

**SRDS Parents Guild Meeting -
Thursday May 2, 2024**

- **Welcome & Approval of April 4, 2024 minutes** – The May 2, 2024 Parents Guild meeting commenced with a welcome to all parents / guardians from Ms. Nassdja Anthony and Ms. Rosanna Young and the approval of the past meeting's minutes.
- **Division News and More**

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

- Seniors - last day of school is 5/16
- Grades 9-11 will have classes after their exams
- Join us for the 'Rebel Pitch Night of Ideas' and 'Perform Against Cancer'
- On 5/1, we will have college sweatshirts for seniors; photos will be at the main hall.
- Upcoming trips include the 9/11 Museum and a Hindu temple.

Middle School and Lower School Updates presented by Ms. Anastasia Kelly, Head of Middle School

- Thank you to the Parents Guild and all parents for the support – it's been successful academic year from Ms. Dana Stern and Ms. Anastasia Kelly.
- As we are winding down the 2023-24 academic year – continue to check your email for news and events.
- Some of the notable upcoming activities include:
 - MS school play, "Annie" on 5/3 and 5/4
 - 7th and 8th grade trips on being planned – and permission slips are due.
 - Capstone – students are preparing for the big event.
- Finals are in June – check the schedule for the dates.

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.

**Ms. Chris Lebovits, Director of Community Engagement and Assistant Director of LS Admission,
News for our SRDS community**

- Thank you to the Parents Guild and all parents for helping with new and prospective family events and making them feel welcomed at SRDS.
 - A great year of fun events – thanks for all that participated!
 - Attend our BBQ on May 23rd and consider volunteering.
 - Rebel Readers - last book club tonight, 5/2.
- **Student Spotlight**

- **Upper School - Devraj, Author of “Zooming Around the Sun”**
 - Devraj will join the next PG meeting to discuss his children’s book.
- **Admissions Update, Mr. Geoffrey Bowman, Director of Admissions**
 - Thank you to the Parents Guild for all you do! Admissions continue to be successful, with the support from the Parents Guild in helping to make new and prospective families feel welcomed into our SRDS community.
 - Tours for all grades, including invitations to school events such as the art show, MS play and BBQ are underway.
- **Development Office Update, Ms. Lynne McCormack, Director of Development**
 - Thank you to all parents for the continued fundraising efforts and commitment to SRDS.
 - There are donation opportunities for this academic year – May 23rd.
 - Any questions, please contact Ms. McCormack for any questions.
- **TEDxYouth@SRDS, Laura Hollis, Director of Technology**
 - TEDx Talks, now in its 10th year at SRDS continues to be a success - the planning and preparation begins in September for grades 8 – 12.
 - Students select their themes as well as a mentor from the faculty. The mentor provides feedback throughout the process, leading up to the presentations and filming.
 - We heard from 4 students which participated either directly in presenting a theme, or the setup, filming and editing.
 - SRDS TEDxYouth videos can be viewed on YouTube.
- **Athletics at SRDS, Mr. PJ Petrow, Director of Athletics**
 - SRDS is finishing up Spring season with many tournaments, games, and competitions, including:
 - Girl’s lacrosse – strong results this year with only 1 loss and will be in the tournament with the next game against Ramsey.
 - Boy’s lacrosse with the main part of the season in progress now
 - Track & Field team saw increased the participation and has done well to date.
 - Boy’s Tennis will have their tournament coming up soon.
 - Golf had a strong showing with over 30 players, some have qualified for the league. Next year we look forward to organizing the girls team.
 - Crew team recently participated in a regatta at Ridgefield Park which was an exciting event.
 - Baseball – Grades 7th through 12th currently meet on Tuesday and Thursday.
 - On Friday, Division 1 and 3 college selection will be announced.
 - MS N-Block options continue to expand with new choices.
 - Progress on the athletic facilities continue and are moving forward.
 - Remember to check the SRDS Athletic Site for the latest information.

- **Gala 2024 Recap: Success in the REVELVERSE Update- Nassdja Anthony, Co-President of the Parents Guild and Rosanna Young, Co-President of the Parents Guild and Jacque Vasquez, Co-Vice President of the Parents Guild**
 - The Gala 2024 was tremendous success thanks to all hard work and effort of the volunteers that made it a memorable evening for everyone that attended.
 - Stay tuned – 2025 Gala themes and ideas are in progress!
- **Thank You PG Board and Class Parents 2023-2024 school year! Welcome our new PG Board members 2024-2025 school year!**
 - **Co-Presidents:** Jacque Vasquez and Heather Holder
 - **Co-Vice Presidents:** Allison Berkowitz and Alana Murphy
 - **Treasurer:** Michaela Siegel & Beatrice Burgis
 - **Secretary:** Cindy Mueller Giardina
 - **Lower School Representatives:** Alyson Sugar & Tanya Hall
 - **Middle School Representatives:** Monica Jain & Sarah Aufgang
 - **Upper School Representative:** Shulamit Gershenson
 - **Director of Alumni & Special Events:** Chrissie Signore

Motion to Adjourn – See you in September 2024!