

# Solomon Principal Newsletter

## February 27, 2023

Dear Solomon Family--

This is a big week for the 45 or so Solomon students participating in our *Annie Jr.* musical. There will be a performance for students in grades Pre-K to 3rd at Solomon on Thursday, and then our 4th-8th graders will take the bus over to Northside College Prep for a Friday matinee performance. It all culminates with a single Friday evening performance at Northside College Prep. Tickets are available at the door for the 7pm performance, and our cast and crew would love to see a packed audience. Then, finish up the evening on Friday with ice cream at Oberweis, our restaurant giveback partners that night!

In partnership,

Chris Gamble  
Principal  
Hannah G. Solomon Elementary School

## News and Notes

- Pictures shared in Snap! this week are from our 3rd graders' Titanic project, which they read about and researched during English Language Arts with Mrs. Gleeson and Ms. Kenney.
- Sign-up is underway for the spring sports season. This year the district is offering the following sports: 5/6th Girls Soccer, 7/8th Girls Soccer, 5/6th Co-Ed Flag Football, 7/8th Boys Flag Football, 7/8th Girls Flag Football, and 5/6/7/8th Co-Ed Track and Field. We will need to commit to the district which teams we will be able to field by March 1, and the first step is lining up coaches. If you are interested in coaching any of these teams, please contact our Athletic Director, Mr. Martin ([cjmartin1@cps.edu](mailto:cjmartin1@cps.edu)) to get more details. Starting March 6, we then begin the student sign-up, and the coaches help us recruit and promote their sports. We've had several parents coaching this year, and it has been a great experience!
- The last 2 days of the month, Monday and Tuesday, wrap up our [Black History Month spirit week](#).
- As a kind reminder, we need your help in keeping our drop-off and pick-up times safe for students. Especially now that the weather is improving, your best option is to park briefly on our surrounding streets so that you can drop off your child. With bus service on Avers, cars that stop in the middle of the street on Avers to leave their child jump out is creating an unsafe situation. Please don't do that. Cars cannot park on the school side of Avers between the No Parking signs to accommodate bus traffic. Our paraprofessionals are out there to support students utilizing the bus service, so please work with them to make sure that everyone stays safe. That is our main priority!
- Currently we anticipate administering the Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR) to 3-8th grade students over the course of 3 days, not including make-ups, between March 20-31, 2023. Please read [this letter](#) for more information about the IAR assessment.
- Tuesday, February 28, is election day at Solomon. Voters will enter the building through Door #4 (gymnasium) to vote, and gym classes will either be held in the classroom or outside, depending on the weather.
- 8th grade graduation photo retakes are scheduled for Thursday, March 2, at 9:15am.
- In case you missed it, the 2023-2024 CPS calendar was approved. The draft of the calendar that was approved can be found [here](#). Students will return back to school on August 21, 2023.
- The Albany Park branch (3401 W. Foster) of the Chicago Public Library hosts homework assistance for students every Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday from 3-6pm. For more information on their programming, click [here](#).
- The Free Closet at Network 1's Parent University (3121 W. Byron) has school supplies, clothes, backpacks, hats, and more for students and families in need. Check out the attached flier for more information. It is open to the public on Tuesday and Thursdays from 10am-1pm, as well as by appointment.

## Friends of Solomon School Parent Teacher Organization (FOSSPTO)

- You can find our monthly meeting dates in [this document](#).
- \$74.93 was raised in the Panda Express restaurant giveback on February 13. Next up, on March 3, [Oberweis](#) (6469 N. Lincoln) will donate 20% of its proceeds back to our FOSSPTO. The Oberweis event is coupled with our Annie Jr. performance at Northside College Prep, so stop for ice cream

after the show! The fine people at Oberweis said that you do not need to bring the flier; just mention that you are with Solomon. After that will be [Panera](#) (6059 N. Lincoln) on March 28 from 4-8pm. Funds raised by these restaurant givebacks fund the organization's mission of community building, making events like Fall Festival possible.

- Our big spring event is the Walk Jog Roll-a-thon fundraiser, the one big fundraising event at Solomon. WJR2023 will be held on Friday, May 12. All students and staff get a t-shirt for the day, and our Friends of Solomon School Parent Teacher Organization is looking for sponsors that will get some advertising on the t-shirt in exchange for their financial support. If you are interested in learning more about sponsorship opportunities for this fundraising event, please click [here](#).
- We are also looking for community feedback for Solomon's fundraising priorities for WJR2023. We hope to exceed \$25,000 this year, and we want to know where you think those funds should go. Please take a moment to respond to this [community survey](#), and we will report results back at our next FOSSPTO meeting on March 8.
- For over 25 years, Box Tops for Education has given families an easy way to earn cash for schools — with products they already buy! Today, you can find hundreds of participating products throughout the store. Box Tops for Education has gone digital, so just scan your receipt with the Box Tops app and Solomon Elementary will automatically earn cash with every Box Tops product you buy. For more information on how to earn that credit for Solomon, please click [here](#).
- To learn more about the mission of the Solomon FOSSPTO, click [here](#).

## Important Solomon Links

- Our Solomon [school organization chart](#), which has the contact information for all of our teachers and staff.
- The [opt-in form](#) for COVID testing for your child at Solomon weekly.
- Our Solomon [breakfast and lunch menus](#).
- Our Solomon [school assessment calendar](#) for the year.
- Our Solomon [merchandise link](#) from our partners at Squadlocker.
- The [volunteer registration form](#) for anyone interested in volunteering at Solomon this year.

## Solomon Calendar

All Solomon community events can be found on our school Google Calendar, linked at the Solomon website, [solomon.cps.edu](#). You can also view our year-long calendar of community events [here](#).

A few of the important upcoming dates:

- March 3, 2023: Annie Jr. performance at Northside College Prep (7pm)
- March 16, 2023: End of 3rd Quarter for students
- March 17, 2023: No School for students (School Improvement Day)
- March 29, 2023: No School for students (Parent Teacher Conferences, times TBD)
- April 3-7, 2023: No School (Spring Break)