

LEGACY - MONTESSORI - EAGLES ACADEMY - VIRTUAL - EAGLES' NEST

### SOLON SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT

EAGLE FLYER - AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2023 NO. 4

The Solon Springs School District is extremely appreciative to Richard Flint for the donation of 11.25 acres of forest land to the district for educational purposes. Richard and his late wife, Carol, began the conversation of donating this parcel to the Solon Springs School District last year with the intention of having a space for students to learn more about nature. Richard attended the July board meeting with his daughter and granddaughter to officially sign the land transfer agreement.

Thank you to Richard and his family for this generous gift!





First day of school: FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1



SCAN HERE FOR SUPPLY LISTS!





On Tuesday, July 11th, our summer school staff took 47 students out picking wild blueberries! These kids also learned about, identified, and tried June berries. huckleberries, raspberries, and a few leftover wild strawberries. We chose a location that was not far from the school forest on Douglas County property which had been clear cut and replanted with red pine, a few years back. This made for prime wild berry growing conditions over the last few years. This is truly one of the favorite activities for kids!



Solon Springs School District proudly offers a variety of educational choices to our students and families. We truly are... STRONGER TOGETHER!

# ALTERNATE OPEN ENROLLMENT CURRENTLY OPEN



#### **LEGACY**

A cornerstone educational opportunity in the District with a well defined scope and sequence and highly instructed methods of learning.

Serving students in grades PK-12



## MONTESSORI

This time-tested educational opportunity provides a handson, flexible, follow the child approach to learning where all students are valued and is responsive to individuals and families.

Serving students in Children's House- E2 (PK-6)







#### VIRTUAL

Virtual school serves selfdirected learners who are seeking flexible, rigorous learning opportunities that are not bound by schedules or location.

Serving students in grades K-12



# **EAGLES ACADEMY**

At Eagles Academy, students learn through interdisciplinary projects, rooted in our community.

Serving students in middle and high school







## SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOLON SPRINGS

The mission of Solon Springs School District is to nurture and empower all learners.



# Superintendent's Column

With the August/September issue of the Eagle Flyer, my time as the Superintendent of the Solon Springs School District begins. I have taken some time to meet a number of people in the district and community who have been very welcoming. I would like to start off my column with a formal introduction.



Pete Hopke

I was born and raised on a farm in the Shell Lake School District. I was active in band, choir, football, Superintendent wrestling, baseball and track. I enjoyed raising animals and showing them at the Washburn County Fair. I graduated from Shell Lake High School and entered the National Guard the following year after my first year of college. I graduated with a Bachelor's of Science in Organic Chemistry and worked for a medical devices company when I met my wife, Danette. As our family was growing, I decided to enter the education field and started as a high school special education teacher for the New Richmond School District. I held a teaching position in the Shell Lake School District and instructional coach position in Superior School District before taking my first administration position as the elementary school principal in Spooner. I was the principal for 3 years and then the Director of Pupil Services for 2 years. I have been in education for 22 years.

I am still a member of the Wisconsin Army National Guard as a field artillery officer and August marks my 31st year in the military with 3 deployments. I am currently the commander of the 1-121st Field Artillery Battalion based in the Milwaukee area. This position has provided additional experience in leading larger organizations, which has helped prepare me for this role within the district.

Along with my wife Danette, we have four children: Dillon, 29; Dominic, 25; Madeline, 24; Isaac, 20; and grandson, Arthur, 2 months. We operate a small farm with beef cows, sheep, chickens and garden produce. We enjoy all aspects of being outdoors and living in Northwest Wisconsin.

In education my passion is to ensure a high quality education for ALL students and promote unique and creative ways to spark excitement about lifelong learning. I will be present for the community dinner on August 29 and look forward to meeting parents, caregivers, and students. I am also planning meet and greet events this fall at different locations within the community for people to engage in conversation regarding the district. Stay tuned for more information.

#### **Land Donation**

The Solon Springs School District is extremely appreciative to Richard Flint for the donation of 11.25 acres of forest land to the district for educational purposes. Richard and his late wife, Carol, began the conversation of donating this parcel to the Solon Springs School District last year with the intention of having a space for students to learn more about nature. Richard attended the July board meeting with his daughter and granddaughter to officially sign the land transfer agreement. We can't thank Richard and his family enough for this generous gift.

## **Timber Sales**

Over the past year, the district received bids for timber sales from the school forest. The bid for the sale of timber was \$59,084.40. After the harvest of timber, the actual sale price was \$108,302.96, which is significantly more than we expected. The district will be looking at ways to invest these funds to benefit student learning in our indoor and outdoor spaces.

## Beginning of the School Year

The beginning of the 2023-24 school year is quickly approaching. This means that athletic practices will begin soon for middle school and high school students, staff will be returning, and students/families will be gathering supplies in preparation for the first day of school. It is always an exciting time as students and staff share experiences from the summer time and build connections with each other. I have to acknowledge the great job Mark and his team have been doing with cleaning and preparing our classrooms/spaces for our return. I am looking forward to the beginning of the school year as staff and students return to school. See you soon!

With thanks.

Pete Hopke

Solon Springs Superintendent phopke@solonk12.net





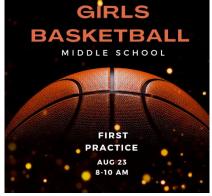
# Runners attend UWEC Cross Country Camp

Jacob Taggart, Tarver Sellwood, Dylan Taggart, Issac Dickenson and Silas Kidder attended the UW - Eau Claire Cross Country Running Camp. The UW-Eau Claire cross country and distance running program is a positive team environment where everyone is respected. A strong work ethic with an emphasis on training smart, enjoying competition, and having fun are the key components of their training philosophy. Student athletes who have embraced this philosophy have achieved great running success. More importantly, student athletes who have embraced this mindset have been successful in the classroom and their careers after college.

The goal of this running camp is to share this philosophy and provide high school cross country and distance track runners (anyone entering 9th through 12th grade in the fall of 2023) of all abilities a foundation of intelligent training and positive motivation that will help them reach their full potential as student athletes. This is accomplished through training discussions by successful high school and collegiate coaches in combination with workouts led by current and former UW-Eau Claire cross country and track

student athletes.





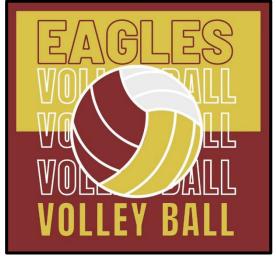
# Volleyball News:

Attention High School Volleyball Players! Please see below for your upcoming practice schedule. Contact Coach Simenson with any questions! csimenson@solonk12.net

We start practice on Monday, Aug 14th.

Aug 14th, 15th, 21st, and 22nd practice will be 4:00 pm-7:00 pm.

Aug 16th, 17th, 18th, 23rd, 24th and 25th practice will be 9:00 am-12:00 pm.



# **IMPORTANT SPORT DATES:**

Attention Eagle Athletes and Families:

Please take note of these upcoming dates that are important:

- Aug 8 Mandatory Athletic Meeting (must be attended by all athletes and a guardian)
- Aug 8 First Day of High School Football
- Aug 14 First Day of High School Volleyball
- Aug 14 First Day of Middle and High School Cross Country
- Aug 23 First Day of Middle School Girls Basketball

# Swimming at the YMCA

Students at the Summer School Program enjoyed swimming at the YMCA in Superior. The big slide was the favorite for all!







# Visiting the Cable Nature Museum and Cable Wayside Wanderings

On June 20th, the summer school classes ventured to the Cable Nature Museum and learned all about the nature that surrounds us! They learned about camouflaging, colored and hid salamanders and frogs for other students to find, and tested out how well we camouflaged our animals. They also had a presentation about different kinds of minerals and rocks, where students were able to use their senses to learn about minerals' qualities and to identify them. It was a fun and educational trip that was well enjoyed!



















Want more info about PTO? Please email Melinda: pto@solonk12.net

# Solon Springs PTO



We need your help!

We need volunteers to help with events/activities.

We know everyone is busy, but all it would take is 30 minutes of your time at an event you are already attending. There is no PTO without volunteers. Please contact us if you are interested in volunteering.

Email: pto@solonk12.net Facebook: Solon Springs PTO



# THANK YOU to the Solon Springs Lions Club!

During the month of July, summer school students had swimming instructors come and serve over 50 students for swimming lessons held at our local park, Lucius Woods. During the two weeks of instruction, students worked on their abilities to become better swimmers in lakes and pools. Solon Springs School would like to thank our local Lions Club for supporting the majority of the cost so our families only had to pay a minimal amount to help promote and maintain the safety of Solon children around water.



THANK YOU SOLON SPRINGS LIONS CLUB!!!! Your generosity is greatly appreciated.









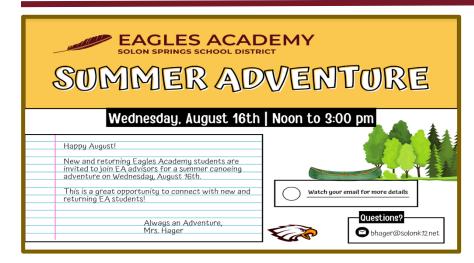


Thank you to Eagles Academy students who worked with Solon Springs Forward and volunteered to help clean the Rain Garden!

# SPEAK OUT WISCONSIN

SPEAK UP, SPEAK OUT allows students, school staff, community members and law enforcement to confidentially report tips on potential harm or criminal activities directed at school students, school employees, and schools. The SPEAK UP, SPEAK OUT Resource Center can respond confidentially and quickly to get help to you or to someone who is hurting or struggling.

1-800-MY-SUSO-1





SCAN for the SOLON SCHOOL website!

YOUTH GROUP

# **OUR SAVIOR'S** LUTHERAN CHURCH

MS/HS (5-12th) Youth Group, Wednesdays 5-7 at the Atrium through August; dinner is provided

## Contact: cnordness@solonk12.net to provide community church information!

# CHURCH

RIVER

# **MISSION** COVENANT

Pickle Ball Mondays 9-11 and Wednesdays 9-12

Sept 13th: Youth Group Kick-off Youth Group will start back up September 13th.

This year we are doing something different with our youth group times. Both will be on Wednesdays but at different time slots.

5:00 - 6:15 pm: Middle School 6:15 - 6:40: Dinner for both groups 6:45 - 8:00 pm: High School

# CATHOLIC CHURCH

Kids age 5-14 Music Lessons - All Fridays in August 12:30-1:30

Kids age 5-12 Montessori Atrium -August 11 & 25, 10-11:30 followed by lunch and activities

Kids age 5-12 Drop-in Soccer -August 7 & 21, Sept days TBD

Feed My People food distribution at St. Mary's Minong, August 16, 10:30-12, no income requirement.

Homeschool group, Montessori Sunday school, Youth Group, Little Flowers and Blue Knights Clubs will resume in September. Please call the office, 715-378-4431 for more information.

St. Pius Mass schedule: Sunday 8:30 am Tuesday 5:00 pm Friday 8:00 am (10:00 am at Aspen Health)



FOOD UENDORS-FAIR GAMES- KIDS BIKE PARADE

**SOLON'S NEWEST** & MOST SPECTACULAR EVENT!

A FREE COMMUNITY CELEBRATION!

**DETAILED LIST OF EVENTS TO FOLLOW** 

**EVERYONE WELCOME! SURROUNDING** COMMUNITIES JOIN THE FUN!

TO BE A PART OF THIS EVENT CONTACT SOLONSPRINGSVACATIONS@GMAIL.COM









# **EAGLES' NEST**

SOLON SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT

NOW HIRING! The daycare is looking for subs and part/full-time assistants. Call to apply!

#### Availability:

Summer attendance is full. There is a waiting list for the infant and toddler room. The preschool room will have openings starting September 1st.

If you would like to get on the waiting list, please contact the daycare.

For more info. please contact Angela (Director) at (715)718-6141 amaclellan@solonk12.net







Congratulations to Board President, Keith Nordskog for a Level 1 recognition for his commitment to Wisconsin public schools! Thank you for all of your dedication and work in the Solon Springs School District!

# Meet our School Board Members:



KEITH NORDSKOG, PRESIDENT KNORDSKOG@SOLONK12.NET



BRAD HUNTER, VICE-PRESIDENT BHUNTER@SOLONK12.NET



JASON CLIFTON, CLERK
JCLIFTON@SOLONK12.NET



BEN KIDDER, TREASURER BKIDDER@SOLONK12.NET



JOHN SWANBERG, MEMBER
JSWANBERG@SOLONK12.NET

QR code for our upcoming events:





**UPCOMING BLOOD DRIVES:** 

September 18<sup>th</sup> December 18<sup>th</sup> 10 am - 2 pm

Location: Solon Springs School

For those wanting to donate blood, please visit:

Memorial Blood Center at: www.mbc.org

# WELCOME BACK!

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOLON SPRINGS

Join us for a Community Dinner to kick off the new school year!



Students and families can meet the staff and drop off their supplies!

AUGUST 29<sup>th</sup>

4:00-6:00 PM

REQUIRED MEETING FOR VIRTUAL STUDENTS AND FAMILIES! August 29, 5-6 pm

The virtual program is using a new platform.
Please watch for information on this

meeting. It is very important that everyone attends!





Picture Day Tuesday,

September 12

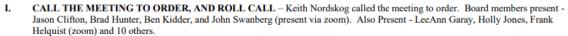


#### SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOLON SPRINGS

#### Regular Monthly School Board Meeting Minutes MINUTES

DATE: Monday, June 12, 2023 6:00 p.m. LOCATION: IMC





- II. REPORT ON HOW THE PUBLIC WAS NOTIFIED OF THE MEETING Agenda was published in the Superior Telegram, posted it on High School Door, Bennett Town Hall, & Solon Springs Post Office.
- III. ANNOUNCEMENTS: Next meeting is on the 3rd Monday, July 17, 2023.
- IV. AGENDA Motion by Hunter and second by Clifton to approve the posted agenda. Motion carried on roll call vote 5-0.
- V. MEETING DATES Motion by Hunter and second by Kidder to approve the 2023-24 Regular Meeting dates. Motion carried on roll call vote 5-0.
- VI. MINUTES Motion by Hunter and second by Kidder to approve the Minutes for the May 15 Regular Board meeting. Motion carried on roll call vote 5-0.
- VII. EXPENDITURES Motion by Hunter and second by Clifton to approve the Expenditures Report. Motion carried on roll call vote 5-0.
- VIII. TREASURER'S REPORT Kidder presented the Treasurer's Report that will be filed for the Auditors.
- IX. ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL INFORMATION Helquist gave an update on monthly balances including fund balance history.
- X. PUBLIC COMMENT- Dr. Jenny Rose spoke to thank the board for considering ways to accommodate the open enrollment students.

#### XI. REPORTS (Discussion & Action)

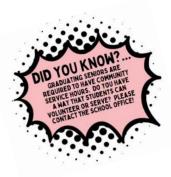
- A. Board President Nordskog acknowledged Helquist as his last meeting and thanked him for his service.
- B. Student Council Kelsey Timm reported on a leadership conference attended in the Dells and future plans for the Student Council.
- C. Athletic Director Nathan Ahlberg updated on conclusion of Spring Sports, Awards, coaching salaries, extracurricular Committee Meeting, and positions. Opening of the fitness center to the public will be discussed at the next facilities meeting in more detail.
- D. Principal Report Holly Jones gave an update on positions to be filled, year end activities, and student enrollment. Governance Board gave the report to recommend the addition of an E1 classroom to the 2023-2024 school year with an emphasis given to staff support in this change. Amanda Guttormson gave an update on further Yurt research.
- E. Superintendent Report:
  - 1) WASB Keith Nordskog was awarded the Level 1 Recognition
  - School Safety Liaison Commitment to continue conversations on the possible development of Liaison from future safety team input.
  - 3) Snow Day/Virtual Learning Days Helquist gave an update on staff & parent survey and policy development that is needed
  - 4) DNR Grant Award -Helquist gave an update on Angler R3 grant award approved but funding is available within a year
  - 5) Maintenance Plan Reviewed the Maintenance Plan with approval sought in July, Esser funds, and new phone system. Motion by hunter second by Kidder to approve the purchase of new phone systems. Motion carried on roll call vote 5-0.
  - Policy Update from the May 30 meeting.
  - Extra-Curricular Committee Hunter motioned second by Kidder to approve new salaries for coaches. Motion carried on roll call vote 5-0.
  - Improvement Plan Helquist gave an update on required low level improvement plan. Internal review of information will be needed.
  - Northern Trust At the May meeting, the Trust decided to go with National Insurance Services to consult, moving away from M3.
  - 10) Others as Appropriate Middle School teachers requested a Student Activity Fund Account for special events, trips, etc. Motion by Hunter second by Clifton. Motion carried on roll call vote 5-0.

#### XII. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Timber Sale The total sales were still much higher than expected. The total came to \$108,302.96, which is \$49,218.56 more than the bid.
- B. Policies Motion by Hunter second by Swanberg to approve policy changes as presented. Motion carried on roll call vote 5-0.

#### XIII. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. CESA Contract Motion by Hunter second by Swanberg to approve the 23-24 CESA 12 Shared Services Contract. Motion carried on roll call vote 5-0.
- B. Personnel Motion by Hunter second by Clifton to approve the hiring of Colin Wiita as Art Teacher. Motion carried on roll call vote 5-0.
- C. Personnel Motion by Hunter second by Kidder to approve the resignation of English Teacher Nikk Adams. Motion carried on roll call vote 5-0.
- D. Personnel Motion by Hunter second by Clifton to approve internal transfer of Kaylea Davis from SPED to elementary. Motion carried on roll call vote 5-0.
- XIV. CLOSED SESSION Motion by Hunter second by Clifton at 8:02 pm to move to pursuant to s. 19.85 (1) (c) (e) and (f) for the purpose of considering employee salaries, Administer Expectations, and legal advice discussion
- XV. REGULAR SESSION Motion by Hunter second by Kidder at 9:10 pm to return to Regular Session for the purpose of taking action on Closed Session discussions and/or for Adjournment. Motion carried on roll call vote 5-0. Motion by Hunter second by Clifton to add an E1 classroom. Motion carried on roll call vote 5-0. Motion by Hunter second by Clifton to combine grades 3 and 4 for the 23-24 school year. Motion carried on roll call vote 4-1, with Swanberg voting No. Motion by Hunter second by Swanberg to authorize the issuance of a teacher contract as discussed in closed session. Motion carried on roll call vote 5-0. Motioned by Hunter second by Kidder to approve personnel items as discussed in Closed Session. Motion carried on roll call vote 5-0.
- XVI. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING -Motion by Hunter second by Clifton at 9:19 pm to adjourn. Motion carried on roll call vote 5-0.





# SECOND HARVEST MOBILE FOOD PANTRY

The Second Harvest Mobile
Food Pantry comes to
Solon Springs on the last
Wednesday of the month.
Second Harvest works to
provide a solution to
hunger or where access

is limited.

Fresh fruits and vegetables, meat, dairy, baked goods, and shelf stable items arrive on a refrigerated truck where volunteers help give out the resources to anyone who may need it.

If you would like to volunteer, donate, or use these services, please visit northernlakesfoodbank.org

The mobile food pantry visits:

# OF EVERY MONTH

Time: Starts at 10:00 am

<u>Location</u>: Community Center

#### SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOLON SPRINGS



#### Regular Monthly School Board Meeting AGENDA

DATE: Monday, July 17, 2023 6:00 p.m.



# LOCATION: IMC Location and Public Access Special Note:

- Remote School Board Member Participation Some, or all Board Members, may be connected electronically.
- Remote Public Access Members of the public who wish to connect remotely with the meeting will need to contact Peter Hopke, Superintendent: Email – phopke@solonk12.net. or WK: 715-378-2263 or use the following link: https://isn.zoom.us/j/4329226862
- Meeting Audio Recording The recording of School Board meetings is available by contacting Pete Hopke, Superintendent.
- I. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER, AND ROLL CALL Indicating those present in person and electronically.

#### II. REPORT ON HOW THE PUBLIC WAS NOTIFIED OF THE MEETING

- Published in the Superior Telegram, posted it on High School Door, Bennett Town Hall, & Solon Springs Post
  Office
- III. ANNOUNCEMENTS: Next meeting is on the 3rd Monday, August 21, 2023.
- IV. AGENDA consider approval of posted Agenda
- V. MINUTES consider approval of Minutes for the June 12 Regular Board meeting.
- VI. EXPENDITURES consider approval of expenditures
- VII. TREASURER'S REPORT presentation of monthly report
- VIII. ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL INFORMATION update on monthly balances including fund balance history

#### IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

- To participate in the Public Comment session each speaker must register prior to the meeting by contacting Pete Hopke at phopke@solonk12.net
- · Speakers have a 3-minute time limit to address any item not listed as part of the agenda for that meeting.
- The Public Comment portion of the agenda will be limited to 20 minutes.

#### X. REPORTS (Discussion & Action)

- A. Board President
- B. Student Council
- C. Athletic Director update on Athletic Department activities
- D. Principal Report update on summer activities, open enrollment, enrollments and others as appropriate
- E. Superintendent Report:
  - 1) Initial Impressions update of first few week as Superintendent
  - 2) Safety Committee update on Safety Committee and active shooter training
  - 3) Timber Sale update on larger than expected proceeds
  - 4) Detachment Petition update on petition to attach to Solon Springs
  - 5) Others as Appropriate
- XI. OLD BUSINESS: None

#### XII. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Property Donation consider approval of property donation
- B. Personnel consider hiring of staff as may be necessary
- C. Personnel consider other personnel matters including current job postings and/or staff transfer
- XIII. CLOSED SESSION consider motion pursuant to s. 19.85 (1) (c) and (g) for the purpose of considering Administrator Expectations, Office duty changes, AD compensation, and discuss legal advice
- XIV. REGULAR SESSION consider returning to Regular Session for the purpose of taking action on Closed Session discussions and/or for Adjournment.
- XV. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING consider motion to adjourn





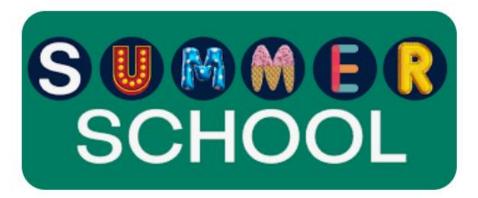












# **Summer School News:**

Summer School students have been busy enjoying the great weather and learning outside of the classroom! The staff have been working hard to create learning experiences that take students out to explore Solon Springs!

# Fishing on the St. Croix!

Solon Springs Summer School students have gone fishing on Lake St. Croix. The fantastic weather has led to some great catches! A big THANK YOU to Chase Latvala for being the captain of the boat which guided our kids to catch fish. Thank you to Due North Pontoon Rental and St. Croix Headwaters Foundation for supporting this experience through grant funding. Fun was had by all, and for many, this was their first time fishing on a boat!























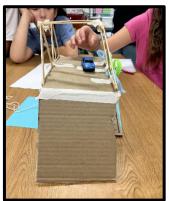


Students participated in *The Ultimate Paper Airplane Challenge*. They were instructed to create one airplane of their own design with only one piece of paper. There were five categories that they were competing in: hitting a target, hang-time in air, accuracy, and distance. Each student in a group competed in one round based on their paper airplane performance.









3rd, 4th and 5th graders learned about the different types of bridges and how each bridge works. With their new knowledge, they had to build a bridge using only five materials. The bridge needed to withstand the weight of jenga blocks being placed on them and a car needed to be able to drive across!

These students were challenged with a cup stacking task. With one rubber band and strings attached for each team member to hold onto and manipulate, the students were to take six cups and stack them into hands. The goal is to work together as a team and use positive communication to stack the cups!









**ECRWSS** 

**LOCAL POSTAL CUSTOMER**