



INNOVATORS

THINKERS

LEADERS



TOGETHER, WE
ARE BUILDING
THE FUTURE.
ONE THAT IS
FUELED BY
POSSIBILITY AND
TRAIL BLAZED BY
LEADERS WHO
ARE TAUGHT HOW
TO THINK, NOT
WHAT TO THINK.

"We commit to challenging students to leave their comfort zones and strive to reach their utmost potentials. Education in the 21st century is not just about learning from textbooks and preparing for standardized testing. It's about giving students the opportunities and education necessary to be global collaborators, innovators and leaders in an increasingly dynamic world."



Head of School
Jalaj Desai
M.Ed., M.S., Montclair State University



NEW
HALL OF SCIENCE AND
ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Saddle River Day School students are realizing impactful ideas on a global scale, facing challenges with confidence and determination, and preparing for success in college and beyond.

CONTINUAL PROGRESS AND INNOVATION

ADDING
Center for Technology
and Computer Science
(CTCS)

INCREASING
global relationships and
learning opportunities

INTEGRATING
artificial intelligence
for students and faculty

DEVELOPING
new academic initiatives
and programming

THE ROBOREBELS, SADDLE RIVER DAY SCHOOL'S ROBOTICS TEAM, WAS STARTED BY UPPER SCHOOL STUDENTS WHO TOOK INITIATIVE AND LED ITS IMPLEMENTATION. NOW, IT'S THE NUMBER ONE ROBOTICS TEAM IN THE STATE.



REBEL INNOVATOR CHALLENGE

This annual competition gives SRDS business and entrepreneurship students the chance to develop and present completely original product concepts.

NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED DIGITAL ARTS PROGRAM



We know that future employers will value tech skills in all industries.

IN KINDERGARTEN

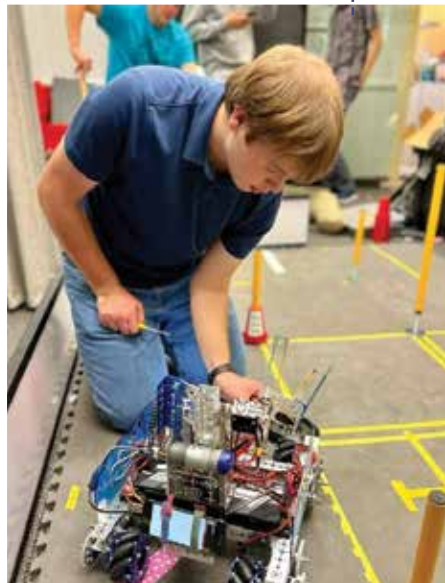
Coding principles are introduced through Bee-Bot programmable robots.

IN SEVENTH GRADE

Every student builds a foundation in digital fluency and creative problem-solving, utilizing the Stanford Design Thinking process.

IN NINTH GRADE

SRDS offers advanced courses in artificial intelligence, natural language processing and data science. Our computer science courses introduce app development and emphasize proficiency in programming languages like HTML and JavaScript.



LAUNCHING INTO A LIFETIME OF SUCCESS

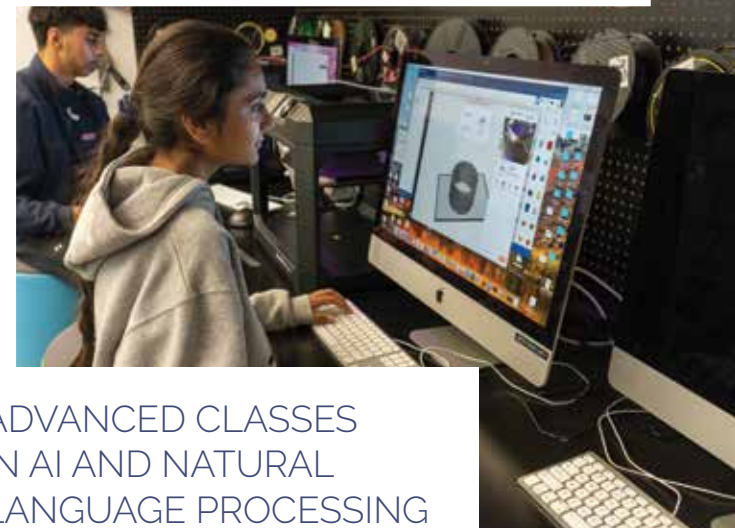
To earn his Gateway Honors Diploma, David Han '24 researched, opened and grew his own small business, learning how to incorporate his LLC and file taxes. In 2024, David was accepted to Babson College's renowned entrepreneurship program.

IMPACTFUL PROJECTS

Twelve third and fourth grade SRDS students were selected to be part of the Super Science Team and create science kits to share with kids staying at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center.

"We know how children develop and what they will need to succeed in the coming years. Our curriculum provides opportunities for students to grow intellectually, socially and emotionally."

LAURA HOLLIS, P'24, '30 & '31
DIRECTOR OF TECHNOLOGY



ADVANCED CLASSES IN AI AND NATURAL LANGUAGE PROCESSING

SRDS.ai prepares our students for a rapidly evolving future by integrating cutting-edge AI technology with traditional learning methods to create a personalized, engaging learning environment.

INNOVATORS

Our students embrace change, find their interests and learn and grow by doing.

Our entrepreneurship curriculum provides students with the foundation and skills to turn a business idea into reality. Covering idea generation, finance, marketing and operations, the courses instill professional skills that will prove vital in preparing students for lifelong learning in the real world.

THINKERS

Our students take intellectual risks, try new things and express their ideas.

IDEAS LAB

Students work on projects that span all disciplines—designing and building race cars, prototyping eco-friendly water bottles and more—while exploring resources like our laser cutter, 3D printers, and robotics and circuits kits. Our younger engineers build flashlights from scratch and boats that can float and carry cargo.

ACCELERATED MIDDLE SCHOOL CLASSES

Advanced science courses in biology and chemistry that give students a practical foundation for STEAM innovation and early preparation for AP science courses.

Advanced math courses that offer a head start for high school, including Algebra as early as 6th Grade and Geometry as early as 7th Grade.



SPANISH

LATIN

THREE GLOBAL LANGUAGE OPTIONS

FRENCH

TEDx Youth

The Annual TEDxYouth conference is a platform for students to deliver original talks on topics like mental health and environmental reform.



"We are thrilled that our kids attend SRDS. The administration and faculty are readily available and ensure every student has a unique and fulfilling experience. Academics are challenging and students are fully engaged with projects and coursework that foster critical thinking and creativity."

CURRENT PARENT, NICHE.COM

CULTURAL AND CONVERSATIONAL SPANISH INSTRUCTION BEGINS IN PRE-K.

AN INTEGRATED STEAM CURRICULUM

Forming creative and holistic right-brain thinkers



The NJ Scholars program has accepted SRDS students for three consecutive years.

INSPIRED MINDS

In all three divisions, SRDS students take studio art, chorus and instrumental music, and proudly star in theater productions every year.



STRATEGIC MINDS

Our Upper School debate team participates in prestigious competitions—such as the Georgetown University Public Forum Debate Tournament—where they learn to strategize, collaborate and speak with confidence.



REBELS LEAD WITH PERSEVERANCE

Lower School students engage in art and physical education classes taught by certified specialists.

↓

Middle School sports teams focus on participation and fundamentals over competition, building a foundation of health, wellness and athleticism.

↓

Upper School student-athletes go on to study and compete at top Division I programs at Princeton, Stanford, Michigan, UPenn and more.



4 YEARS OF BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP COURSES
Upper School students are equipped with a practical understanding of leadership in the modern business world.

EQUESTRIAN PROGRAM
SRDS students take their responsibility and competitive skills to the next level through our new riding program.

22 VARSITY ATHLETIC TEAMS

Lacrosse	Fencing
Golf	Tennis
Crew	Basketball & More
Soccer	

REBELS LEAD WITH CREATIVITY
Cast and crew for "Shrek: The Musical" delighted audiences with four sold-out performances. The full musical production gave students the opportunity to learn from theater professionals who work on Broadway.



COMPETITIVE CLUB TEAMS

DEBATE TEAM First place in a statewide tournament

MATH LEAGUE Competes at Harvard, MIT and Yale

ODYSSEY OF THE MIND First place in state competition 2024 and world final participants in 2023 and 2024

CHESS CLUB State tournament champions

LEADERS

Our students lead now so they'll be ready for whatever comes next.

"Applying to colleges was a seamless experience for me because of the individualized attention at SRDS. At Tufts University, I double majored in computer science and cognitive brain science, with a minor in studio art. I now work in the Research Technology Department at Morgan Stanley, where I combine my technical skills with creativity and innovation. I am forever grateful for the foundation that SRDS provided for me to be a multifaceted leader."

ANAHITA SETHI, SRDS ALUM



REBELS LEAD WITH HEART
Students develop responsibility for themselves and others through community service projects.



Programs like Reading Buddies and Rebel Leaders form friendships across divisions and provide children with older student role models to respect and admire.



GIVE YOUR CHILD THE FOUNDATION TO THRIVE

SUPPLEMENTAL

opportunities through our After-School Academy

7:1

Student-teacher ratio

PURPOSEFUL

play incorporated into Pre-K classes to engage, educate and inspire

MORE THAN 85%

of faculty hold advanced degrees

EARLY CHILDHOOD AND PRE-K-GRADE 4

LOWER SCHOOL

“Step into the bustle of Lower School classrooms and hallways on any given day and feel the vibrant energy of young minds, fully engaged. Students are encouraged to be confident, secure in the knowledge that any new experience will give them the opportunity to grow and excel.”



HEAD OF LOWER SCHOOL

DANA STERN

M.A., MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY

FOUNDATIONAL

Highly regarded Dimensions Math® program that emphasizes real-world learning and problem solving

EXPERT

Inquiry-based science curriculum developed by the National Science Resources Center and the Smithsonian Institution

PERSONAL

Exceptional guidance from teachers who understand the latest research in reading and writing development and individualize instruction for each student



PRE-K AT SRDS

Every child grows socially, emotionally and academically through our exceptional preschool program that includes:

- Daily opportunities to play and interact with peers in learning centers designed to instill solid personal skills
- Mindfulness and yoga for self regulation, emotional understanding and positivity
- Math and literacy instruction every day with engaging, hands-on activities
- Letters and sounds learned through a multisensory approach

“Students thrive when there is positivity and high energy. Throughout our day we work hard to expand our creativity and imagination. Children work together in small groups with hands-on materials to explore real-world problems. The will to become the person you believe you were meant to be starts with having courage and determination!”

SECOND-GRADE TEACHER

GINA PATELSKY

B.A., UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

M.A., FAIRLEIGH DICKINSON UNIVERSITY

PROJECT-BASED LEARNING

Our first graders gain firsthand experience with monthly, hands-on, cross-curricular projects that pair curriculum with real-life experiences. These activities may combine cooking, math, art, gardening, service concepts and more.



INSPIRE GROWTH, CONFIDENCE AND INDEPENDENCE

FACULTY
advisor meetings every week

13
students in average class

20+
clubs and sports

7:1
Student-teacher ratio

MORE THAN 85%
of faculty hold advanced degrees

GRADES 5-8

MIDDLE SCHOOL

“The Middle School curriculum is structured to maximize scholarship, discovery and creativity. Students participate in core classes that challenge and inform them while also offering them opportunities to showcase their knowledge in unique and inventive ways.”



HEAD OF MIDDLE SCHOOL
ANASTASIA KELLY
M.ED., FAIRLEIGH DICKINSON UNIVERSITY

ADVISORY

Each faculty advisor serves as a mentor to a group of 10 students, ensuring each student benefits from check-ins, daily meetings having an advocate in individualizing their Middle School experience.

COLLABORATION

Students work together and hone their leadership skills through projects like:

- Engineering and designing instruments to amplify the sound on cell phones
- Constructing model roller coasters to explore velocity and acceleration
- Programming BBC-designed robots to perform specific tasks
- Simulating the diplomatic and political entanglements of the Crusades



Odyssey of the Mind presents students with the opportunity to devise a multidisciplinary solution to a complex problem while competing with their peers. SRDS placed 14th at the Michigan State University World Competition.

“I’ve seen how he has become more organized and committed to his studies. He understands not only how to take good notes, but how to use and understand the information presented to him.”

CURRENT PARENT

100% OF MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS CONDUCT ORIGINAL RESEARCH AT SRDS

Every year, students participate in a capstone research project on a topic of their choosing.

The Middle School debate club encourages students to deeply understand different points of view, equipping them with vital critical thinking skills.

N BLOCK CLASSES AND CLUBS

Closing Bell, Chess, Debate, Math League, Robotics, Parkour, Theater Arts

BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP CLASSES BEGIN IN 7TH GRADE, AND ADVANCED COMPUTER SCIENCE CLASSES BEGIN IN 8TH GRADE.



BALANCE CHALLENGE, INSPIRATION AND OPPORTUNITY

COLLEGE GUIDANCE

begins in 9th grade

30+

AP and college-level courses

100%

of faculty access professional development funds each year

20%

higher AP participation than national average

GRADES 9-12

UPPER SCHOOL

“Upper School at Saddle River Day School is a time when forever friendships are made, talents are discovered, skills are honed and the groundwork for futures is laid. Students balance rigorous academics, extracurriculars and volunteer work as they evolve into capable leaders and compassionate adults.”



HEAD OF UPPER SCHOOL

DR. SHAI ZACARAEV

ED.D., UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

IMPACTFUL

The SRDS Science Research Symposium class gives students the ability to conduct their own professional, advanced research using fruit flies as the model organism.

STUDENTS PARTNERED WITH THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY, USAGAIN AND NY YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES TO RAISE MONEY AND PROVIDE SUPPLIES FOR THOSE IN NEED.

GLOBAL

At the United Nations headquarters, three SRDS students were honored among thousands from around the world for their contributions to the Model UN conference.

DREW SAVAS '23 NOT ONLY PARTICIPATED IN THE NEW JERSEY SCHOLARS PROGRAM, BUT ALSO WENT ON TO ATTEND NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY IN ITS HIGHLY COMPETITIVE INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING PROGRAM.

PERSONALIZED COLLEGE COUNSELING

Beginning in ninth grade, our program emphasizes college readiness, goal setting and planning.

We work closely with students in the classroom and individually to develop a personalized, four-year academic plan and to identify their skills and interests. The college counseling team advises students on how to best curate an admissions application that showcases passions, talents and accomplishments—increasing the likelihood of admission to a first-choice school.

Recent SRDS graduate destinations include Princeton, Notre Dame, Georgetown, NYU, Boston College, Villanova and Middlebury College.

GATEWAY HONORS DIPLOMA

The SRDS Gateway Honors Diploma Program offers students who have already found their passions the opportunity to design and implement an advanced study program. As they complete career-focused academic tracks, students also pursue hands-on, on-site learning. Working with faculty and career-field mentors, students develop scholarly papers, deliver their research and defend their theses on presentation night as part of a strong portfolio of accomplishments.

DIPLOMA TRACKS

- Arts
- Humanities and International Engagement
- Innovation and Entrepreneurship
- NEW in 2024: Medical



TOMORROW'S INNOVATORS, THINKERS AND LEADERS ARE EDUCATED TODAY

THE CENTER FOR INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

The Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship offers students the opportunity to engage in meaningful projects and programs such as monthly design challenges, entrepreneurship experiences, sustainability initiatives and more.

PARENTS GUILD

Our community of parents matches the vibrancy of our school. When a student joins SRDS, so does the whole family. Parents have the opportunity to attend Parents Guild meetings, fundraisers, pickleball clinics, craft workshops, dinner dances, ladies' nights and more. The Guild strengthens SRDS as a whole—and has a lot of fun.

Saddle River Day School admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

AFTER-SCHOOL ACADEMY

Our After-School Academy provides enrichment, tutoring and additional opportunities for students to explore their interests in a supportive environment under the guidance of experts.

COURSE OPTIONS

Code Ninjas	Culinary Creations
Chess	Private Music Lessons
Lego Masters	Multi-Sports Classes
Robotics	& More!
NASA Academy	

SRDS SUMMER ACADEMY

From full-credit advancement courses to non-credit enrichment classes, the SRDS Summer Academy offers students the opportunity to develop their writing, gain study skills, excel in mathematics, pursue an interest in marine biology, practice the SAT and much more.

SaddleRiverDay.org/SummerAcademy



Pre-K 3 to Grade 12
147 Chestnut Ridge Road
Saddle River, NJ • 201-327-4050

SADDLERIVERDAY.ORG