

Solomon Principal Newsletter

January 22, 2024

Dear Solomon Family--

We had a few fun events at Solomon this past week, between our Game Night on Thursday and our school-wide Spelling Bee on Friday. First, I want to give kudos to our Spelling Bee winner, Isabella U. in 6th grade, who will represent Solomon in the district-wide Spelling Bee. We had 16 competitors on the stage, 2 students from grades 1-8 who advanced to the finals, and their preparation and hard work was evident. Congrats to all of our participants and to Isabella for representing Solomon district-wide!

Game Night was a blast as well, a fun night of playing Connect 4, Monopoly, chess, and a lot of other games I'd never heard of! A big thank you to our dozen 7th and 8th graders that served as student ambassadors, playing games with their younger peers and setting up the space for the event.

Last, I want to give kudos to Cathal D., Maya T., and Alani M., 8th graders, for representing Solomon at the Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen Award Presentation on Sunday, January 7. They were selected by the Veterans of Foreign Wars to present their speeches at this celebration.

In partnership,

Chris Gamble
Principal
Hannah G. Solomon Elementary School

News and Notes

- 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>
 - This is a great way to get items these families may need directly to them in a timely manner. Thank you to Alderman Nugent and our partners in the 39th Ward for sharing this information.
- Our 7th/8th grade Boys and Girls Basketball teams are undefeated after Week 1 victories. Come out to Rickover Naval Academy on Saturday, January 27, at 8am and 9am, respectively, as they each take on Peterson Elementary. Go Cougars!
- The deadline to file as a Local School Council candidate is February 8, 2024. You can

file paperwork at Solomon or send your completed forms to the CPS Office of Local School Council Relations. The forms are available at Solomon, as well as cps.edu/lsc, along with more information on the candidate forums and the LSC election process overall. Let's get a full slate of candidates for our April 2024 election!

- A reminder for our 8th graders that your [graduation photos](#) will be taken on January 26 at 9:15 in the lobby. Dress formal for the pictures, which will also include a cap and gown photo.
- The district is looking for science fair judges, and if you are interested in assisting or learning more, please click [here](#).
- Save the date! Join the North River Youth Council on Saturday, February 3rd from 12-3 pm at the American Indian Center, 3401 W Ainslie St, for an unforgettable community gathering where you can access essential resources for mental health, well-being, social services, and more! Bring your family and friends and be part of building a strong community while creating unforgettable memories together! Don't miss this opportunity to connect with others and have fun! Enjoy FREE Activities including: Zumba, Loteria, Arts & Craft, Games & Prizes, Children's Reading Circle, Drum Circle, AND MORE! Lunch will be provided. This event is organized by the North River Youth Council

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.
- Friends of Solomon School PTO invites you to a Family Dance on Thursday, February 15 from 5:30pm to 7pm in the gymnasium! We hope you will join us for a night of family fun, Photo Booth, Bake Sale and lots of dancing. This event is free to attend.

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.

School Calendars

- **January 26:** 8th Grade Graduation photos (9:15, lobby)
- **January 30:** Local School Council meeting (5:30, library)
- **February 8:** Week 25 Progress Reports go home
- **February 9:** No School for Students (professional development day)