

# Solomon Principal Newsletter

## September 11, 2023

Dear Solomon Family--

This is a big week for our parent leadership teams at Solomon. As we spoke about on Thursday night, participation in these meetings is a great way to partner with us to help plan the future of our school and our students.

Our Local School Council is Solomon's governing body, composed of staff, parents, community members, and a student making important decisions about our school improvement plan, budget, and principal selection. Our next meeting is Tuesday, September 12, at 5:30 in our library, and everyone is welcome to attend. Our chairperson is Ms. Sherryl Reiss. We do have one parent opening on our council, and if you are interested, please reach out to Principal Gamble for more information.

Our Friends of Solomon School Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) is a 503c organization that uses its resources to build community and support the academic and social-emotional needs of our staff and students. Our PTO plans a number of community events and fundraisers throughout the year to benefit our whole school community. PTO updates, including current fundraisers and events, are included in each principal newsletter. Our next meeting is Tuesday, September 12, at 8am in our library, and everyone is welcome to attend. Our president is Ms. Amy Cramer.

2 new leadership organizations are starting this year as well, the Parent Advisory Council (PAC) and the Bilingual Advisory Council (BAC). Both are working in concert to provide meaningful and relevant parent workshops throughout the school year. The first PAC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 12, at 5pm in our library, and officers will be selected at this meeting. The BAC will have its [first meeting](#) on September 21 at 9:15am.

As always, please reach out to me at [crgamble@cps.edu](mailto:crgamble@cps.edu) or 773-534-5226 with any questions or concerns.

In partnership,

Chris Gamble  
Principal  
Hannah G. Solomon Elementary School

## News and Notes

- In our Snap! update, please check out the photos from our Kindergarten/4th grade reading buddies group, building community and literacy together!
- For those unable to attend Thursday night's Curriculum Night, please see [this document](#) that has informational links from that evening. If you are looking to connect with your child's teacher, please use our [organizational chart](#) to get the email information for our staff members so that you can set up a time to meet.
- Fall sports update:
  - 7th/8th Grade Girls Volleyball: Their first game is scheduled for Saturday,

- September 16, at 11am vs Taft Academic Center, at Taft. Coach Tamborino will update the team this week with more game information.
  - 7th/8th Boys Soccer will start practices this week, also with a game on Saturday. Practice and game information will be distributed to players on Monday.
  - 5th/6th Girls Volleyball and Boys Soccer game and practice information will also be shared later this week.
- We are hosting our first vision and hearing screenings of the year this week on Monday and Tuesday in our school lobby. Click [here](#) for more information on who is tested and why.
- 7th and 8th grade families—save the date for the annual Network 1 High School fair on October 5 at 6pm at Rickover Naval Academy (5700 W. Berteau). This event is a fantastic opportunity for you to gain valuable insights into the GoCPS process and explore a wide range of high schools to find the one that best suits your educational goals. For more information on the fair, click [here](#). If you have any questions or require further assistance, please do not hesitate to reach out to our counselor, Mrs. Mulholland, at [pamulholland@cps.edu](mailto:pamulholland@cps.edu).
- Community Events:
  - Our friends at the Chicago Industrial Arts and Design Center (CIADC) host free after-school youth programming, with the next session beginning September 11. For more information about their program, click [here](#). To sign up, click [here](#).
  - The Office of State Senator Villivalam wanted to share [this flier](#) with us about our Touch-a-Truck event next week on September 13th from 5PM - 7PM.
  - Our good friends at Eugene Park are hosting their annual fall festival on September 24, and this year they are featuring their first Sensory Hour for Special Needs families. 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.
- Our PTO leadership is Amy Cramer (President), Joyce Baca (Secretary), and Joseph Levy (Treasurer).
- 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!
- This fall, the Friends of Solomon School PTO is participating in a unique fundraising program with Art to Remember that gives you the opportunity to purchase keepsake items with your child's artwork on them. The best part is that every keepsake order supports our school. In the coming weeks, students will be creating their art. Order forms will be coming home in early October, and all keepsakes will be delivered in time for the holidays. For more information, please 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](http://solomon.cps.edu).

## School Calendar

- **September 12:** Friends of Solomon School PTO meeting, 8:00 (lobby)
- **September 12:** Parent Advisory Council meeting, 5:00 (library)
- **September 12:** Local School Council meeting, 5:30 (library)
- **October 5:** Network 1 High School Fair, 6:00 (Rickover Military Academy, 5800 W. Berteau)
- **October 11:** High School Admissions Test for 8th graders in Room 116
- **October 20:** Fall Fest returns!, 4:00-7:00 (playground and turf)