

Solomon Principal Newsletter

February 26, 2024

Dear Solomon Family--

Kudos to Solomon 7th graders Octavian S. and Elsie S., as well as 8th graders Emma K., Maya T., Mikayla R., Emily G., Josie S., and Michelle M. for all winning "Middle School Gold" at the regional district science fair. This means that they will be participating in the city-wide fair this March at Illinois Tech. We are proud of you and wish you luck at the city-wide fair!

Speaking of our 8th graders, they were notified this past Friday about their high school acceptances. Many of our students were accepted into their first choice schools, though we know that all of our students will find success and belonging, no matter where they are. We are proud of our 8th graders and can't wait to see what comes next!

In partnership,

Chris Gamble
Principal
Hannah G. Solomon Elementary School

News and Notes

- [Read Across America Week](#) will be celebrated at Solomon on March 4-8, 2024. We will be celebrating with a spirit week and a bunch of "drop everything and read" opportunities throughout the week. Thanks to our librarian, Ms. Clark, for organizing this fun event that demonstrates our commitment to literacy!
- Kudos to our 5th/6th grade boys and girls basketball teams, who both started their seasons on Saturday with victories, 22-1 and 24-2 respectively. What a great start! They both play next week versus Edison Park at Taft High School's Varsity campus (8am and 9am, respectively). Come out and cheer them on!
- Sign up has started for spring sports in the CPS Score program. We will be offering 5th/6th Coed and 7th/8th Boys Flag Football with Coach Hiti-Shannon and 5th-8th coed track and field with Coach Wiviott and Coach Estremera. Practices will start the week of March 18, with games starting after Spring Break.
- For families wishing to tour Solomon, our next community tour is scheduled for Thursday, February 29, at 9:30am. Please meet in the lobby; no reservations are required.
- We will be doing a forced password reset for all Solomon students in grades 3 and up on Friday, March 1, to meet district technology requirements.
- Our 5th grade Girl Scout Troop is collecting toiletries for homeless veterans in the Chicagoland area, and they can use your help. You can bring new, unused hygiene products to Solomon any day during business hours through mid-March to place in the donation bin near the main office. Read [here](#) for more information. Thank you, girls, for your leadership!
- In other Solomon Girl Scout news: It's Girl Scout Cookie Time! The Girl Scouts of Solomon will be holding 2 Cookie Booths after school on Friday March 1 and Friday

March 8. Please support our Girl Scouts by purchasing your favorite [Girl Scout cookies](#) from our young entrepreneurs! Cash is the preferred method of payment and cookies are \$6/box.

- Community update from a few of our friends in the neighborhood:
 - Music House has opened up registration for their summer camps in West Rogers Park and Humboldt Park, and you can click [here](#) for more information
 - Gompers Park Athletic Association is low on registration for 4th-6th grade girls softball, and the early bird discount can still apply if you register now. For more information, please click [here](#).
 - Sign up for [spring programming](#) at Chicago Industrial Arts and Design Center. To find out how to sign up for free classes available for Chicago Public School students, click [here](#).
 - The girls lacrosse coach at Walter Payton College Preparatory High School is starting a lacrosse club geared towards elementary school students in CPS. AIM Lacrosse is all about awareness, intensity, and movement on and off the field. To learn more, please click [here](#).

Friends of Solomon School Parent Teacher Organization

- Our Friends of Solomon School Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) is a parent and staff leadership group that promotes community and supports Solomon in our strategic plan. Please click [here](#) to read more about their mission and vision, as well as the dates for many of this year's PTO-led events.
- Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 12, at 8am in our library. We will discuss planning for Walk, Jog, Roll-a-thon and Staff Appreciation Week.
- Upcoming events include a restaurant giveback night at Chipotle on April 3 and our annual Walk, Jog, Roll-a-thon on Friday, May 3 (rain date May 10). Be on the lookout for more information about both of those events.

Important Solomon Links

- To report a COVID-19 positive test, click [here](#).
- To find Solomon's breakfast and lunch menus, click [here](#) (search for "Solomon"). To learn more about the district's meals and nutrition program, click [here](#).
- To see our entry and exit procedures, please click [here](#).
- To find any Solomon staff member, their position, and their contact information, click [here](#) for our organizational chart.
- To register for before and/or after-school child care with the YMCA of Chicago, hosted in our lunchroom, please follow the directions in [this link](#).
- Please click [here](#) to read more about the differences between Level I and Level II volunteers and to complete the application process.
- To see our year-long community calendar, click [here](#).
- To see our year-long assessment calendar, click [here](#).
- Solomon spirit wear purchases can be made through our partner, Squadlocker. Check out unique Solomon gear [here](#).
- Student fees were approved by our Local School Council this past July. Please click [here](#)

to see the student fee structure for this year and the methods of payment.

- Class supply lists are linked [here](#) and at our school website, solomon.cps.edu.
- We have had members of our community ask how we can support our newcomers and their families at Solomon, and I would like to share some information from the 39th Ward: The Hollywood North Park Community Association (HNPCA) has been doing tremendous work helping new arrivals in the 39th Ward. You can access donation wish-lists here: <https://www.hnpca.org/inclusivecommunity>. Partnering with our office and the shelters in 39, the HNPCA creates weekly wish lists of items that are highly requested by folks in the shelters. The items then get shipped to our office and we deliver them *directly* to the staff at the shelter to distribute accordingly. The HNPCA Facebook also remains very active with up to date information: <https://www.facebook.com/hnpcachicago>

School Calendars

- **February 19:** Presidents' Day (no school for students or staff)
- **March 6:** Bilingual Advisory Committee meeting, 9:15 (library)
- **March 12:** Friends of Solomon School PTO meeting, 8:00 (library)
- **March 12:** Parent Advisory Committee meeting, 4:15 (Room 112)
- **March 12:** Local School Council meeting, 5:30 (library)