

**SRDS Parents Guild Meeting -
Thursday April 4, 2024**

- I. Welcome & Approval of March 7, 2024 minutes** - The April 4, 2024 Parents Guild meeting commenced with a welcome to all parents / guardians from Ms. Nassdja Anthony and the approval of the past meeting's minutes.

II. Division News and More

Upper School: Dr. Shai Zacaraev- Head of Upper School

- Dr. Z gave an update on the Robotics team which is now #1 in New Jersey – what a journey it has been and will continue next year with the goal to compete internationally.
- On April 6 – Walkathon Around School! This will be a great gathering and community event of activities and walking.
- Debate team tournaments on April 6th.
- The Junior and Senior proms are fast approaching, and the students are getting excited.
- The US Concert will be at the end of April.
- **Spotlight on US**
 - Teddy, a senior provided an update on TEDx Talks, now in its 10th year at SRDS. The theme is Exploration- X, which also highlights 10 years.

Middle School: Ms. Amanda Bieglecki on behalf of Ms. Anastasia Kelly, Head of Middle School

- The upcoming weekend will be busy – some of the notable activities include:
 - CIE Bootcamp
 - Walkathon Around School – benefiting a charity in India
- 7th Grade is getting ready for the Boston trip on 4/10 – look out for an email with details this weekend.
- Forms are due for academic year 2024-25 class selection on 4/12.
- MS Play is scheduled for 5/3 and 5/4.

Ms. Dana Stern, Head of the Lower School

- Earth Day projects submission deadline is 4/8 for K-4th grade to Ms. Van Buren.
- Project Based Learning (PDL) is currently scheduled for 6/12.
- Please continue to check the LS schedules frequency for the latest happenings and important dates.

News for our SRDS community

- Check your emails for SRDS community happenings from Ms. Lebovits with a roundup of all news and events happening in April and May!
- Rebel Readers – May will be the last book club for this year with April's book is "The Women: by Kristin Hannah

III. Student Spotlights

- **Lower School –Super Science Team (3rd and 4th grade) for Sloan Kettering – Mrs. Rhoads, Ms. Thomas, Ms. Hollis and Upper School Student Videographers**
 - A fun and tremendous undertaking by the 3rd and 4th grade students, showcasing their creativity, enthusiasm, and dedication to creating experiment kits in partnership with Sloan Kettering.
 - The students created 100 kits containing various experiments, accompanied by instructional videos with the help of the Upper School Videography team.
 - The project developed the students' problem solving, collaboration and teamwork skills, along with empathy for patients at the hospital.
- **Middle School - Girl Scout cookie sale to support a school for girls, ages 7-16 years old in Tanzania led by students Madison and Sarah.**
 - Those who maybe be interested in donating, contact Ms. Bieglecki for further information.

IV. Athletics at SRDS, Mr. PJ Petrow, Director of Athletics

- This month's update was provided by Dr. Z on the following, highlighting softball, baseball for this Spring – emails will be going out this week. Check the SRDS Athletic Site for further information.

V. PG Board and Class Parent Nominations 2024-2025 school year, Nassdja Anthony, Co-President of the Parents Guild and Rosanna Young, Co-President of the Parents Guild

- **Volunteer for the PG**
 - Currently looking for (1) Co-President and (2) Co-Vice Presidents, representatives for the Lower and Middle Schools.

VI. Gala 2024! April 13th at the Alpine Country Club, Nassdja Anthony, Co-President of the Parents Guild and Rosanna Young, Co-President of the Parents Guild

- The Gala 2024 effort is tremendous this year! If you haven't purchased tickets, there is still time. It's going to be packed with exciting silent and live auctions items.
- 50/50 Raffles - Spread the word for a chance to win up to \$10K! Raffles are still available.
- Please volunteer for day-off set up!
- Questions? Contact Nassdja Anthony and Rosanna Young.

VII. Motion to Adjourn – Next meeting on May 2, 2024, 8:30am Alford Hall, PAC