

April 9, 2024

# Travell eNews

## In this Issue (scroll through):

- **Author Visit: Chris Grabenstein (4/26, Gr. 3-5)**  
**\*\*Purchase Books on Community Pass by TOMORROW, 4/10**
- **Door Decorating (5/3)/ Teacher Appreciation - Sign Up Now!**
- **Recycle Your Eclipse Glasses**
- **Save The Date: Kona Ice Truck (4/19)**
- **Men's Night - NFL Draft at Gearblock (4/25)**
- **Travell Golf Tournament - FAQs & Registration (5/17)**
  - *Early Bird extended through 4/19 - register now!*
- **SEPAG Information**
  - **Information Session re: Structured Literacy (4/11)**
  - **SEPAG FAQ**
- **Nominations: HSA Executive Board 2024-2025**

Don't Forget:  
Photos Due by 4/14  
for the Yearbook!



## IMPORTANT DATES

**Wed, April 10: No School, Eid-Al-Fitr**

**Wed, April 17: General HSA Meeting, 9:00am**



Travell School  
welcomes  
Award Winning Author  
**Chris Grabenstein**

April 26, 2024



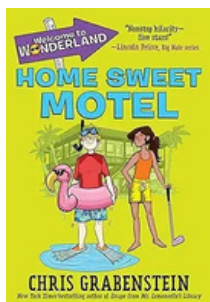
We are excited to announce that Chris Grabenstein will visit with students in **Grades 3-5** virtually at Travell School on Friday, April 26, 2024. For more information about the author and his books, visit <https://chrisgrabenstein.com/>

Author visits are a wonderful opportunity for young readers, writers, and artists to meet the creators of the books they read. Consider extending this learning experience through the purchase of an autographed book. (A percentage of the sales will benefit our school!)

This visit is made possible due to the generous support of the Travell HSA...many thanks!!

**Book Orders are due Wednesday, April 10th**

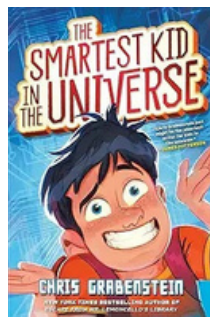
Order online at: <https://register.communitypass.net/ridgewood>



**Welcome to Wonderland: Home Sweet Motel**

Paperback \$8

Eleven-year-old P. T. Wilkie may be the greatest storyteller alive. But he knows one thing for a fact: the Wonderland Motel is the best place a kid could ever live! All-you-can-eat poolside ice cream! A snack machine in the living room! A frog slide! A giant rampaging alligator! (Okay, that last one may or may not be made up.) There's only one thing the Wonderland doesn't have, though—customers. And if the Wonderland doesn't get them soon, P.T. and his friend Gloria may have to say goodbye to their beloved motel forever. They need to think BIG. They need to think BOLD. They need an OUTRAGEOUS plan. Luckily for them, Gloria is a business GENIUS, and OUTRAGEOUS is practically P.T.'s middle name. With Gloria's smarts and P.T.'s world-famous stories and schemes, there's got to be a way to save the Wonderland!



**The Smartest Kid in the Universe**

Paperback \$9

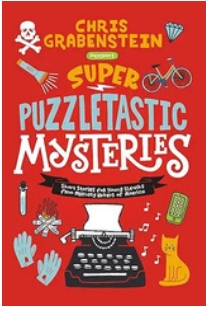
Twelve-year-old Jake's middle school is about to be shut down—unless Jake and his friends can figure out how to save it. When Jake spies a bowl of jelly beans at the hotel where his mom works, he eats them. But those weren't just jellybeans, one of the scientists at his mom's conference is developing the world's first ingestible information pills. And *that's* what Jake ate. Before long, Jake is the smartest kid in the universe. But the pills haven't been tested yet. And when word gets out about this new genius, people want him. The government. The mega corporations. Not all of them are good people! Can Jake navigate the ins and outs of his newfound geniusdom (not to mention the ins and outs of middle school) and use his smarts to save his school? Bonus! Includes extra brainteasers to test your smarts!



**Dog Squad**

Paperback \$9

Duke is not your average dog. Along with his crew, he fights crime and goes on claw-biting adventures helping dogs in peril in the hit streaming sensation - Dog Squad! Fred is a pretty average dog. He's scrappy. He's loveable. But he's not brave like his heroes on Dog Squad. Fred looks an awful lot like Duke from Dog Squad, though. In fact, when Duke needs a stand-in, Fred's the perfect choice. But the Dog Squad action doesn't always stop on screen! When there's danger in real life, can Fred find the courage to step up and save the day?



**Super Puzzletastic Mysteries: Short Stories for Young Sleuths**

Paperback \$10  
Hardcover \$18

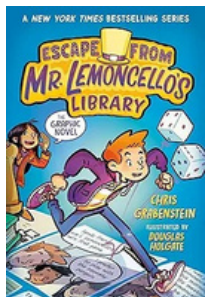
Bestselling author Chris Grabenstein and the Mystery Writers of America bring together twenty peerless puzzles—from bestselling authors such as Peter Lerangis, Stuart Gibbs, Lauren Magaziner, Kate Milford, and, of course, Grabenstein himself—in an anthology of mystery short stories that invite readers to try to unravel the riddles themselves. From tales of hapless superheroes and stolen squirrel monkeys to murderous triplets and haunted basements, these thrilling, puzzling, and hilarious cases have one thing in common—YOU get a chance to be the detective before the author reveals the solution. With twenty never-before-published mystery stories, this collection will leave young detectives sleuthing for more!



**Shine!**

Paperback \$9

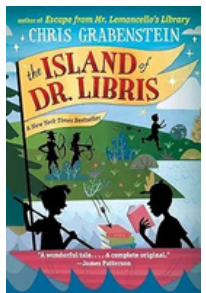
*Shine!* might be the catchphrase of twelve-year-old Piper's hero--astronaut, astronomer, and television host Nellie Dumont Frisse--but Piper knows the truth: some people are born to shine, and she's just not one of them. That fact has never been clearer than now, when her dad's new job has landed them both at Chumley Prep, a posh private school where everyone seems to be the best at something and where Piper *definitely* doesn't fit in. Bursting with humor, heart, science, possibilities, and big questions, *Shine!* is a story about finding your place in the universe--a story about figuring out who you are and who you want to be. BONUS! Science experiment included!



**Escape From Mr. Lemoncello's Library: The Graphic Novel**

Paperback \$14  
Hardcover \$22

When Kyle learns that the world's most famous game maker, Luigi Lemoncello, has designed the town's new library and is having an invitation-only lock-in on opening night, he's determined to be there! But the tricky part isn't getting into the library—it's getting out. Because when morning comes, the doors stay locked. Kyle and the other kids must solve every clue and figure out every secret puzzle to find the hidden escape route!



**Island of Dr. Libris**

Paperback \$9

What if your favorite characters came to life? Billy's spending the summer in a lakeside cabin that belongs to the mysterious Dr. Libris. But something strange is going on. Besides the security cameras everywhere, there's Dr. Libris's private bookcase. Whenever Billy opens the books inside, he can hear sounds coming from the island in the middle of the lake. The clash of swords. The twang of arrows. Sometimes he can even feel the ground shaking. It's almost as if the stories he's reading are coming to life! But that's impossible . . . isn't it?

Questions? Contact Christina Morbelli at [christinamorbelli@hotmail.com](mailto:christinamorbelli@hotmail.com) or 602.466.8697



In honor of Teacher Appreciation Week (May 6-10), we are seeking volunteers to help decorate the doors of Travell to show our gratitude for the faculty and staff that show up, support, and care for our students each day.

**WHEN:** Friday, May 3 from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM

**WHO:** 1-2 volunteers per door

**WHERE:** meet outside the Main Office

**[SIGN UP HERE](#)**

Details on logistics, supplies, etc. will be shared upon sign up.

Text Liz Levis at (917) 494-8443 with any questions.





Travell Green Team is collecting new and used solar eclipse glasses. They will be sent to other parts of the world so that families can view future solar eclipses safely.

Drop off in Main Office until 4/19



# TRAVELL MEN'S NIGHT

THURSDAY, APRIL 25

GEARBLOCK BREWING COMPANY IN WALDWICK

8:00PM

\$40

Two hours of drinks, food, and your team's terrible first-round pick.  
More details soon...

**[REGISTER HERE](#)**

Questions?

Tom Torre (ttorre03@gmail.com)  
Bryan Kozlowski (bryankozlowski@icloud.com)  
Stephen Del Percio (sdelpercio@gmail.com)



THE HSA INVITES YOU TO THE

# 1ST TRAVELL GOLF OUTTING

FRIDAY MAY 17, 2024 | 1:00PM SHOTGUN  
THE GOLF CLUB AT MANSION RIDGE

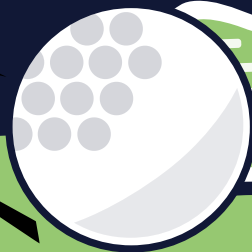
Early Bird (before April 19 - EXTENDED!) - \$275pp  
Registration - \$300pp

GREEN FEE (INCLUDES CART)  
BOXED LUNCH  
6 BEVERAGES PER CART  
BUFFET DINNER  
2 HOURS OF OPEN BAR

Dinner and Drinks only - \$100

## PRIZES

CLOSEST TO PIN  
LONGEST DRIVE  
BEST GROSS SCORE  
BEST CALLAWAY SCORE  
50/50



OPEN TO TRAVELL FAMILIES AND GUESTS  
CONTACT DAVID CHOW FOR QUESTIONS - DACHOW@GMAIL.COM

Click [here](#) to register

# TRAVELL GOLF OUTTING FAQS

**Q: IS THIS FOR DADS ONLY?**

A: ABSOLUTELY NOT! ALL PARENTS, FAMILY, AND FRIENDS OF TRAVELL ARE WELCOME TO COME

**Q: HOW WILL THE FOURSOMES BE SET UP?**

A: EVERYONE IS ENCOURAGED TO MAKE THEIR FOURSOMES BUT IF NOT, WE WILL PAIR YOU UP! IT'S A GREAT WAY TO MAKE NEW FRIENDS

**Q: WHAT TIME WILL DINNER AND DRINKS BE IF I WANT TO JOIN WITHOUT PLAYING GOLF?**

A: AROUND 6-6:30PM (1PM TEE OFF AND A 5-HOUR ROUND)

**Q: IS THERE TRANSPORTATION PROVIDED?**

A: IF THERE IS INTEREST, THIS CAN BE ORGANIZED FOR AN ADDITIONAL COST

**Q: WHAT IF I'M NEW TO GOLF?**

A: NOT A PROBLEM! THE FOCUS OF THIS EVENT IS TO HAVE FUN TOGETHER AS A COMMUNITY REGARDLESS OF HOW LONG YOU HAVE BEEN PLAYING

**Q: CAN I ONLY PAY FOR THE ROUND?**

A: UNFORTUNATELY NOT. DUE TO THE SIZE OF THE GROUP AND THIS BEING A FUNDRAISER, THIS IS NOT AN OPTION AT THIS TIME.

EARLY BIRD HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO APRIL 19TH!!!  
CONTACT DAVID CHOW FOR QUESTIONS - DACHOW@GMAIL.COM

Click [here](#) to register



**\*\* This Meeting's Topic: STRUCTURED LITERACY IN RIDGEWOOD SCHOOLS \*\***



# Ridgewood SEPAG Information Meeting



**Thursday, April 11, 2024**  
**9:30 am**



**Education Center**  
**49 Cottage Place, 3rd Floor**



Christie DeAraujo, MAT, SLDS, OG-TT, is a multisensory reading staff developer at Ridgewood Public Schools. In her role, Ms. DeAraujo supports special education teachers and case managers in Grades PreK-12 with implementing Structured Literacy interventions to support students who are struggling with literacy skills. Ms. DeAraujo will present an update on Structured Literacy in Ridgewood Schools, as well as Tips to Avoid the Summer Slide in Reading.

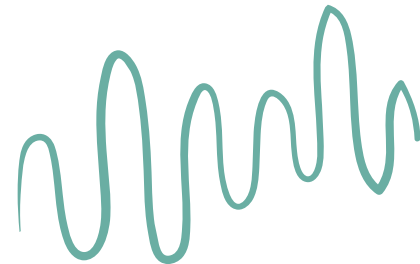
In addition, updates will be given by the Ridgewood SEPAG, Dr. Michelle Fenwick/ the Special Programs Office, and a Board of Education representative. To make these updates as useful as possible, please email any questions or concerns you have that you would like addressed to [contact@RidgewoodSEPAG.org](mailto:contact@RidgewoodSEPAG.org).

**Ridgewood SEPAG**

[www.RidgewoodSEPAG.org](http://www.RidgewoodSEPAG.org) • [contact@RidgewoodSEPAG.org](mailto:contact@RidgewoodSEPAG.org)

# FAQ

## for Ridgewood SEPAG Sensory-Friendly Dinners



### ✓ What is a Ridgewood SEPAG sensory-friendly dinner?

A sensory-friendly dinner is a time for families and friends to eat out at a local restaurant. Consider this your typical dining experience, except that special care has been taken to provide a lower-sensory atmosphere, such as turning down or off overhead music, as well as a judgment-free experience, including dining with families who have similar support needs and being served by staff who are prepared ahead of time on the general needs of our community. Food and checks are expedited, and our Ridgewood STEPSS students (ages 18-21 years) often provide activities to keep kids entertained during brief waiting periods. Although we can't guarantee 100% satisfaction, we do hope these thoughtful adjustments help you have a great experience out with your loved ones.

### ✓ Why is the Ridgewood SEPAG doing this for our community?

The Ridgewood SEPAG, in conjunction with Ridgewood Village Council and support from Access Ridgewood members, are providing this much needed service because we all need to feel seen and included. Many families never take what they see as a risk to eat out, either because they worry about their child's unpredictable behavior at a restaurant or because they've tried in the past but had a negative experience for any number of reasons. Our goal is for you to release yourself and your family of the pressure, help you access a delicious meal at a local restaurant, and be exactly who you are: a valued member of our diverse and powerful community.

### ✓ If my child is struggling (e.g., not staying in their seat/at the table, not keeping noise levels down), do I need to leave?

You may of course pick up your check and excuse yourself anytime. However, we hope that you trust you're in a safe space among families who understand the difference between disrespect and impulses.

### ✓ Do I need to make a reservation with the restaurant to attend?

No. However, you should reserve a spot on the Ridgewood SEPAG Eventbrite for the particular dinner so that the restaurant can anticipate how many families to expect throughout our designated window. Once the event has been arranged by the Ridgewood SEPAG with the restaurant, we will distribute a flyer that includes the restaurant name and address, timeframe, and a link/QR code to the Eventbrite reservation site.

### ✓ How much do I pay?

There is no fee to RSVP for the event, and pPayment is made at the end of your meal in a typical restaurant-patron transaction. You simply pay for what you eat!

### ✓ Is there a way to stay informed about upcoming sensory-friendly dinners?

The Ridgewood SEPAG's goal is to host one sensory-friendly dinner per month during the school year, and perhaps during the summer as well. All families on the Ridgewood SEPAG email list (i.e., families whose Ridgewood students receive services under an IEP or 504 Plan) will receive notifications about the dinners through emails and the Ridgewood SEPAG monthly newsletter. Others may "follow" the Ridgewood SEPAG on Eventbrite, to be alerted about upcoming dinners.

### ✓ Where can I submit feedback?

We are eager to hear all feedback that families have about our sensory-friendly dinners. If your family's needs were not adequately met by the set-up of the event, we would love to hear from you so we can make our future dinners more accommodating for your family and others. Also, if there were aspects of the event that worked well for your family, we'd like to hear about that, too, so we can continue those accommodations. Any and all thoughts are welcome and can be shared by emailing us at [contact@RidgewoodSEPAG.org](mailto:contact@RidgewoodSEPAG.org).



**Ridgewood SEPAG**

*Formerly the Learning Services Home & School Association*

[www.RidgewoodSEPAG.org](http://www.RidgewoodSEPAG.org) • [contact@RidgewoodSEPAG.org](mailto:contact@RidgewoodSEPAG.org)

Updated January 2024



TRAVELL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Friday, April 19  
Afterschool

**Cash, Credit, Apple Pay all accepted!**  
**Pre-pay option will be available again.**

*This information will be shared with AlphaBest so  
that students staying will have the opportunity to  
visit the truck too!*

*Proceeds benefit HSA Sponsored enrichment programs for Travell students.*

# **Slate of Nominations HSA Executive Board 2024 - 2025**

**Co-President  
Kim Ramirez**

**VPs of Enrichment  
Katie Di Mattia, Liz King**

**VPs of Fundraising  
Liz Henky, Allie Hills**

**Treasurer  
Elissa Hyne**

**Asst. Treasurer  
Cait Stoelker**

**Technical Secretary  
Allison Hatchett**

**Recording Secretary  
Kate Semeniak**

**PICTURES DUE BY 4/14**

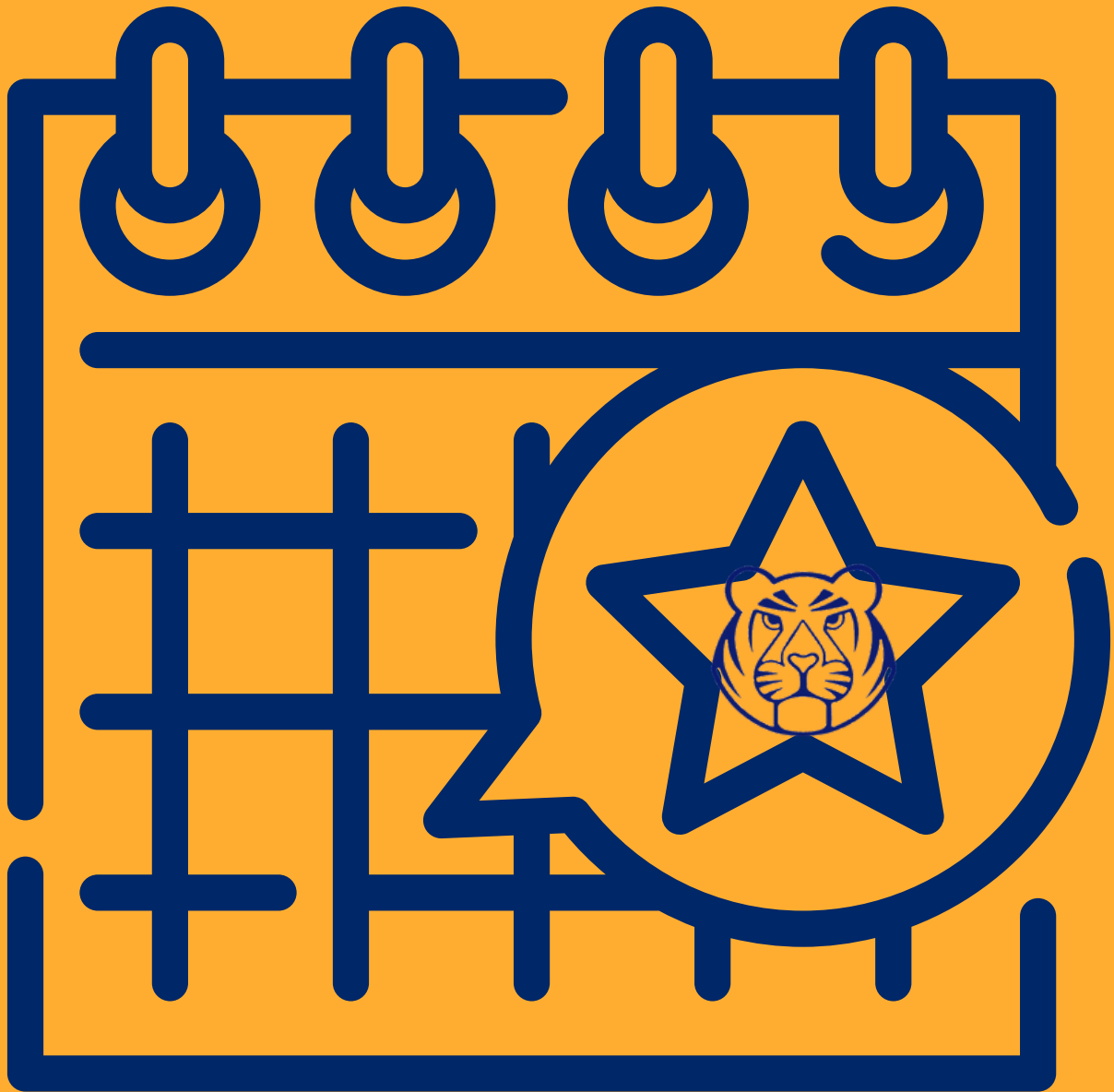
yearbook

**SUBMIT PHOTOS  
FOR THE 2023-2024  
YEARBOOK!**

*First Day of School, Back to School BBQ...  
let's make memories!*

[Travellyearbookphotos@gmail.com](mailto:Travellyearbookphotos@gmail.com)





**Be sure to check the GroupSpot calendar feed for important dates such as General HSA meetings, no-school-days, deadlines, etc.**