

Solomon Principal Newsletter

October 16, 2023

Dear Solomon Family--

Next week is the end of the 1st Quarter of the school year, and with the end of the quarter comes parent-teacher conferences and report card pick-up, scheduled for Thursday, October 26. It is the same day for elementary and high school conferences this quarter, and the time of conferences at Solomon will be 9am-4pm, with a 11:45-12:30 lunch break for staff.

Homeroom teachers will start reaching out to families via email this coming week to schedule conferences. If there are other staff you would like to connect with on October 26, please use our [staff organizational chart](#) to find their emails and make those connections.

In the meantime, we have our 2nd annual Fall Fest this coming Friday, October 20, from 4-7pm on Solomon's playground and turf field. Bounce houses. Jesse White Tumblers. Taffy Apples. Touch-a-truck. So much fun. It was really cool last year seeing kids bound right out of class at dismissal and head straight to the bouncies. It is completely free, so there is no excuse not to come. Just plan on hanging out after school--bring a jacket and a lawn chair so that you can be comfortable. We are still looking for more volunteers, so if you are able to sign up for a specific time and task, please click [here](#). We really appreciate it!

In partnership,

Chris Gamble
Principal
Hannah G. Solomon Elementary School

News and Notes

- Kudos to Charlie S. in 8th grade: He checked out the 1,500th book at Solomon this school year!
- As noted in a letter to 8th grade parents on Friday, the district will not be administering the High School Admissions Test this coming week as they work through any remaining technological challenges they are facing. I will be sure to update our 8th grade parents with any updates I receive about testing or the GoCPS admissions deadlines.
- Calling all veterans (and friends and family of veterans: With the exception of a few years during the COVID pandemic, we have hosted the [Veterans' Celebration Day](#) at Solomon since 2001, and we are excited to start planning for the 2023 event. Navy Band Great Lakes is ready to perform, and we invite all veterans in the community to join us at Solomon on November 16, 2023, from 9:00-11:30am. Additionally, if you have names of veterans past or present that you would like to be included in our Honor List read at the event, please email their names and pictures to Ann Reis at amreis@cps.edu.
- [GoCPS](#) for the 2024-2025 application cycle has opened, and it will close on November 9. This application is vital for our 8th graders transitioning to high school, but it is also important for any of our Pre-K families that live outside Solomon's [attendance boundary](#) to apply for a spot here. This application is for anyone outside of our attendance boundary that wants to bring their child(ren) to Solomon in grades K-8 for the 2024-2025

school year. If your child currently attends Solomon in grades K-8, there is no need to reapply for a spot here.

- We are going to be working with Anna Murphy, a muralist our team selected last year, to complete a mural outside of Door #3, and we need your help in identifying what themes you want to see represented for our community. Please take a few moments and give us your thoughts in [this short survey](#) that will be shared with the artist. From this, we will conduct a community forum to discuss further, date and time TBD. Thank you!
- Community opportunity: Senn High School will be hosting a free soccer clinic for boys in 6th-8th grades on Saturday November 4th! We would love for your students to join us, attend a practice with a high school coaching staff, and see what our high school is all about. The clinic is **FREE**, and will be held rain or shine. For more information, 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, including Fall Fest on October 20!
- What a fun night at Alarmist Brewery on Thursday night! Between donations and the raffle, our PTO took in \$326. As important, it was a great evening of community building, with parents of kindergarteners connecting with upper grade parents. We look forward to more community building on Friday night at [Fall Fest!](#)
- Our first restaurant giveback of the year has been planned, courtesy of our Friends of Solomon School PTO–Jollibee (3534 W. Touhy) on November 11. For more information on the hours and how much of sales that day come back to support the vision and mission of our PTO, please click [here](#).
- Art to Remember order forms are being distributed to students. For more information about Art to Remember orders, click [here](#).

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 Calendar

- **October 20:** Fall Fest returns!, 4:00-7:00 (playground and turf)
- **October 26:** Parent Teacher Conferences/Report Card Pick-up (no school for students, 9am-4pm)
- **October 27:** Professional Development Day (no school for students)
- **November 13-16:** Scholastic Book Fair (lobby)
- **November 17:** Pre-K to 8th grade picture retakes (lobby)