



The School District Of Philadelphia  
**Solis-Cohen Elementary School**  
7001 Horrocks Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19149

Dear Families of Solis-Cohen Elementary School,

I am writing to inform you of some important news regarding the next school year for Solis-Cohen. As you may know, enrollment at Solis-Cohen has been steadily growing for a number of years. As a result, the school's enrollment had begun to exceed the physical capacity of the school building. In the midst of this enrollment growth, the discovery of structural problems this summer forced us to have to relocate the fifth and sixth grades to Wilson Middle School for this school year.

In the short-term, work is being done to fortify a section of the building in time to allow us to serve grades K-5 at the Solis-Cohen campus for the 2016-2017 school year. However, the challenge with building capacity would remain if we were to try to continue serving grades K-6. Due to the capacity constraints, the School District of Philadelphia has made the decision to change the grade configuration at Solis-Cohen to kindergarten through fifth grade and to have future sixth grade classes automatically feed into Wilson. As a result, the fifth graders currently being housed at Wilson Middle School will remain there for sixth grade. Sixth graders currently being housed at Wilson will remain there next year and become official Wilson seventh graders. Current fourth grade students will remain at Solis-Cohen next year for fifth grade.

In face of the enormous challenges presented by the structural problems at the school, I am proud of how our school community worked together and alongside the leaders, staff, and students at Wilson to make this a great school year. Our fifth graders have now had a year to acclimate to Wilson, and will be fully prepared to continue thriving there as sixth graders.

Going forward, Principal Stefanie Ressler of Wilson Middle School and I will continue working closely with each other and with the District to ensure that this is a seamless transition for students and families. Please do not hesitate to contact the office here or to contact Principal Ressler at Wilson ([sressler@philasd.org](mailto:sressler@philasd.org)) should you have questions about either school.

Sincerely,

Dr. Michelina Serianni,  
Principal