First Teacher Day/Teacher meetings/Classroom preparations
August 21, 2025	First Day for Students – Grades 1-12, including I Promise School*
August 21-22, 2025	Kindergarten Phase-In
August 25, 2025	First Day for Students – Grades Pre-K, Kindergarten
September 1, 2025	Labor Day (schools and offices closed)
September 26, 2025	All Staff Professional Development (no school for students)
October 10, 2025	Parent-Teacher Conferences (no school for students)
November 4, 2025	Election Day; All Staff Professional Development (no school for students)
November 26-28, 2025	Thanksgiving Break (schools closed; offices closed Nov. 27-28)
December 22, 2025-	
January 2, 2026	Winter Break (schools closed; offices closed on Dec. 24-25, Dec. 31, & Jan.1)
January 16, 2026	Records Day (no school for students)
January 19, 2026	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (schools and offices closed)
January 20, 2026	All Staff Professional Development (no school for students)
February 13, 2026	Parent-Teacher Conferences (no school for students)
February 16, 2026	Presidents' Day (schools and offices closed)
March 27, 2026	All Staff Professional Development (no school for students)
March 30-April 3, 2026	Spring Break; including Good Friday-4/3 (no school for students;
	office closed April 3)
May 25, 2026	Memorial Day (schools and offices closed)
May 28, 2026	Final Day for Students
May 29, 2026	Final Day for Teachers

^{*}NOTE: The I Promise School will be following the standard APS school calendar.

The following schools will have alternate calendars:

Akron Early College High School (AECHS):

August 13, 2025 First Day for AECHS Students Grades 9
August 14, 2025 First Day for AECHS Students Grades 10-11
August 15, 2025 First Day for AECHS Students Grade 12
May 7, 2026 Last Day for AECHS Grades 12
May 15, 2026 Last Day for AECHS Grades 9-11

National Inventors Hall of Fame (NIHF) STEM High School at Robinson CLC:

August 13, 2025 First Day for NIHF STEM Students Grades 9
August 14, 2025 First Day for NIHF STEM Students Grades 10-11
August 15, 2025 First Day for NIHF STEM Students Grade 12
May 13, 2026 Last Day for NIHF STEM Grades 12
May 15, 2026 Last Day for NIHF STEM Grades 9-11

Inclement Weather/Calamity Days Declaration Alternative Make-Up Plan for the 2025-2026 School Year

Should the planned calendar be interrupted by severe weather events or school closure due to lack of power, water, or other declared public emergency, the Board of Education puts into place alternative plans for the students to make up for loss of educational instruction/or loss of required instructional time.

Alternate School Calendar for the 2025-2026 School Year

Should additional hours of instruction be required, an Alternate School Calendar is also put into place. For the 2025-2026 school year, the proposed make-up days are as follows:

Calamity Days	Make-up days
1st - 6th Days	Friday, May 29, 2026 through June 5, 2026
7th - 10th Days	Week of June 15, 2026 (except June 19, 2026/Board approved holiday)
11th - 15th Days	Week of March 30, 2026
17th - 21st Days	Week of June 22, 2026

Board of Education, Members and Meeting Dates

Akron Board of Education

Bruce Alexander Diana C. Autry, BSN, RN Summer L. Hall Reverend Gregory Harrison Carla Jackson, M.Ed. Rene T. Molenaur, Ph.D.
Barbara A. Sykes
Mary B. Outley, Superintendent
Stephen L. Thompson, Ed.D., CFO/Treasurer

Akron Board of Education Meetings - 2025-26

Meetings are at 5:30 pm unless otherwise specified.

Regular Board meetings are scheduled on the second and fourth Mondays, except as otherwise indicated.

Board meetings are live-streamed in unedited form by Akron Public Schools. Our signal is communicated to YouTube which televises our meetings as they happen. These meetings are not edited. Due to the nature of electronic communications, there may occasionally be a technical matter that could interrupt the audio and/or visual images. These meetings are live-streamed to enhance our communication with our community.

Regular Board Meeting Dates 2025	Proposed Regular Board Meeting Dates 2	2026
July 14	January 12 (Organizational Meeting)	July 13
July 28	January 26	July 27
August 11	February 09	August 10
August 25	February 23	August 24
September 08	March 09	September 14
September 22	March 23	September 28
October 06*	April 13	October 12
October 20*	April 27	October 26
November 03**	May 11	November 09
November 17**	May 26* (Tuesday)	November23
December 01***	June 08	December 07**
December 15***	June 22	December 21**

For 2025:

For 2026:

^{*}First and third Monday in October due to conflict with the Capital Conference in November.

^{**}First and third Monday in November due to conflict with the Capital Conference.

^{***} First and third Monday in December due to the holiday.

^{*} Tuesday in May due to Memorial Day.

^{**} First and third Monday in December due to the holiday.

Academic Resource Guide/Important Dates/State Testing

Guidance for Schools - Student Participation in Testing

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, the school, and the district. To help parents make informed decisions, schools should provide in writing the possible consequences of opting out, which are included in this guidance, as well as information about other district consequences. Schools are not required to — but may want to — request that a parent place in writing a decision to withdraw his or her student, so there is a record of why the student was not tested.

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. Ultimately, state tests give schools and districts information that helps them improve how students are taught, coach teachers, and provide additional support in their efforts to help students succeed.

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, the school, and the district.

1. Third Grade Reading Guarantee

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.

2. High School Graduation Requirements

These options include:

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

3. English learners

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

Required State Assessments

Early Learning Assessment - Preschool

Ohio's Early Learning Assessment is a tool for teachers of preschool-age children to learn about the current level of each child's skills, knowledge, and behaviors in the areas of social

Academic Resource Guide/Important Dates/State Testing

foundations, language and literacy, mathematics, science, social studies, physical well-being, motor development, and fine arts. Ohio's Early Learning Assessment is a tool teachers use with preschool-age children. Teachers use the tool to determine the current level of each child's skills, knowledge, and behaviors.

The Early Learning Assessment is an ongoing formative assessment that gives teachers information to support the continuous growth of preschool-age children.

KRA - Kindergarten

At the beginning of each school year, children in public and community school kindergarten programs are assessed using Ohio's Kindergarten Readiness Assessment. This assessment includes ways for teachers to measure a child's readiness for engaging with instruction aligned to the kindergarten standards.

CogAT - Grades 2 and 4

The test is used to identify gifted students testing at or above the 95th percentile nationally. This test may qualify students for gifted services.

Ohio State Tests (OST) - Beginning in Grade 3 through High School

State achievement tests tell us how well students are growing in the knowledge and skills outlined in Ohio's Learning Standards. These tests help guide and strengthen future teaching so students are prepared for long-term success in school, college, careers, and life.

- Fall: Grade 3: English Language Arts; testing window is October 2025 on selected dates.
- Spring: Grades 3 through High School: English Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies; testing window is April of 2026 on selected dates.

Alternate Assessment for Students with the Most Significant Cognitive Disabilities (AASCD)

Ohio's Alternate for Students with the Most Significant Cognitive Disabilities (AASCD) is a test designed to allow students with the most significant cognitive disabilities to demonstrate their knowledge and skills in an appropriately rigorous assessment. It is the federally required statewide assessment for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities who are unable to participate in the state's general assessment, even with allowable accommodations.

OELPA - English Learners

Ohio is a member of the English Language Proficiency Assessment for the 21st Century (ELPA21) consortium, which developed the English language proficiency assessment based on the English Language Proficiency Standards. It is the state summative test that assesses an English learner's progress to English proficiency and readiness to exit from the English language development program. The OELPA is aligned to Ohio's English Language Proficiency Standards and meets the state and federal requirements for an annual assessment of English proficiency measuring listening, speaking, reading and writing.

Academic Resource Guide/Important Dates/State Testing

ACT - Grade 11

State law requires districts and community schools to administer the state-funded ACT or SAT to all grade 11 students in the spring of the school year. Each year, districts and schools will select the test to administer to their juniors. The ACT is a standardized test used for college admissions in the United States. The ACT test covers four academic skill areas: English, mathematics, reading, and scientific reasoning.

District Assessments

English Language Arts and Math Diagnostics

Akron Public Schools utilizes two diagnostic assessments: i-Ready at the elementary and middle school levels. Each of these adaptive assessments is administered three times a year (Fall, Winter, Spring). The assessments are adaptive and adjust their questions to suit the needs of each individual student. For example, if a student answers a series of questions correctly, the assessment will adjust to deliver slightly harder questions. The same is true for a student who misses a series of questions. The assessments will adjust to slightly easier questions. The goal of these assessments is to determine each student's needs and create a personalized learning path. Teachers use this information to monitor students' progress throughout the year.

Quarterly Assessments

Quarterly assessments are common assessments that are administered to students throughout the school year to monitor growth and achievement according to specific learning goals and academic standards. Typically, these assessments cover some or all of the learning standards that students are required to learn during the school year. Unlike formative assessments, students are frequently assigned grades based on interim assessment outcomes. The emphasis shifts away from the collaborative student-educator partnership and toward a more traditional measurement of learning and grading.

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.
- Transportation Services cannot provide services to alternative locations (daycare). Transportation is for only eligible students to/from the address of school enrollment.
- 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 <u>all</u> 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.
- 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: Student and Family Services 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 330.761.2817

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).

ivietro 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		

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, please contact the school office to provide two proofs of residence and an updated student registration form. If you move outside of the district and want to remain at the current school, please contact the school office and provide two proofs of residence. Transportation will be your responsibility.

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.
- 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 a sport, provided they attend study tables for a minimum of 90 minutes per week.
- 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 initially to meet the minimum grade point average for athletic eligibility and will need a passing grade in a minimum of four classes from the final grading period of eighth grade. However, after the first marking period of their ninth-grade year, all ninth-graders will be required to meet the aforementioned grade point average minimum and earn a minimum of five credits.

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 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 Fl 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 be 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 OHSAA-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 OHSAA 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 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, he/she 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 he/she 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, he/she 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 he/she 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 the following to be posted in all locker rooms in buildings that include students in any grade higher than the sixth grade:

"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:

- Prior to enrolling in the sport:
 - 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.
- The District shall assume no liability for any student with a health condition who В. has been authorized to play by the parents and their physician but not by the
- 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.
- Any student practicing for or competing in an interscholastic event who exhibits D. 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:

- Α. criteria for judging these important qualities;
- В. 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 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:

- 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;
- 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;
- 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, non-academic 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

- 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.

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. appointment with a health care provider
- C. illness in the family necessitating the presence of the child
- D. quarantine of the home

- E. death in the family
- F. necessary work at home due to absence or incapacity of parent(s)/guardian(s)
- G. religious expression days, up to three (3) of which may, after approval by the principal in accordance with this policy, permit the student to be absent without any academic penalty
- H. out-of-state travel (up to a maximum twenty-four (24) hours 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.
- I. such good cause as may be acceptable to the Superintendent
- J. medically necessary leave for a pregnant student in accordance with Policy 5751
- K. college visitation
- L. absences due to a student's placement in foster care or change in foster care placement or any court proceedings related to their foster care status
- M. absences due to a student being homeless

A medically excused absence occurs any time a student is out of school due to illness or medical visit (physician, dentist, mental health, etc.). A medical excuse for personal illness will be accepted in the form of doctor's note within ten (10) school days of the absence or parent call-in on the day of the absence due to illness or doctor's visit. A student may have up to ten (10) medically excused absences without a doctor's note, but with a phone call from a parent/guardian. Absences beyond this without a doctor's note will be unexcused.

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 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, iPad, 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' valuables.

Yondr Pouch

The Yondr Pouch is a secure bag that is used by cluster 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.

Graduation Requirements

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.

 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	
Financial Literacy	.5	
Health	.5	
Physical Education	.5	
Electives	5.5	
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
 - 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 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

Akron Public Schools is committed to ensuring that all students have equal access to a highquality education regardless of their housing situation. The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act protects the educational rights of children and youth experiencing homelessness.

Under the law, homelessness is broadly defined as lacking a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. This includes students who are doubled-up with others, living in a shelter, car, motel, or campground, or any other space not deemed safe and habitable due to housing loss or economic hardship. It also applies to students living separate from a legal guardian due to instability or emergency.

In Akron Public Schools, Project Rise is the department that identifies and supports the educational rights of students experiencing housing instability by applying the McKinney-Vento Act. Families identified by Project Rise are informed of their rights which guarantee homeless children access to the same educational opportunities as students who are stably housed. This includes the right to remain in their school of origin or immediate enrollment into the school of residency, along with transportation to the school of origin when feasible. Students receive both appropriate educational services and equal access to extracurricular activities. For additional information or assistance regarding these rights, please contact Akron Public School's Project Rise at projectrise@apslearns.org, (330) 761-2969, or Akron Public School Homeless Liaison, Jennifer Montisano, jmontisa@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, and textbooks as well as 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.

Safer Ohio School Tip Line, 844-SaferOH (844.723.3764). This free safety resource is available to all Ohio schools. The tip line is an anonymous reporting system that accepts tips via call, text, webform, and mobile app 24 hours a day. Anyone can report anything that threatens student safety, is suspicious, or endangering you, your friends, or your school.

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.

Accident Insurance

Student accident insurance for the 2025-2026 school year is available for parents/guardians to purchase. Please see information at www.akronschools.com under Business Affairs section for application information.

Head Lice

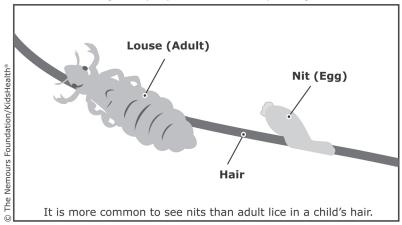
What Are Head Lice?

Head lice are tiny wingless insects. They live among human hairs and feed on blood from the scalp.

Head lice are a common problem, especially for little kids. But teens can get them too. They spread easily from person to person and sometimes are tough to get rid of. Their bites can make the scalp itchy and irritated, and scratching can lead to infection.

Head lice are annoying, but they're not dangerous and they don't spread disease. They're not a sign of poor hygiene - head lice need blood and they don't care whether it's from someone who's clean or dirty.

It's best to treat head lice right away to prevent them from spreading.



What Are the Signs & Symptoms of Head Lice?

Lice are tiny, but you can still see them - though it's not always easy. An adult louse is grayish white or tan and about the size of a small sesame seed. Lice move fast, so you're actually more likely to see their eggs than the lice themselves.

Louse eggs are called nits. Nits look sort of like dandruff, except they don't brush or fall off as easily as dandruff. Lice attach their nits to pieces of hair, close to the scalp. If you think you have lice and see a small, oval blob on a strand of hair, it's probably a nit.

If nits are yellow, tan, or brown, it means the lice haven't hatched yet. If the nits are white or clear, the lice have hatched and just the egg remains. Lice eggs hatch within 1 to 2 weeks after they're laid.

Besides seeing nits or lice on the head, itching - or the feeling of something moving around on the scalp is another clue that you might have lice. Like mosquito bites, the itching is a reaction to the saliva of the insect. Some people with lice also get a rash of small red bumps from scratching.

How Are Head Lice Treated?

The two main ways to treat lice are:

- medicine
- removing by hand

Medicine. If you think you have lice, call your doctor. Your doctor can recommend a medicated shampoo, cream rinse, or lotion to kill the lice. These may be over-the-counter (OTC) or prescription treatments. It all depends on what your doctor thinks will work best for you.

Lice can be hard to get rid of. If you still have lice 2 weeks after you started treatment, let your doctor know. Your doctor may want to try a different medication or repeat treatment in case any nits were left behind and hatched after treatment.

Lice are insects, so the treatments for lice are basically insecticides or pesticides. To avoid getting overexposed, you'll need to follow the directions carefully when it comes to how much to use and how often to use it. Medicated lice treatments usually kill the lice, but it may take a few days for the itching to stop.

Removing by hand. Your doctor may recommend wet combing in addition to (or as an alternative to) chemical treatments. Medicated treatments aren't 100% effective, so removing by hand is also important. To remove lice and nits by hand, use a fine-tooth comb on wet, conditioned hair every 3-4 days for 3 weeks after the last live louse was seen. Go through small sections of hair at a time. Wetting the hair temporarily stops the lice from moving, and the conditioner makes it easier to get a comb through the hair. When possible, it works best to have someone else do the combing and removal.

You may have heard that petroleum jelly, mayonnaise, or olive oil can suffocate head lice, but these treatments may not be effective.

If you choose to get rid of lice without using medicine, you'll need to remove lice and nits carefully each week, for at least 3 weeks in a row. Watch for any live lice and take action if you see them.

Scratching a lot can lead to a scalp infection. Call your doctor as soon as possible if:

- the skin on your scalp is red and tender
- your scalp has crusting and oozing
- you have swollen lymph glands

Your doctor may want to treat an infection with antibiotics.

A few important things to NOT do: Don't use a hairdryer after applying scalp treatments. Some treatments for lice use flammable ingredients and can catch on fire. Don't use pesticide sprays or hire a pest control company to try to get rid of the lice; these can be harmful. Don't use essential oils (such as ylang ylang oil or tea tree oil) to treat lice on the scalp. They can cause allergic skin reactions and aren't approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

Don't ever use highly flammable chemicals such as gasoline or kerosene.

How Can I Prevent Head Lice?

Lice can be tricky to get rid of because nits can remain unhatched on your head or you might pick up lice that are still on bedding or other items. Here's what to do if you've had lice - or someone in your family has:

- Wash bed linens and clothing that anyone with lice has used recently. Use very hot
 water (130° F [54.4° C]), then use the hot cycle of the dryer for at least 20 minutes.
- Take items that can't be washed to the dry cleaner. Or put them in airtight bags for 2 weeks.
- Vacuum carpets and any upholstered furniture, as well as car seats, then throw away the vacuum cleaner bag.
- Soak hair-care items like combs, barrettes, hair ties or bands, headbands, and brushes in hot water or just throw them away.
- Because lice can move easily from person to person in the same house, family members should be checked for lice. Anyone who has them needs treatment.

Here are some ways to avoid getting lice in the first place:

- Try to avoid head-to-head contact, like in gym or during sports.
- Don't share combs, brushes, hats, scarves, bandanas, ribbons, barrettes, hair ties or bands, towels, helmets, or other personal care items with anyone else.
- Don't lie on bedding, pillows, and carpets that someone with lice has used in the
 past couple of days.
- If someone in your family or at school has lice, ask a parent or adult to check your hair and scalp every 3-4 days to be sure you haven't picked up lice.

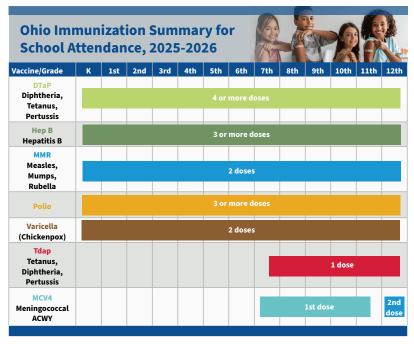
Reviewed by: Michelle P. Tellado, MD

Date Reviewed: Sep 30, 2023

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



Important Notes:

- Vaccine should be administered according to the most recent version of the <u>Recommended Child and Adolescent</u> Immunization <u>Schedule</u> for ages 18 years or younger or the <u>Catch-up immunization schedule</u> for <u>persons aged four</u> months-18 years who start <u>late or who are more than one month behind</u>, as published by the <u>Centers for Disease Control and</u> Prevention's <u>Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices</u>.
- Vaccine doses administered less than or equal to four days before the minimum interval or age are valid (grace period). Doses
 administered greater than or equal to five days earlier than the minimum interval or age are not valid doses and should be
 repeated when 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 and the Ohio Department of Health
 (ODH) Director's Journal Entry regarding school immunization requirements, recommended vaccines, and exemptions to
 immunizations.

Department of

Health

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

Last updated 01/2025.

Ohio School Immunization Requirement Details	
DTaP Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis	Grades K-12 Four or more doses of DTaP or DT vaccine, or any combination. If all four doses were given before the fourth birthday, a fifth dose is required. If the fourth dose was administered at least six months after the third dose, and on or after the fourth birthday, a fifth dose is not required.
	Recommended DTaP or DT minimum intervals for kindergarten students are four weeks between the first and second doses, and the second and third doses; and six months between the third and fourth doses and the fourth and fifth doses.
Hep B Hepatitis B	Grades K-12 Three doses of hepatitis B vaccine. 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.
MMR Measles, Mumps, Rubella	Grades K-12 Two doses of MMR vaccine. 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.
Polio	Grades K-12 Three or more doses of IPV vaccine. The FINAL dose must be administered on or after the fourth birthday with at least six months between the final and previous dose, regardless of the number of previous doses.
	If any combination of IPV and OPV was received, four doses of either vaccine are required. Only trivalent OPV (tOPV) counts toward the U.S. vaccination requirements. Doses of OPV administered before April 1, 2016, should be counted (unless specifically noted as administered during a campaign). Doses of OPV administered on or after April 1, 2016, should not be counted.
Varicella (Chickenpox)	Grades 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.
Tdap Tetanus,	Grades 7-12 One dose of Tdap vaccine must be administered on or after the tenth birthday. Tdap can be given regardless of the interval since the last tetanus or diphtheria-toxoid containing vaccine.
Diphtheria, Pertussis	Children aged seven years or older with an incomplete history of DTaP should be given Tdap as the first dose in the catch-up series. If the series began at age seven to nine years, the fourth dose must be a Tdap given at age 11-12 years. If the third dose of Tdap is given at age 10 years, no additional dose is needed at age 11-12 years.
Meningococcal Meningococcal ACWY	Grades 7-11 One dose of meningococcal (serogroup A, C, W, and Y) vaccine must be administered on or after the 10 th birthday.
	Grade 12 Two doses of meningococcal (serogroup A, C, W, and Y) vaccine. Second dose on or after age 16 years. If the first dose was given on or after the 16 th birthday, only one dose is required.



School Health Services
Health Guidelines for School Attendance

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 are present:

- Fever of 100 degrees or higher. Call your child's healthcare provider for guidance on when to return to school. Student must be fever free without use of fever reducing medications (acetaminophen/ibuprofen).
- Positive Coronavirus/COVID-19.
 Return to school according to current Ohio Department of Health guidance.
- 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.



Sylvester Small Administration Building

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

August 2025

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,

Melissa Frymyer

Director of Special Education

Akron Public Schools

AkronSchools.com



Sylvester Small Administration Building Statewide Physical Education Initiative

August 2025

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:

- 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.
- Encourage your student to exercise outside of PE class—do fitness related exercises, go for walks, or play games.
- 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

Sdam M. Motter

Physical Education

Meals Policy

We are pleased to inform you that Akron Public Schools will be continuing the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) for School Year 2025-26.

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 2025-26 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/ad-3027.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

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

- 2. fax: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442;
- email: program.intake@usda.gov February 15, 2023

Policies and Procedures

Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying

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

Policies and Procedures

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.

Students and/or their parents/guardians may file reports regarding suspected harassment, intimidation, or bullying by accessing the Bullying/Harassment Complaint Form on the district's website.

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.

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.

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's website:
akronschools.com; under "District"; select "Board of Education"; select "Board Policies";
select "5000 Students"; select "po5517.0I - BULLYING AND OTHER FORMS OF AGGRESSIVE
BEHAVIOR".

What is PBIS?

Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) is a tiered 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 to proactively teach and support appropriate school 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, and opportunities to correct behavior.

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

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 is required for 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.

Individuals listed as emergency contacts will be contracted in case of emergency, only if the guardian cannot be reached. These individuals will also be authorized to pick up your child only in cases of emergency where we are unable to reach the guardian. 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.

Safe Routes to School

Akron Public Schools strongly urges all students using bikes, skateboards, or other wheeled sports to and from school to always wear a helmet. Helmets are highly effective in reducing the risk and severity of head injuries. Parents, please make helmet use mandatory for your child's safety.



Sylvester Small Administration Building

August 2025

Dear APS Families,

As we prepare for a new school year, I'm excited to share some important updates about how we're using technology to support your child's learning. These changes are all part of our **Strategic Plan, Blueprint for Excellence**, specifically focusing on **Operational Excellence** to give every student the best possible education.

Chromebooks: Keeping Learning at School (and Ready to Go!)

We want to take time to remind you on how Chromebooks will be used, all designed to make sure devices are ready, charged, and available for learning every school day.

For Students in Grades K-5:

Your child's Chromebook will **stay at school in classroom carts**. This means they'll always be charged and ready to use when the school day begins. We want to make sure these devices are reliably available for daily learning activities in the classroom. Chromebooks for K-5 students won't go home, except in very specific situations that will be outlined in the detailed guidance.

For Students in Grades K-8 (Over Summer):

Starting at the end of this current school year (2024-2025), **Chromebooks for students in grades K-8 will be collected and stay at school for the summer**. This helps us maintain the devices and get them ready for the next school year. We'll only allow them to go home during the summer in special circumstances, which you can find in our guidance.

What Happens in the Fall for Grades 6-8?:

When the new school year starts each fall, Chromebooks for students in **grades 6-8 will be re-assigned** to them at school.

For Students Starting 9th Grade:

If your child is heading into 9th grade, they'll get a **new Chromebook assigned to them directly from their high school** when school starts.

Sincerely,

Stacey D. Hodoh, Ed.D, Executive Director (Interim) Information Technology

AkronSchools.com



Sylvester Small Administration Building

Book Policy Manual **Section** 7000 Property

Title STUDENT TECHNOLOGY ACCEPTABLE USE AND SAFETY

Code po7540.03 Status Active

Adopted October 22, 2001
Last Revised December 18, 2023

7540.03-STUDENT TECHNOLOGY ACCEPTABLE USE AND SAFETY

Technology directly affects the ways in which information is accessed, communicated, and transferred in society. Educators are expected to continually adapt their means and methods of instruction and the way they approach student learning to incorporate the latest technologies. The Board of Education provides Technology Resources (as defined in Bylaw 0100) (collectively, "District Information & Technology Resources") to support the educational and professional needs of its students and staff. With respect to students, District Technology Resources afford them the opportunity to acquire the skills and knowledge to learn effectively and live productively in a digital world. The Board provides students with access to the Internet for educational purposes only and utilizes online educational services/apps to enhance the instruction delivered to its students. The District's computer network and Internet system do not serve as a public access service or a public forum and the Board imposes reasonable restrictions on its use consistent with its stated educational purpose.

The Board regulates the use of District Technology Resources in a manner consistent with applicable local, State, and Federal laws, the District's educational mission, and articulated expectations of student conduct as delineated in the Student Code of Conduct. This policy and its related administrative guidelines and the Student Code of Conduct govern students' use of District Technology Resources and students' personal communication devices when they are connected to District Technology Resources, including online educational services/apps, regardless of whether such use takes place on or off school property (see Policy 5136).

Students are prohibited from using District Technology Resources to engage in illegal conduct (e.g., libel, slander, vandalism, harassment, theft, plagiarism, inappropriate access, etc.) or conduct that violates this Policy and its related administrative guidelines and the Student Code of Conduct (e.g., making personal attacks or injurious comments, invading a person's privacy, etc.). Nothing herein, however, shall infringe on students' First Amendment rights. Because its Technology Resources are not unlimited, the Board may institute restrictions aimed at preserving these resources, such as placing limits on use of bandwidth, storage space, and printers.

Students have no right or expectation to privacy when using District Technology Resources (including, but not limited to, privacy in the content of their personal files, messages/e-mails, and records of their online activity).

While the Board uses various technologies to limit students using its Technology Resources to only use/access online educational services/apps and resources that have been pre-approved for the purpose of instruction, study, and research related to the curriculum, it is impossible to prevent students from accessing and/or coming in contact with online content that has not been pre-approved for use by students of certain ages. It is no longer possible for educators and community members 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) when significant portions of students' education take place online or through the use of online educational services/apps.

AkronSchools.com

Policies and Procedures

Pursuant to Federal law, the Board implements technology protection measures that 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 (CIPA). 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 so, ware 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. Technology protection measures may not be disabled at any time that students may be using District Technology Resources if such disabling will cease to protect against access to materials that are prohibited under CIPA. Any student who attempts to disable the technology protection measures will be disciplined.

The Superintendent or designated Technology Services personnel may temporarily or permanently unblock access to websites or online educational services/apps containing appropriate material if access to such sites has been mistakenly, improperly, or inadvertently 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 online content and/or services/apps 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 content 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.

Principals are responsible for providing training so that students under their supervision are knowledgeable about this policy and its accompanying guidelines.

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

- 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", "data mining", etc.), cyber bullying, and other unlawful or inappropriate activities by students online; and
- unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personally-identifiable information regarding minors.

Staff members shall provide guidance and instruction to their students regarding the appropriate use of District Technology Resources and online safety and security as specified above. Additionally, such training shall include, but not be limited to, education concerning appropriate online behavior including interacting with others on social media, including in chat rooms, and cyberbullying awareness and response. Furthermore, staff members will monitor the online activities of students while they are 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.

All students who use District Technology Resources (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. See Form 7540.03 Fl.

In order to keep District Technology Resources operating in a safe, secure, efficient, effective, and beneficial manner to all users, students are required to comply with all District-established cyber-security procedures including, but not limited to, the use of multi-factored authentication for which they have been trained. Principals are responsible for providing such training on a regular basis and measuring the effectiveness of the training.

Students will be assigned a District-provided school email account that they are required to utilize for all school-related electronic communications, including those to staff members, peers, 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 e-mail account when signing-up/registering for access to various online educational services/apps.

Students are responsible for good behavior when using District Technology Resources - i.e., behavior comparable to that expected of students when they are in physical classrooms and school buildings and at school-sponsored events. Because communications on the Internet are often public in nature, general school rules for behavior and communication apply. The Board does not approve any use of its Technology Resources that is not authorized by or conducted strictly in compliance with this policy and its accompanying guidelines.

Students may only use District Technology Resources to access or use social media if it is done for educational purposes in accordance with their teacher's approved plan for such use.

Use of Artificial Intelligence/Natural Language Processing Tools For School Work

Students are required to rely on their own knowledge, skills, and resources when completing school work. In order to ensure the integrity of the educational process and to promote fair and equal opportunities for all students, except as outlined below, the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Natural Language Processing (NLP) tools (collectively, "AI/NLP tools") is strictly prohibited for the completion of school work. The use of AI/NLP tools, without the express permission/consent of a teacher, undermines the learning and problem-solving skills that are essential to academic success and that the staff is tasked to develop in each student. Students are encouraged to develop their own knowledge, skills, and understanding of course material rather than relying solely on AI/NLP tools and they should ask their teachers when they have questions and/or need assistance. Unauthorized use of AI/NLP tools is considered a form of plagiarism and any student found using these tools without permission or in a prohibited manner will be disciplined in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.

Notwithstanding the preceding, students can use AI/NLP tools in the school setting if they

receive prior permission/consent from their teacher, so long as they use the AI/NLP tools in an ethical and responsible manner. Teachers have the discretion to authorize students to use AI/NLP tools for the following uses:

- A. Research assistance: AI/NLP tools can be used to help students quickly and efficiently search for and find relevant information for their school projects and assignments.
- B. Data Analysis: Al/NLP tools can be used to help students to analyze, understand, and interpret large amounts of data, such as text documents or social media posts.
 - is can be particularly useful for research projects or data analysis assignments e.g., scientific experiments and marketing research .
- C. Language translation: AI/NLP tools can be used to translate texts or documents

Policies and Procedures

- into different languages, which can be helpful for students who are learning a new language or for students who are studying texts written in a different language.
- D. Writing assistance: AI/NLP tools can provide grammar and spelling corrections, as well as suggest alternative word choices and sentence structure, to help students improve their writing skills.
- E. Accessibility: AI/NLP tools can be used to help students with disabilities access and understand written materials. For example, text-to-speech software can help students with specific learning disabilities or visual impairments to read texts and Al-powered translation tools can help students with hearing impairments understand spoken language.

As outlined above, under appropriate circumstances, AI/NLP tools can be effectively used as a supplement to and not are placement for traditional learning methods. Consequently, with prior teacher permission/consent, students can use such resources to help them better understand and analyze information and/or access course materials. If a student has any questions about whether they are permitted to use AI/NLP tools for a specific class assignment, they should ask their teacher.

Users who disregard this policy and its accompanying guidelines may have their use privileges suspended or revoked and disciplinary action taken against them. Users are personally responsible and liable, both civilly and criminally, for uses of District Technology Resources that are not authorized by this policy and its accompanying guidelines.

The board designates the Superintendent and designated Technology Services personnel as the administrators responsible for initiating, implementing, and enforcing this policy and its accompanying guidelines as they apply to students' use of District Technology Resources.

Revised 12/13/10 Revised 6/25/12 Revised 5/11/15 Revised 11/5/18 © Neola 2023

Legal

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

18 u.s.c. 1460

18 u.s.c. 2246

18 u.s.c. 2256

20 u.s.c. 6777, 9134 (2003)20

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

47 C.F.R. 54.500 - 54.523

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

"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 policy.

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 in eludes 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."

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 6, 10 N Main Street.
- 2. Visitors will follow screening procedures in place. (ie: metal detectors, bag scanners and/or Visitor Management program.)
 - 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.

The Raptor Visitation Management System

The Raptor System will streamline the visitor sign-in process while maintaining a high level of security for our students and staff members

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 If you believe that your preschool child may have a disability or in need of support services, 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

The District provides an equal educational opportunity for all students.

Any person who believes that he/she 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

Notice 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:

- 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 provides students with special education and related services. 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 Dr. Erich Merkle PH.D at 330 761-2830; email: emerkle@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;
- 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;
- 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 extracurricular 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:
- 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 Dr. Erich Merkle PH.D, Section 504 Coordinator (see next page)

General Information

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:

Yamini Adkins, Title IX Coordinator, yadkins@apslearns.org, phone 330.761.2945; Michael Defibaugh, Title IX Coordinator, mdefibau@apslearns.org, phone 330.761.1561; and Dr. Wanda Lash, Title IX Coordinator, wlash@apslearns.org, phone 330.761.2734.

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: akronschools.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: akronscools.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



Sylvester Small Administration Building

August 2025

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,

Melissa Frymyer

Director of Special Education

Akron Public Schools

AkronSchools.com

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

تتوفر 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 يحتلجونها، ولا يطلب منكم تقديم أي إثبات.

يمكن طلب هذه المساعدة في الحالات التالية دون أن تكون محصورة بها كلجتماع الأهالي والمدرسين، جلسات الاستماع التأديية، اجتماعات برامج التعليم الفردية IEP واجتماعات 504, ونعلمكم بانه 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 رسانی 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 نمیباشد: جلسه والدین, جلسه استادان, جلسات انضباطی, جلسات LEP و جلسات ۵۰۴ لفظاً 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 ۳۳۰۷۴۱۱۱۴ تماس بگیرید.

अंग्रेजी भाषामा सिमित दक्षता भएका अभिभावकहरुलाई सूचना

(Notice to LEP Parents- Nepali)

बिद्यालयका बिभिन्न कार्यक्रम र गतिविधिहरूको सन्दर्भमा एक्रोन सार्वजनिक स्कूलले अभिभावकहरूको लागी निशुल्क अंग्रेजी भाषा सहायता उपलब्ध गराउँदछ। अभिभावकहरूले अंग्रेजी भाषा बोल्ने, पढ्ने, लेखने, वा बुझन सक्नु हुन्न भने यो कार्यक्रमको लागि योग्य हुनु हुनेछ। तपाईले निम्न उल्लेखित वा अन्य कुराहरूको लागि बिद्यालयमा यी सेवाहरू अनुरोध गर्न सक्नुहुनेछ। जस्तै: अभिभावक-शिक्षक सम्मेलन, शास्त्रीय सुनवाई, IEP भेला, ५०४ सभाहरू आदि। कृपया तपईहरूले सबै बिद्यालय गतिविधिहरू र बैठकहरूमा परिवारको सदस्य र साथीहरू ल्याउन सक्नु हुनेछ। जिल्लाले कुनै पनि आवश्यक व्याख्या प्रदान वा सेवाहरू अनुवादका लागि जिम्मेवार हुनेछ। सहायताकोलागि ESL विभागको फोन न. ३३०-७६१-३११४ मा सम्पर्क गर्नुहोला।

AVISO PARA LOS PADRES LEP (Notice to LEP Parents- Spanish)

Asistencia gratuita con el idioma inglés es disponible para los padres de las Escuelas Públicas de Akron con respecto a actividades y programas escolares. Los padres no requieren tener dominio del idioma inglés en hablar, leer, escribir y comprender el inglés con el fin de ser considerado con dominio limitado del inglés (LEP), sino que solo es necesario que un padre esté limitado en al menos en una de estas área para poder recibir asistencia con el idioma inglés según sea necesario. No se requiere ninguna otra verificación para recibir ayuda con el idioma inglés. Los servicios pueden ser solicitados, pero no limitado para los siguientes eventos: conferencias de padres y de maestros, audiencias disciplinarias, reuniones del IEP y de 504. Por favor tenga en cuenta que aunque los padres traigan sus a familiares o amigos a todas las actividades escolares o reuniones, el Distrito será responsable de proveer los servicios necesarios de interpretación o traducción. Para asistencia o ayuda por favor comuníquese con el Departamento de ESL al 330-761-3114.

TAARIFA KWA WAZAZI WENYE LEP (Notice to LEP Parents- Swahili)

Msaada wa bure ya lugha kwa Wazazi inapatikana kwenye Shule za Umma(Public) za Akron kuhusu mipango ya shule na shughuli. Mzazi haitajiki kuwa na ujuzi mdogo wa Kiingereza katika kuzungumza, kusoma, kuandika, na kuelewa Kiingereza ili achukuliwe kuwa na Ujuzi Mdogo wa Kiingereza (LEP) lakini ni muhimu tu kwamba mzazi akiwa na upungufu katika angalau mojawapo ya haya Maeneo ili kustahili kupata msaada wa lugha kama inahitajika. Hakuna ukaguzi mwingine wa muhimu ili kupokea msaada wa lugha. Huduma zinaweza kuombwa kwaajili, lakini sio tu kwa matukio yafuatayo: mikutano ya wazazi-mwalimu, kusikiliwa kinidhamu, mikutano ya IEP, na mikutano 504. Tafadhali kumbuka kwamba wakati wazazi wanaweza kuleta familia na marafiki kwenye shughuli zote za shule na mikutano, Wilaya itakuwa na wajibu wa kutoa huduma yoyote ya kutafsiri au kufafanua kama inavyo itajika. Kwa Msaada, tafadhali wasiliana na Idara ya ESL saa 330-761-3114

Повідомлення Для Батьків з Обмеженим Рівнем Англійської (Notice to LEP Parents-Ukrainian)

Батькам учнів Державних Шкіл Акрона доступна послуга безкоштовного перекладу для участі у шкільних програмах та заходах. Щоб отримати мовну допомогу, не обов'язково, щоб батьки мали обмежений рівень володіння англійською мовою в розмові, читанні, письмі та розумінні англійської мови, але необхідно, щоб мали обмежений рівень володіння хоча б в одній з цих сфер. Для отримання мовної допомоги не потрібно проходити жодних інших перевірок. Послуги можуть бути надані, зокрема під час батьківських зборів, дисциплінарних слухань, засідань IEP та засідань згідно з 504, та інших подібних заходів. Зверніть увагу, що хоча батьки можуть приводити членів сім'ї та друзів на всі шкільні заходи та збори, відповідальність за надання необхідних послуг усного або письмового перекладу несе шкільний округ. Для отримання допомоги, будь ласка, зв'яжіться з Відділом Англійської Мови (ESL Department) за номером 330-761-3114.

လံာ်တၢ်ဘီးဘဉ်သူဉ်ညါဆူLEPကိုဖိမိၢိပၢ်တဖဉ်

(NOTICE TO LEP PARENTS - KAREN)

د لیپ کورنیو ته خبر (Notice to LEP Parents-Pushto/Pashto)

د اکرون د دولتي ښوونځیو هغه والدین چې په انګلیسي ژبه کې مشکل ولر ي کولای شي په وړیا ډول د ښوونځیو د فعالیتونو او پروګرامونو په اړه معلومات په خپله ژبه تر لاسه کړي. د ترجمې د خدماتو د تر لاسه کولو لپاره حتمي نه ده چې والدین دې په انګلیسي ژبه هیڅ نه پوهېږي. که د لیکلو، لوستلو، خبرو کولو یا پوهېړاو څخه په هره یوه برخه کې هم مشکل ولرئ کولائ شي دا خدمات تر لاسه کړي. د ژبې او ترجمې د خدماتو د تر لاسه کولو لپاره نور هیڅ اسنادو او تصدیق ته اړتیا نشته. د ژبې او ترجمې خدمات د لاندې پروګرامونو په شمول د نورو ډېر فعالتونو او پروګرامونو لپاره غوښتل کېډای شي. د بیلګې په ډول: د ښوونکو او والدینو تر منځ لیدنه، انظباتي غونډه، ای آي پې لیدنه، او ۹۰ د غونډې. والدین کولای شي د کورنۍ غړې یا ملګرې د ښوونځیو لخوا ورکول کولای شي د کورنۍ غړې یا ملګرې د ښوونځیو لخوا ورکول کېږي. د نورو معلوماتو او مرستې غوښتلو لپاره زموږ د ترجمې له څانګې سره اړیکه ونیمي. چې شمېره یې ۲۲۱۲ کورن د ښوونځیو لخوا ورکول

(Notice to LEP Parents-Burmese)

ကျောင်းအစီအစဉ် များ, ကျောင်းလှုပ်ရှားမှုများနှင့်ပတ်သက်၍ Akron ပြည်သူ့အစိုးရကျောင်းများမှ မိဘများအတွက် အခမဲ့ဘာ သာစကားအကူအညီများ ရရှိနိုင်ပါသည်။ မိဘတစ်ဦးသည် အင်္ဂလိပ်ကျွမ်းကျင်မှုအကန့်အသန့်ရှိသည်ဟုသတ်မှတ်ခံရရန် အင်္ဂ လိပ်စကားအပြော၊ အဖတ်၊ အရေး၊ နယ်ပယ်အားလုံးတွင်အကန့်အသန့်ရှိရန် မလိုအပ်ပါ။ ဘာသာစကား အကူအညီကို ရယူရန် အရည်အချင်းပြည့်မိစေရန်အတွက် မိဘတစ်ဦးသည် အနည်းဆုံး အင်္ဂလိပ်စကားအပြော၊ အဖတ်၊ အရေး၊နယ်ပယ်များထဲမှ တစ်ခုခုတွင် အကန့်အသတ်ရှိရန်သာ လိုအပ်ပါသည်။ ဘာသာစကားအကူအညီရယူရန် အခြားအတည်ပြုချက်တစုံတရာမလိုအပ်ပါ။ အောက်ပါအစီအစဉ်များအတွက် အကန့်အသတ်မရှိ ဘာသာ စကားဝန် ဆောင်မှုများရရှိနိုင်ပါသည်။ မိဘဆရာအစည်း အဝေး၊ စည်းကမ်းကြားနာပွဲများ၊ IEP အစည်းအဝေးများနှင့် 504 အစည်းအဝေးများ-မိဘများသည် ကျောင်းလှုပ်ရှားမှုများနှင့် အစည်းအဝေးများအားလုံးသို့ မိသားစုဝင်များနှင့် သူငယ်ချင်းများကို ခေါ်ဆောင်လာနိုင်သော်လည်း လိုအပ်သောစကားပြန်, ဘာသာပြန် ဝန်ဆောင်မှုများကို ပေးရန် ခရိုင်မှ တာဝန်ယူဆောင်ရွက်ပေးရမည်။အကူအညီရရှိရန်အတွက်၊ ကျေးဇူးပြု၍ ESL ဌာနသို့ 330-761-3114 သို့ ဆက်သွယ်ပါ။

Notes:			

General Information Notes:

Notes:		

School List and Phone Numbers

High Schools	Phone	Fax
Akron Alternative Academy (AAA)	330.761.1609	330.761.3103
Akron Early College High School (AECHS)	330.972.6450	330.972.5305
Bridges	330.761.7979	330.761.1344
Buchtel CLC, gr 9 -12	330.761.7945	330.761.7947
East CLC, gr 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 High School	330.761.1761	330.761.2661
National Inventors Hall of Fame STEM	330.761.7965	330.761.7966
High School at Robinson CLC		
Middle Schools	Phone	Fax
Bridges	330.761.7979	330.761.1344
Buchtel CLC, gr 6-8	330.761.7960	330.761.7961
East CLC, gr 6 -8		330.784.1859
HyreCLC	330.761.7930	330.761.7932
Innes CLC	330.761.7900	330.848.5212
I Promise School (IPS), gr 3-8	330.761.1516	330.761.3197
Jennings CLC	330.761.2002	330.761.2611
Litchfield CLC	330.761.2775	330.836.2293
Miller South School for the Visual	330.761.2610	330.761.1764
and Performing Arts, gr 4-8		
National Inventors Hall of Fame School	330.761.3195	330.761.5576
Center for STEM Learning, gr 5-8		
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
Findley CLC Forest Hill CLC	330.761.7909 330.761.1645	330.761.1327 330.761.3175
Forest Hill CLC	330.761.1645	330.761.3175
Forest Hill CLC Glover CLC	330.761.1645 330.761.7964	330.761.3175 330.773.1065
Forest Hill CLC Glover CLC Harris-Jackson CLC	330.761.1645 330.761.7964 330.761.1315	330.761.3175 330.773.1065 330.916.9090
Forest Hill CLC Glover CLC Harris-Jackson CLC Hatton CLC	330.761.1645 330.761.7964 330.761.1315 330.761.7980	330.761.3175 330.773.1065 330.916.9090 330.794.4208
Forest Hill CLC Glover CLC Harris-Jackson CLC Hatton CLC David Hill CLC	330.761.1645 330.761.7964 330.761.1315 330.761.7980 330.761.1630	330.761.3175 330.773.1065 330.916.9090 330.794.4208 330.773.7308

School List and Phone Numbers

Elementary Schools	Phone	Fax
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 School for the Visual	330.761.2610	330.761.1764
and Performing Arts, gr 4-8		
Pfeiffer Elementary	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
5am 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)	Phone	Fax
APS Online	330.761.3115	330.761.3144
College & Career Classroom/	330.761.7969	
Transition to Work Program		
Juvenile Detention Center (JDC)	330.643.2960	
Project GRAD Akron	330.761.3113	330.761.3246
SOAR	330.761.7971	330.761.3244

Akron Council of PTA 2025-2026

Jill Hiles - President of Akron Council of PTA.

Phone: 330-612-4486

Council email: akroncouncilpta@gmail.com Website Address: akroncouncilofptas.org

Facebook: Akron Council of PTA

Phone Directory

Administration Building	330.761.1661
Athletics	330.761.2813
Child Nutrition	330.761.1 335
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	
Engagement Center/Registration	
English/Language Arts	330.761.3109
Fine Arts	330.761.3189
Gifted and Talented	330.761.3108
Health Education	330.761.3117
Homeless Liaison	330.761.2969
Library/Media Services/Instructional Technology	330.761.3046
Mathematics	330.761.3112
Medicaid Benefits Information	330.761.3017
METRO Bus Passes	330.761.2810
Physical Education	330.761.3034
Science	330.761.3117
Secondary Schools	330.761.3080
Social Studies	330.761.3034
Special Education	330.761.3154
Safety and Security	330.761.2735
Transportation Services	330.761.1390
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 CLOSING

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



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