

# Solomon Principal Newsletter

## September 25, 2023

Dear Solomon Family--

Friday was a busy professional development day for our staff. We reviewed and discussed as a faculty the school improvement plan that our Continuous Improvement Work Plan (CIWP) Team developed this summer and that our Local School Council approved earlier in the month. Additionally, 10 of our paraprofessionals began classes that will lead to safety care certification. And it started off with a great breakfast from Bryn Mawr Breakfast Club, courtesy of our Social Social Committee.

To our families observing Yom Kippur, we wish you peace and an easy fast on this solemn day. G'mar Chatimah Tova.

In partnership,

Chris Gamble  
Principal  
Hannah G. Solomon Elementary School

## News and Notes

- As a reminder, Week 5 Progress Reports traveled home with students on Thursday, September 21.
- Our next school tour for prospective families is scheduled for Thursday, September 28, at 9:30am. Reservations are not required.
- We are surveying 3rd-8th grade students, as well as staff, this week regarding interests for OST (no-cost before and after school, Solomon-staff led clubs and activities). We anticipate the application for families going live at 5pm on October 3, with a start date of Tuesday, October 10. The fall term will run through December 15, and a new term of programming will resume in the winter.
- Fall sports update:
  - Kudos to our 7th/8th grade girls volleyball team for their victory at Belding Elementary last Tuesday.
- 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).
- [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.

- Kudos to our new parent leadership groups, the Parent Advisory Council and the Bilingual Advisory Council, for starting their work these past few weeks in identifying priorities and resources we can bring to Solomon parents. Our staff lead for the PAC is our Lead Coach, Carrie Carlson, and she will work closely with Co-Chairs Joyce Baca and Munisa Patel to support our Title I initiatives at Solomon. Our staff lead for the BAC is our English Language Program Teacher, Liz Jones, and she will work closely with Chair Diane Gabriel to identify programming and support for our families of English Language Learners.
- 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](#).

## 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!
- 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. Student art is due to the main office by September 27, and 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](#).
- Our PTO is excited to announce our first social event of the year for parents, staff, and community members. Alarmist Brewing (4055 W. Peterson) will host us for a Solomon evening on Thursday, October 12, from 7-10pm. Alarmist is generously donating \$1 from each pint sold back to our PTO to fund our mission and vision. Please see [this flier](#) for more information, and we hope to see you there!

## 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

- **October 5:** Network 1 High School Fair, 6:00 (Rickover Military Academy, 5800 W. Berteau)
- **October 9:** No School (Indigenous People's Day)
- **October 11:** High School Admissions Test for 8th graders in Room 116
- **October 20:** Fall Fest returns!, 4:00-7:00 (playground and turf)