More than 42-hundred Arkansans have tested positive for the coronavirus in the past five days as the state's total number of cases nears 40-thousand. Gov. Asa Hutchinson announced today (Mon) the state saw 824 new coronavirus cases, bringing the total to 39,447. An additional seven Arkansans died from COVID-19 bringing the death toll to 408. Speaking in his daily briefing on the pandemic, Hutchinson announced \$10 million dollars in federal funds will go toward providing take-home WiFi access points to students once the school year begins.

News01 0:26 "...per student population."

Hutchinson said individual school districts will choose which vendor will supply the access points, which will use cellular signals to provide internet access for students choosing to attend classes online. Education Secretary Johnny Key said, with less than one month before K-12 students are set to return to class, the state Education Department will spend \$1 million dollars to form a stockpile of personal protective equipment like gloves and face masks.

News02 0:25 "...supply chain issues."

The number of Arkansans hospitalized with COVID-19 rose by nine to 489, with 110 patients on a ventilator. Pulaski County saw the highest increase in new cases today (Mon) with 120 residents testing positive, with 62 new cases in Washington County and 46 in Craighead County. As of today (Mon) Arkansas had 6,674 active COVID-19 cases, including 81 nursing home residents and 294 inmates of correctional facilities.