

SRDS Parents Guild Meeting

Thursday, May 7, 2026

I. Welcome & Approval of April 2026 Minutes

- Heather Holder and Alana Murphy, Co-Presidents of the Parents Guild, opened the meeting, thanking everyone for attending the last PG meeting of the 2025-2026 school year, and started this month's Parents Guild Meeting with the approval of the April 2026 meeting minutes.

II. REBELS Athletic Club Update

- Ms. Jodi Ramasamy, President of the REBELS Athletic Club (RAC) thanked Parents Guild for their efforts and encouraged everyone to attend the last athletic club event of the school year.
- The Winter/Spring Athletics Banquet is on May 28th in the SRDS Gym. She highlighted the 50/50 fundraiser that will directly support the athletic budget and improve athlete experiences. She announced that the SRDS athletic team to sell the most 50/50 tickets will win a lunch from Chipotle.
- She encouraged everyone to sign up for the Rebels Athletic Club using the GroupSpot App to stay updated on the competitions and other activities.

III. SRDS Fourth Grade Student Presentation

- SRDS fourth graders and their teachers, Ms. Ehrlich, Ms. Lyons and Ms. McCort, presented their year of philanthropic projects known as Rebels With A Cause.
- SRDS 4th grade students discussed their fundraising efforts and how they raised more than \$5K for the various organizations. Additional projects included food pantry donations, making thankfulness cards and singing to older people, and donating toys to St. Joseph's Hospital. They also learned about agriculture and being a student in Malawi.

IV. Admissions Update

- Mr. Geoffrey Bowman, Head of Admissions, thanked parents for assisting with sign placement for new families and mentioned upcoming information sessions and mentioned a QR code for parents to sign up for the new families sign placement program.
- Highlighted new partnership with the NCE School of Excellence for soccer and encouraged families to review the information recently shared. Additional information will follow.
- Invited interested families to volunteer and host Spanish exchange students next year.

V. Middle School News and Upcoming Events

- Ms. Anastasia Kelly, Head of Middle School, thanked PG for the Cinco de Mayo themed breakfast during the Faculty and Staff Appreciation Week.
- She mentioned the upcoming MS musical "The High School Musical Jr" performance on May 8th and 9th, and the MS spring concert on May 14th which will be Mr. Capa's last concert at SRDS.

- She outlined various MS events for May, including the art show on May 19th, MS field day on May 21st, capstone showcase on May 27th, and fifth and sixth grade social on June 4th.
- She discussed the award ceremony for eighth graders on May 28th, National STEM Honor Society members' induction ceremony on June 1st, the eighth grade graduation trip on June 8th-9th, and eighth grade graduation on June 10th.
- Mentioned it has been a great school year and thanked parents for their partnership, and invited everyone to attend the August forum about new school year updates, dress code, and any changes in the student schedule for next year.

VI. SRDS Development and Annual Day of Giving

- Ms. Lynn McCormack, Director of Development, thanked parents for their philanthropic efforts, highlighted the success of the Gala and the Building a Future campaign, and encouraged everyone to continue their support.
- She mentioned the upcoming Spring Day of Giving and encouraged parents to support the SRDS Fund.
- Shared a video from a graduating student expressing gratitude for the opportunities provided by the school.

VII. Community Engagement at SRDS

- Ms. Chris Lebovits, Director of Community Engagement and Assistant Director of Lower School Admissions, thanked everyone for all their help this school year. She thanked PG for everything that they have done. She appreciated everyone who helps with admissions events, who has called a family, who has done anything to show the new families what an amazing community SRDS continues to be for new and existing families.

VIII. Lower School News and Upcoming Events

- Presented by Ms. Chris Lebovits, Director of Community Engagement and Assistant Director of LS Admissions, on behalf of Ms. Dana Stern, Head of Lower School.
- She thanked parents for their support and mentioned the upcoming Lower School spring concert on May 13th, and Lower School field trips.
- She discussed the implementation of the Health Barn program and yoga, as well as meditation sessions with Danielle Larson in Lower School.
- She highlighted the Mahwah Environmental Organization's volunteer programs and the LS Super Scientist Team's work with Memorial Sloan Kettering Children's Hospital.
- She thanked parents for their involvement and support in various LS programs and initiatives.

IX. Upper School News and Upcoming Events

- Dr. Shai Zacaraev, Head of Upper School, thanked parents for their support and mentioned the upcoming AP exam weeks and the Senior Dinner.
- He congratulated the Robotics Team's success at the World Championships and discussed their future plans.

- He outlined the schedule for seniors' graduation day, including the senior drive-by, senior awards, and graduation ceremony.
- He mentioned the juniors' trip to Hershey Park, as well as the Winter and Spring Sports Banquet for MS and US athletes on May 28th.

X. Parent Guild Updates

- PG co-presidents thanked everyone for their participation and support throughout the school year.
- Highlighted the importance of parent volunteers and their contributions to the school's success.
- Thanked the class parents, PG committee chairs, and PG executive board members for their dedication and efforts.
- Closed the meeting with Motion to Adjourn and wished everyone a wonderful summer and looking forward to the next school year.