



SOLON SPRINGS

LEGACY – MONTESSORI – EAGLES ACADEMY – VIRTUAL – EAGLES' NEST

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOLON SPRINGS-EAGLE FLYER-OCTOBER/NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2023 NO. 5

Welcome New Staff!

The School District of Solon Springs welcomes our new staff members and also congratulates our current staff on their new roles!



(L to R): Pete Hopke (Superintendent), Amanda LaJoie (Paraprofessional), Kayla Humphries (Paraprofessional), Colton Nelson (Elementary SPED), Hannah Ballard (EI Teacher), Brad Glassmaker (Eagles Academy HS Advisor), Taylor Anderson (Legacy PK/K Teacher), Colin Wiita (MS/HS Art), Kaylea Jones (Legacy 3/4 Teacher), Brian Hill (Elementary Music/Vocal Music), Dave Zosel (Technology Director). Ruth Vorlick (Kitchen Assistant)



Congratulations to Coach Besonen for being the recipient of the Annual WBCA Coaching Achievement Award. He was recognized at the WBCA Hall of Fame Banquet in September. Each year, a boys and girls coach is recognized in each division who had outstanding seasons, have turned programs around, and have built successful programs. Solon Springs is looking forward to another exciting year of basketball!

MS GIRLS BASKETBALL REMAINS UNDEFEATED!

Solon Springs Middle School girls are off to an exceptional start to their season, going undefeated, thus far. They started off the season with a home opener, defeating



Drummond 61-7. They traveled to South Shore where they outscored the Cardinals 63-41 before hosting two more home games against Bayfield (47-13) and Mellen (75-4). Mellen is the only team yet to have a JV and Solon Springs took an exciting win in that game outscoring the opponents in the 4th quarter to take the victory, 25-20. With 21 girls completing the team, this is an exciting group to watch!

GO EAGLES!



JOIN SOLON SPRINGS SCHOOL FOR OUR
VETERANS DAY PROGRAM
Friday, November 10th, 2023 – 10:00 am
IN THE SANDY SLADE GYM

Veterans – Please RSVP for the Ceremony by calling the school at: 715-378-2263 or arrive at 9:30 am on the day of the event.

After School Hours:
Grades Pk-12: 3:30 – 5:00 pm Monday through Thursday
Mornings: Grades 6-12 ONLY: 7:00 – 8:00 am Monday through Friday

For after school information,
contact Julie Fromm at:
jfromm@solonk12.net

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



LEGACY
SOLO SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT

MONTESSORI

This time-tested educational opportunity provides a hands-on, 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 self-directed learners who are seeking flexible, rigorous learning opportunities that are not bound by schedules or location.

Serving students in grades K-12



VIRTUAL
SOLO SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT

EAGLES ACADEMY

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

Serving students in middle and high school



SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOLO SPRINGS

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



Superintendent's Column

Fall 2023

Greetings families and members of the Solon Springs community. The school year has gotten off to a good start for the School District of Solon Springs. Students and staff have gotten into a good routine and fall sports are quickly coming to an end with playoff and sectional competitions in view. Fall is always a time of fun, excitement, and celebration as we celebrate the harvest of the bountiful year and prepare for winter.



Superintendent

Just like the changing of the seasons, the District has seen a couple of changes in the past couple of months. In September, our highly revered vocal and general music teacher, Gretchen Molina, moved with her family to Florida. This move was difficult to take as a District, since she played a large part in the music and drama programs. However, we were fortunate to bring on board Brian Hill, who is an accomplished music educator with a great amount of experience working with students of all ages. We wish the Molina family all the best on their new adventure and we welcome Brian to the Eagles team.

Academics

This fall, the District moved to FastBridge as our academic screening assessment, replacing STAR. This screening assessment is given 3 times per year (September/October, January and March/April) for our students in 4K-8. The information from this assessment helps us determine what additional instruction students need and determine what interventions to provide, in order to boost student achievement. Staff have been learning how to administer the assessment and use the data collected. In the future, the data from this assessment as well as statewide assessments will be used to develop district plans to improve instruction. The objective is to improve student achievement, which is the main focus of the District.

Communication

The District is taking steps to be more transparent and provide information to the public in multiple ways. We have incorporated a part of BoardDocs that manages all of our Board and Committee meeting agendas and minutes. People are able to access this information through the District website and view this information whenever it is convenient. We are also going to be live streaming and recording board meetings on YouTube, which makes the meetings accessible to the public whenever convenient. We are continuing to provide this periodical on a quarterly basis instead of bimonthly. It will continue to have information about the District and highlight all of the great things we are doing. Also, I will be posting short videos on the District website to provide information on more pressing matters. Lastly, I will be hosting some community engagement events to provide opportunities for community members to dialogue with me on issues concerning the District. Our first event will occur on **October 29 (See Below)**. Please stay tuned for future events. It is our objective to ensure that the families and community members of the District are in the know and actively involved in the District.

Safety

In the past couple of months, the District has been focused on safety. We have been very deliberate to train staff and be more prepared to react to adverse situations. We are committed to the safety of the students and staff in the District. We will continue to enhance our safety plan and training with the assistance of EMS, fire, law enforcement, and DHHS to ensure we have the best possible plan to address potential threats to the District. We will continue to keep you informed on our training events so both you and your students are prepared.

Respectfully,

Pete Hopke

Solon Springs Superintendent
phopke@solonk12.net

Meet & Greet
With Solon Springs Superintendent

WHEN:
Sunday, October 29


WHERE:
Solon Springs Village Hall

TIME:
Noon – 2pm

Pete Hopke

Come out and meet Solon Springs School District's new Superintendent – Pete Hopke!

Coffee and snacks will be served, along with good conversation. Hope to see you there!





On Tuesday October 10th, the Eagles Academy students visited the Joseph E. Lord Land Allotment located on the east side of Lake St. Croix. Students were able to learn about the history of the Native American Allotment Land that has been in the Lord family for more than 130 years. Elders, Virginia Bartelt (Lord) 96 and Mary Ann Walt (Lord) 88 were on hand to answer questions about the land and local history including information about the old school house that still sits on the land, today. Students were treated to venison stew and wild rice hot dish that was prepared with wild rice that the students harvested at Cut-Away Dam, in September. The trip ended with a story and a couple of songs played on a Native American flute by Roselyn Vier and a hike down to the site of a traditional Native American camp on Lake St. Croix. What an amazing experience for all involved!



Do you have community news, information, or ideas that could be shared in our newsletter?
If so, please contact Christine Nordness: cnordness@solonk12.net



2023-2024 Student Council Members

Student Council is a leadership organization at Solon Springs School that has 36 active middle school and high school students. It aims to make a positive difference in our school, community, and world. This year their focus is centered on unity and service. The Student Council has been working hard on creating welcome cards and shout outs for students and staff, promoting Speak Up and Speak Out (established by the Department of Justice Office of School Safety), and planning Penny Wars for the elementary students which will begin on October 23rd. High school members attended Changemaker Day at UWS on October 11th and middle school members will be attending a Youth Wellness and Leadership Summit on November 15th. Stay tuned for more!



7th Grade Goes Wild Ricing!

At the end of August, wild rice ripens for harvest. The 7th grade Environmental Education Exploratory class learned about the history, culture, and ecology of wild rice. The Ojibwe word for wild rice is *manoomin*. It is highly nutritious and has always been a significant food resource of the Ojibwa diet. On Monday, September 11th, students took to the river to practice their own skill at wild ricing. They collected around 18 pounds of rice. Once processed, students will have a chance to cook and eat the wild rice they collected. Thank you to volunteers (Chuck Walt, Bob Maas, Jeff Jamar) who joined us in sharing their harvest experience with students. The weather was perfect and the river provided us with a unique treat!



2023 Golf Scramble

Thank you to everyone who helped make the 2023 Mertz Rookie Golf Scramble at Hidden Greens North Golf Course – a great success! The 7th annual Mertz Rookey Solon Springs Eagles Golf Scramble was held on Saturday, September 16th at Hidden Greens North. Twenty-eight teams participated in the 9-hole event to raise money to support the athletic department. A record amount of \$17,300 was raised at the event, bringing the 7-year total to over \$100,000! A huge thank you to local Mertz Rookey Insurance for being the major sponsor of this event and Hidden Greens North for hosting. Thank you to the golfers who participated and to the individuals and businesses that donated to this event.



E1 Makes Apple Crisp!

On September 29th, E1 teacher Mrs. Ballard had a guest come and help the students create their very own apple crisp. They had a great time starting from scratch to create such a delicious treat. Thank you Mrs. Ballard's aunt, Ann for coming and lending a helping hand with this fun and tasty project.



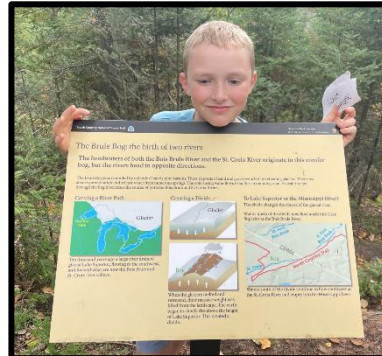
Montessori E2 Class Hikes the Portage Trail!

Students in E2 have been studying Wisconsin geography and history. For this unit we spent half a day hiking the historic Portage Trail. This trail was used by Europeans and Native Americans to portage between the Brule River and the St. Croix in order to eventually travel to the Mississippi River. During the trip each student took on the role of a historic voyageur, fur trader, or Native American who traveled this historic trail. In total the students hiked four miles and gained a great learning experience related to their history studies.



Students Attend UWS Education Fair

On Sept. 19th, Juniors and Seniors had the opportunity to go to UWS for the Education Fair. It was a great opportunity for students to network with 60 area colleges, tech schools, and branches of service. Students were able to ask questions, share contact info and explore potential post graduation opportunities. We had a great time talking about goals and future planning as well as seeing students from neighboring schools on the same exciting, and sometimes scary, exploration of their futures.



SOLON SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT

HELPING OUR EAGLES SOAR

PTO

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

HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL

SOLON SPRINGS SENIORS PRESENT:

HAUNTED HALLWAY

OCTOBER 31

6:00-6:30 PM LOW SCARE FOR YOUNGER KIDS AND SCAREDY CATS!
6:30-8:00 PM PREPARE TO BE SCARED!!!

ADMISSION:
ELEMENTARY \$4
MS AND OLDER \$6

TICKETS FOR THE HAUNTED HALLWAY ARE SOLD AT THE CONCESSION STAND IN THE CAFETERIA.

You're invited to Solon Springs PTO Annual HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL GAMES, MUSIC, CANDY, AND COSTUMES! Tuesday October 31! 6-730 pm School Gym

COME AND ENJOY THE PTO HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL AND VISIT THE HAUNTED HALLWAY!

You're invited to Solon Springs PTO Annual

HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL

GAMES, MUSIC, CANDY, AND COSTUMES!

Tuesday
October 31

6-730 pm
School Gym

Questions?
Contact Solon Springs PTO
pto@solonk12.net



On October 23rd from 9:00am - 12:00pm, the Lion's Club will be at school to administer vision screening for our students in 4K-6th grade.

The goal of the Lions Children's Vision Screening project is to see that all Wisconsin children—from six months to teens—have had a vision screening and, if appropriate, are referred for a vision professional exam. Thousands of Wisconsin youngsters receive vision checks from Lions Clubs each year.

The Solon Springs Lions provides free vision screening as a community service. Questions? Contact: cnorness@solonk12.net



Safety Committee Members include: (L to R) Mark Dahlberg, Christine Nordness, Megan Tuura, Kayla Iverson, and John Bass



SCAN for the SOLON SCHOOL website!



[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

A.L.I.C.E. Training for Solon Staff

We are committed to providing the safest possible environment for our students and staff by taking proactive steps in securing our schools. We want to ensure they have a safe place to learn, work and grow. To maintain our safety standards and adapt to the societal threat of a violent intruder inside our school, we are adopting ALICE proactive strategies.



Adoption of a lockdown-only response has been deemed insufficient by the Department of Education, independent researchers, and law enforcement. Society is dictating we change our thought process on safety and ALICE options-based strategies will help increase school safety. We found the ALICE strategies to be the most adopted by schools across the country, and ALICE training helps to maintain our compliance with the federally recommended guidelines.

ALICE empowers individuals to participate in their survival using proactive options-based responses. ALICE is an acronym for Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, and Evacuate. I want to assure you that we went to great lengths to understand exactly what each option entails. We are very comfortable with all the ALICE proactive strategies to empower our students and staff to be safe until help arrives. We will implement these safety strategies in age and ability appropriate ways.

Our staff will be trained on the ALICE strategies through in-person, online, and hands-on training with our local ALICE-Certified Instructors. We are very pleased with the comprehensive roll-out procedure ALICE Training Institute has in place and believe this is the right choice for our students, staff, schools, and the community.

Training for the 2023-2024 school year will begin with an all staff training on October 13, 2023. Student training will occur in the spring of 2024. Families will be notified prior to the student training.

Organic and Geometric Art!

Solon Springs Legacy 1st & 2nd grade students have been learning about organic and geometric shapes this year. They created these Fantastic Fruit Baskets using organic shapes. They even learned weaving to create the baskets. They also created these Incredible Ice Cream Cones using only geometric shapes.



COMMUNITY
YOUTH GROUP
GATHERING TIMES:

OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

4-5 pm PreK-5th Grade:
Youth Group on Wednesdays 4-5pm (Students are able to ride the bus from school to the church) please contact Jason Clifton for sign up prior to attending.

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

RIVER CHURCH

YOUTH GROUP:

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

5:00 - 6:30pm: Middle School
6:20 - 6:40: Dinner for both groups
6:30-7:30 pm: High School

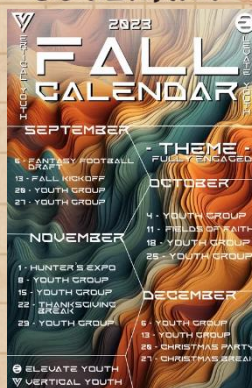
5-6 pm Community Dinner
for ALL families

5-7 MS/HS youth group:
Start with meal and then break into groups

CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

MISSION COVENANT



Jr. High/Elevate- Grades 6-8
Wednesdays 3:30-5:00 Sept-May

Sr. High/Vertical - Grades 9-12
Wednesdays 6:15-5:00 Sept-May

FCA

Fellowship of Christian Athletes is a group of students known as a Huddle that meet each Wednesday morning at 7:30am at Solon Springs School. The time is focused on a time of fellowship, devotional/Bible study, prayer and breakfast. This is a student lead group with the focus on athletics, however students do not need to be an athlete to join and is open to anyone who would like to participate.

On September 27, 2023 students and staff joined other students and staff throughout the nation for the national 'See You at The Pole' day. This was a student led event of prayer for the school, towns, nations and governments. The group at Solon Springs was led by the student leaders from Fellowship of Christian Athletes.



THANK YOU
to the PTO for
the donation of
playground
equipment!

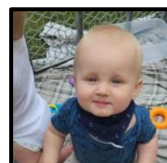
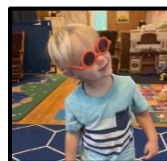
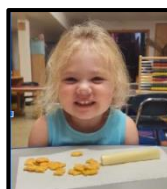
5th Grade at Ernie Swift Camp!

Each year students in fifth grade from

Solon Springs and Northwoods school attend Swift Nature Camp in Wascott, WI. Students spend three days and two nights learning team building and learning about invasive species prevention, tree and leaf identification, outdoor first aide, fire safety, canoeing, Native American culture, and more.

High school students volunteer their time as camp counselors to make this trip a perfect way to start the school year!

Thank you to all of the staff that helped to organize another great year at camp!



EAGLES' NEST
SOLON SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT

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

Availability:

We currently have 5 openings in the preschool room and 1 opening in the baby room.

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





Meet our School Board Members:



KEITH NORDSKOG, PRESIDENT
KNORDSKOG@SOLONK12.NET



BRAD HUNTER, VICE-PRESIDENT
BHUNTER@SOLONK12.NET



JASON CLIFTON, CLERK
JCLIFTON@SOLONK12.NET



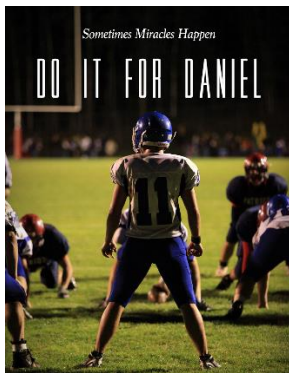
BEN KIDDER, TREASURER
BKIDDER@SOLONK12.NET



JOHN SWANBERG, MEMBER
JSWANBERG@SOLONK12.NET

Guest Speaker for MS and HS!

On November 13th, middle and high school students will be traveling to Northwood. Jeff Olson, father of Daniel Olson and Ishpeming High School's head football coach, is working to reduce the stigma surrounding mental illness. Jeff has taught in the public school system for 30 years and has coached Football and other sports for 37 years. Jeff has also been Ishpeming's Head Basketball Coach and has helped coach track for many years. Jeff, his wife Sally, and four children, have endured the pain of a loved one battling severe depression and anxiety ultimately leading to the suicide of their son Daniel at the age of 19. Jeff has spent the past 2 years traveling to different schools and communities around the Midwest speaking on anxiety, depression, and suicide and presenting the *Do It For Daniel* documentary about his son's and family's struggles with this medical illness.



QR code for our
upcoming events:



Educational Influencers!

Educational Influencers are the fifth grade class who work in the 4K/Kindergarten classroom. The fifth grade and 4K/K get together once a week. They recently read and completed an Apple Exploration. They were tasked with weighing the apples, identified if they float or sink, painted, and built with apples. The 5th grade Educational Influencers also joined the 4K/K at the pumpkin patch! They strive to be a positive influence in the 4K/K lives and continue to do so throughout the Educational Influencer time in the classroom and out!

UPCOMING BLOOD DRIVES:

December 18
March 25
May 20



Location:
Solon Springs School

For those wanting to donate blood,
please visit:

Memorial Blood Center at: www.mbc.org



Picture Day
RETAKES

October 26

Regular Board Meeting (Monday, September 18, 2023)

1. Meeting Opening: Brad Hunter calls meeting to order: 6:05pm

Procedural: A. Roll Call: John Swanberg, Jason Clifton, Brad Hunter, Ben Kidder, Pete Hopke, Holly Jones, LeeAnn Garay, Christine Nordness, (3) others via zoom.

Recognition:

B. Announcements

C. Approval of Meeting Agenda: Motion made by: 1) Clifton 2) Kidder (passed 4-0)

D. Approval of Minutes Motion made by: 1) Kidder 2) Swanberg (passed 4-0)

2. Financial Update

A. Treasurer's Report and Expenditures

B. Charter Grant Report

3. Community Comments -

A. The Board will allow public comments

4. Information Session

A. Board President

B. Student Council

C. Athletic Director/Extracurricular

- Official pay; JV and MS games

D. Principal Report

- Charter Schools:

- HS Advisory reaching out to loggers regarding the history of Solon Springs.
 - MS reaching out to MaryAnn Walt and Chuck Walt to learn history of Solon Springs; both will work together to create digital archive for community members.
 - HS projects are under way with some interesting topics
 - Legacy and Montessori 5th grade returned from Ernie Swift Camp
- In-service date 10/13: ALICE training, Mandate reporting, CPI refresher

E. Superintendent Report

F. Committee Reports

5. Old Business

A. Erosion Control Project: Stop the process of erosion control project for 22/23 and reapply for grant upcoming in 23/24 season: Motion: 1)Clifton, 2)Kidder (pass 4-0)

B. Daycare Center Building Lease: Recommend approval of new 2-year lease for daycare center building:

Motion: 1)Kidder, 2)Hunter; Swanberg: Abstain (passed 3-0)

- Back steps need to be reconstructed; Solon Forward will address this need
- Access to outside for infants, children 30 months younger must have direct access to outside with push lever, Solon Forward will address this need

6. New Business

A. Personnel Recommendations Motion to hire: - Motion: 1)Clifton, 2)Swanberg; (pass 4-0)

B. IT Director Position and Job Description

- Recommend approval of the new position and job description:

- Someone to manage internet, technology, phone systems, website and any technology based help that may be needed. Motion: 1)Kidder, 2)Swanberg; (pass 4-0)

C. Strategic Planning Process

- Discuss strategic planning process and recommend approval of securing strategic planning facilitation in June.

- CESA12 to come and discuss options; tabled until October

D. Paraprofessional Position to Support Project Based Learning

Recommend approval of position: Motion: 1)Clifton, 2)Kidder (pass 4-0)

E. Fundraising Activities Review

- Recommended Action: Tabled until October

- Fundraising for a purpose; what is it used for, are items being fundraised for items school should be purchasing;

clear definition what a fundraiser should be

- Separating the organizations from the school

- Not having multiple fundraisers going on at once

- Differentiate between students being required to attend a fundraiser or strongly encourage them to attend

F. Virtual Streaming and Recording of Board Meetings

- BoardDocs: update previous records, deciding how far back to archive

- Meetings and agenda will be available for community members via YouTube

- Virtual streaming and archiving: People can watch at any time- Zoom meetings would still be able to be streamed

and archived with virtual streaming

Recommend implementation of virtual streaming and recording of Board meetings for public record

and viewing archives. Motion: 1)Kidder, 2)Swanberg; (pass 4-0)

G. Committee of the Whole Process

- Work out details with other committees, Look at beginning this January 24'

-Recommend approval of Committee of the Whole process for 1 year: Motion: 1)Kidder, 2)Clifton (4-0 pass)

H. Committee Creation and Compensation

- Couple standing committees; Safety and Leadership committees

- Compensation for time spent on committee topics

Recommend approval of school comm. creation and review comp. plan: Motion: 1)Kidder, 2) Swanberg (pass 4-0)

7. Convene Into Closed Session - Pursuant to Wis. Stats. 19.85(1)(c) "To consider the employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility." Motion to move to closed session made by Kidder, second by Clifton at 7:45pm.

A. IT Director Hire: Recommend approval of hire and establish wage

B. New Paraprofessional Hire: Recommended Action: Recommend approval of new hire

C. School Committees and Compensation

8. Reconvene into Open Session - Immediately upon the conclusion of any closed session that is convened for the purposes identified above, the Board will continue the meeting in open session.

A. Action, if necessary, on Closed Session items.

Regular session: Motion by 1) Swanberg 2) Clifton (pass 4-0) to go back into open session at 8:17pm

Recommend approval of closed session items as needed.

Motion to approve closed session items: 1) Clifton 2) Kidder (pass 4-0)

9. Adjourn at 8:18pm 1) Kidder 2) Swanberg (pass 4-0)



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:

LAST WEDNESDAY
OF EVERY MONTH

Time: Starts at 10:00 am

Location: Community Center



11/11

VETERANS DAY

Honoring All Who Served

JOIN SOLON SPRINGS SCHOOL FOR OUR

VETERANS DAY PROGRAM

Friday, November 10th, 2023 – 10:00 am
IN THE SANDY SLADE GYM

Veterans – Please RSVP for the Ceremony by calling the school at: 715-378-2263 or arrive at 9:30 am on the day of the event.

What is Truancy?

Dear Families and Guardians:

The school year has begun and Solon Springs staff has exciting plans and high expectations for your child's learning. We know that you also have many hopes and dreams for your child's success in school and beyond.

To make sure those hopes and dreams are realized, we want to ask for your commitment to making sure your child attends school every day possible this school year. There is clear evidence: children with good attendance are more likely to be successful in school. *High attendance rates are linked to high student achievement.* This is true for every grade – elementary, middle, and high school students.

Every day counts!

Missing school even 10% of the time has a significant negative impact on reading and math achievement as children progress through school.

Students with good attendance performed better in math and reading. Children who had good attendance in Kindergarten through Grade 2 were more than twice as likely to score proficient on state math tests by the time they reached Grade 8 as their peers who missed more school. In reading, there were similar results.

Good attendance starts early. Research has shown that the attendance habits established from the start of school through Grade 2 have lasting effects on students throughout their education: *children with high attendance in the early grades continue to have good attendance; and students with low attendance in the early grades are more likely to have low attendance—and lower academic performance—throughout their elementary and middle school years.*

You are your child's most influential teacher and we are asking for your support in helping your child get into class on time every day. Your child needs to be in school and engaged in learning to reach his or her full potential. Yet, we realize that every family faces challenges. Let us know if we can help and we will do our best to help you and your family ensure that your child's school attendance stays on track.

Thank you for all you do to support your child's school success and well-being, as well as our school. I look forward to working with you this year and to having your child learn and grow Solon Springs!

Best wishes for a safe, respectful, responsible and successful school year!

Elementary: Need to be in the building by 8:15.

(We suggest 8:00 am if they are eating breakfast at school!)

Middle School/High School: The final bell rings at 8:15am. If students are not in class and ready to learn, they are considered late.

ART ROOM NEWS

HIGH SCHOOL ART

Our high school students are exploring how to use acrylic paints. Students have been looking at different art movements from the turn of the 20th Century and creating still life paintings using motifs from a movements of their choice



Students also spend time working in their sketchbooks to strengthen their drawing skills.

Middle School Art

In the middle school we focus on using the elements of art. In Exploratory Art, the 6th graders are creating a large banner for our upcoming Veterans Day assembly.



Sophia Smith and Annika Guttormson attended as high school student council representatives to the Changemaker Day at UWS. They learned how to combine their skills with methods of social change to create action in our school, community, and world!



Summer Sizzle Fun!

Labor Day Weekend was a sizzler for sure, hitting almost 98 degrees, but that didn't stop the legacy teachers from having some fun! Legacy set up two different contests; Toilet bowl races and pie eating contests. Both were a hit, one leaving nothing, not even a crumb behind while the other had people racing their toilets to the finish line. Watch for these events and more next Labor Day Weekend!!!





MUSIC NEWS!

The school year is in full swing and there's a lot going on in the music department. The 4th graders are having fun learning the recorder, while the 5th graders are beginning on ukulele and band instruments. We are singing autumn songs and rounds at the moment and everyone is getting excited for Halloween to arrive. Pretty soon the snow will fly and the winter songs will begin - looking forward to seeing you all at our December concerts!

SAVE THE DATE:

- *Elementary Winter Music Concert*
Friday, December 8 - 1:00pm
- *MS/HS Winter Music Concert*
Thursday, December 21 - 6:30pm



Montessori Visit the Pumpkin Patch!

It was a wet one, but we still made the most of the trip to Mommsen's Pumpkin Patch. Each student was able to take a pumpkin home, which fits in perfectly with our learning of the different stages of how a pumpkin is created. We got to try apple cider, hear a story about how pumpkins grow, take a hayride through the woods, pet lots of animals, and pick our own pumpkin to take home! It was a great day for E1 and Children's House Classrooms!

Guest Speaker in Solon Springs!

Douglas County DHHS is providing a guest speaker experience for Solon Springs Schools in December! Named The City of Detroit's Teacher of the year in 2021 by Michigan's Department of Education, Joe Vercellino specializes in talks and performances in schools focused on reconnecting students and educators to a sense of worth. Known for his warmth, vulnerability and quick connections with young people; Joe and his crew of past students (The Lion Heart Experience) bring a compelling message of worth and identity to schools nation-wide with performances wrapped in original music, visual-art and a narrative that reaches the deepest part of all of us. The work of The Lion Heart Experience both prevents and alleviates teen-anxiety and depression in schools.

Please join the community event: December 8th @ 6:00 pm, Superior HS
For more info, visit: thelionheartexperience.com



Cross Country Boys WIN Conference!

Our Solon Springs-Northwood 2023 XC team has been having a great season so far! We have 52 (5th-12th grade) athletes this year. They are a hardworking and determined group of runners that work as a "family" to keep getting faster and stronger together. The middle school girls make up almost half our team! They have won every conference meet so far and have even won larger meets against D1 schools. The middle school boys have a smaller and younger team, but getting stronger every day and having a great season.

The high school girls have a full team this year! They are pushing each other and competing competitively against our conference teams. The high school boys have dominated the conference with a perfect score of 15! We have a special group of high school athletes this year who lead by example and show the younger athletes what you have to do to be a successful athlete. They have continued to keep this legacy going and have very high expectations for themselves and their team this season.

On 10/12, our high school boys team took home the plaque making them Conference title champs 7 out of the last 8 years! The high school girls team finished as Conference Runner Ups this year!

Seven individuals on the boys team and one individual on the girls team earned ALL CONFERENCE this year by placing in the top ten overall in all 3 conference meets:

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------------|
| Tarver Sellwood | Dylan Taggart |
| Isaac Dickenson | Silas Kidder |
| Isaiah Ahlberg | Blaise Kidder |
| Jacob Taggart | Maritza Orozco-Serrano |



HS Volleyball was a small but mighty team! This year's focus was on individual growth and improvement, and WOW, these girls blew us out of the water with their successes! They showed up to practices ready to work hard and improve. It was hard to get through the full practice plan because the ladies would not end a drill until they felt they personally gave us their best. We heard "Coach, can I have just one more, I want to end on a good note," many times. That passion and drive for improvement is what every coach loves to see in their players. We are proud of each of our players and can't wait for next season! Thank you to the community for all of your support each and every year! We hope to see you in the stands cheering us on next year.

-Coach Simenson & Coach Malone.



EGRWSS

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