

אבגדהזחטיכלחנסעפצקדשתאבגדהזחטיכלחנס

עפצקדשתאבגדהזחטיכלחנסעפצקדשתאבגדהזחטיכלחנסעפ

טיכלחנסעפצקדשתאבגדהזחטיכלחנסעפצקדשתאבגדהזחטיכלחנס



Bet Shira

7800 SW 12th Street Miami, FL 33156 ☎ 305.238.2606 📠 305.238.5267 Fax 🌐 www.betshira.org

Jewish Education Center Handbook

2009 - 2010

5769-5770

Kindergarten, Aleph (1st grade), and Bet (2nd grade)
Sunday 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Gimmel (3rd grade), Dalet (4th grade), Hay (5th grade)
and Vav (6th grade)
Wednesday 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM and Sunday 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Tallit & Tefillin (Vav)
Sunday 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Gesher (7th-8th grade)
Wednesday
4:00 PM - 4:30 PM (7th b'nai mitzvah bank)
4:30 PM - 6:30 PM (class)

South Dade Judaica High School (9th-12th grade)
Wednesday 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Renee B. Rittner
Education Director

Miriam Kaplan
Rabbi

David H. Auerbach
Rabbi Emeritus

Mark H. Kula
Cantor

Congregational President
Martin Applebaum

Educational Vice President
Alyse Messinger

Educational Vice President
Neal Strebbing

היווללעאטאלמזלכחטיכלחנסעפצקדשתאבגדהזחטיכלחנס

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Welcome from our Director:

Dear Jewish Education Center Families,

Bruchim HaBaim (welcome) to the 2009-2010 school year. We are so excited that you have decided to join our team as Jewish educators by sending your family to the JEC. We look forward to learning with your family this year. You are always welcome at the JEC. There are many ways to become involved: volunteer in school activities, committees, take adult education classes (including prayer Hebrew), or attend intergenerational education programs. Bet Shira Congregation is an extension of our families; the building is a home and safe haven. It is a place to celebrate as a community, to cry as a community, and to experience all that life has to offer. Together we share the role of educating the next generation of Jews. Judaism also teaches that education does not stop at the age of Bar/Bat Mitzvah, nor after Kiyum, nor after graduation, nor after marriage, but rather continues as a life long endeavor. I and the JEC staff look forward to being a small piece of the educational puzzle for your family.

Please let us know what your thoughts are and how we can improve your family's experience in our school. We promise that we will listen to your thoughts.

Please take the time to read this parent's handbook as it has information about our policies and procedures, as well as about our curriculum.

B'shalom,

Renee B. Rittner
Education Director

Welcome from our Vice President of Education

Dear Jewish Education Families,

As the new Co-Chairs of the Jewish Education Committee, we welcome you to another exciting year of learning and involvement at Bet Shira Jewish Education Center (JEC).

We are delighted to be working with our Education Director, Renee Rittner as she begins her second year and the dedicated committee of volunteers representing each of you. Renee and the JEC will continue to implement the exciting new curriculum and program changes, however, our efforts are only as good as your input and participation. Please keep us informed of ideas and feedback, from you and your children, as to how we can improve their Jewish Experience with us.

There are two requests we ask of you: (1) please read and be aware of the JEC calendar, and the special events and holidays throughout the year, and (2) please support and participate in JEC activities, especially the Family Shabbat services on the first Shabbat of every month.

Parent involvement and participation is essential in forging our children's life-long Jewish identities. Take a moment to ask your children about their JEC experience after each session. It's a great opportunity to reinforce the importance of Judaism in your family's lives and to create a shared learning experience with your children.

Alyse Messinger & Neil Stebbing
Co-Chairs, Jewish Education Committee

General Information

Bet Shira Congregation Jewish Education Center
7500 SW 120 Street
Miami, FL 33156
Phone 305-238-2606
Fax 305-238-5267
E-mail relscool@betshira.org

Education Director
Renée B. Rittner
E-mail rrittner@betshira.org

School Hours

Kindergarten, Aleph (1st grade), and Bet (2nd grade)
Sunday 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Gimmel (3rd grade), Dalet (4th grade), Hay (5th grade) and Vav (6th grade)
Wednesday 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM and Sunday 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Tallit & Tefillin (Vav)
Sunday 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Gesher (7th-8th grade)
Wednesday
4:00 PM - 4:30 PM (7th grade b'nai mitzvah bank)
4:30 PM - 6:30 PM (class)

South Dade Judaica High School
Wednesday 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

JEC Office Hours and Learning Center Hours

Mondays
By Appointment only
Wednesday
10AM - 5PM
Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday
10AM - 4PM
Sundays during School
9AM-12PM
And By Appointment

School Faculty

Kindergarten-Grade 2	Farrah Wolfson, Shirley Williams, Judy Feldman, & Marilyn Wolfson
Grade 3	Jillian Landers
Grades 4-5	Sam Rosen
Grade 6	Shelly Rauchwerger
Grade 7-8 (Gesher)	Shirley Williams
Hebrew Specialists	Rivka Uberbaum
Assistant Director	Marilyn Wolfson
Administrative Assistant	Ashley Jones
Music	Emily Friedman
Cantor	Cantor Mark H. Kula
Rabbi	Rabbi Micah Caplan

WELCOME TO BET SHIRA JEWISH EDUCATION CENTER

OUR VISION STATEMENT

Educate our youth and empower our families to develop a strong Jewish identity and a love of Judaism and to participate in attaining peace and well-being for our world, from generation to generation.

What do we mean by educate?

The primary purpose of the Jewish Education Center is to teach children foundational knowledge about Jewish holidays, history, ritual proficiency, Hebrew language, life cycle events, historic and contemporary Jewish issues and Israel. The Jewish Education Center is a partner with parents.

What does "empower" mean?

Jewish education is truly a community-wide endeavor with Jewish Education Center attendance only one component. Family involvement and participation are essential elements for an effective Jewish education. Bet Shira Jewish Education Center wants to empower families, by giving them tools and opportunities, to actively participate in a way that would supplement and enhance our children's Jewish education.

What is a strong Jewish identity?

We want our children to internalize Jewish values so they live a life of "derech erez" - the right way. Our children should feel at home in the synagogue and in the Jewish Community and be knowledgeable about the holidays, customs and life-cycle rituals. We want to instill a life-long desire to carry on the traditions themselves into the next generation.

What do we mean by a "love" of Judaism?

Love is defined as an intense and passionate feeling, something that elicits deep interest and enthusiasm. Love is the emotion we want our kids to feel about their religion and heritage. We want them to be proud about being Jewish, to inspire them to create a personal relationship with God and to give them the knowledge and experience needed to think critically and create their own personal meaning (midrash) for Jewish traditions.

What exactly is participating to attain peace and well-being for our world?

One of the tenets in Judaism is "repairing the world" - Tikkun Olam. Beyond Tikkun Olam we want to instill in our children a desire to take actions to attain peace and promote tolerance both locally and internationally, with an eye to Israel and other Jewish communities. Our children also need to be concerned about the "well being" of our world. After God created humans in the Garden of Eden he told them: "All that I have created, I have created for you. Therefore, be ever-mindful. Do not abuse or desolate My world. For if you abuse or desolate it, there is no one to repair it after you." (Ecclesiastes Rabbah 7:28.)

Why is generation to generation important?

There is a Jewish proverb: *Whoever teaches their children teaches not only their child, but also their child's child and so on to the end of generations.* As our children learn, we as parents learn together with them. As we teach our children we are teaching future generations.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

The Bet Shira Jewish Education Center will have a "living" curriculum and multi-faceted communication and programming.

The primary purpose of the **Jewish Education Center** is to educate and enrich our students, through study and shared living of:

- Jewish Holidays
- Jewish History
- Ritual Proficiency
- Hebrew Language
- Lifecycle Events
- Historic and Contemporary Jewish Issues
- Israel
- Jewish Culture (Music, Dance, Art)

What will a "living" curriculum include?

Creating a "living" curriculum ensures the subject content is substantive, flexible, vibrant and experiential. The curriculum will evolve, in a purposeful way, to meet the developmental levels of the participating students and families. When appropriate, teaching will be interactive, imparted through practical experience (i.e. "living it") and leverage new technology. By integrating traditional textbook learning with "living" Judaism, we will spark the spirit and love of Judaism in our children and families.

How will the school provide "multi-faceted communication and programming"?

Beyond providing a solid Jewish education in the fundamentals, the **Jewish Education Center** should also function as a hub, to disseminate through a rich variety of communication vehicles (e-mails, flyers, mailings, newsletters, web site) and programming (holiday celebrations, services) information and tools to families:

- Promoting at-home celebration of Judaism to include Shabbat, holidays, music, books and food.
- Encouraging participation in youth group programs and social activities, locally, regionally, and internationally
- Disseminating information about opportunities such as Jewish summer camps, Israel travel, and study.

WAYS PARENTS CAN ASSIST THE SCHOOL

- Make sure your child attends as regularly as possible and is on time.
- If your child needs to be picked up early or by someone that the school does not recognize, please send a note notifying the teacher and school Director.
- Make sure your child comes to class prepared with all materials and supplies.
- In the case of an absence, let the teacher know that you would like the materials from the missed day. If you know about the absence in advance, ask for the materials when you know.
- Please let the school know about any alternative learning needs and/or IEPs, medical conditions, allergies, medications, or other information that will help the school and the teacher best meet your child's needs.
- Become familiar with your child's curriculum and let your child know that you are following along with and interested in their learning.
- Observe holidays and rituals in your home, e.g candle lighting, having a *mezuzah* or other ritual objects, or attending a Passover *seder*. Adding one new thing makes a difference.
- Discuss current events related to the greater Jewish world at home.
- Read books or watch movies with your children that have an underlying Jewish theme. Feel free to consult with the school for ideas.
- You are encouraged to stay and be a part of our adult learning opportunities.
- Hebrew is something that needs to be studied and practiced outside of the classroom. Make time for your child to practice at home - learn with them.
- Encourage positive classroom behavior.
- Participate as a family in our intergenerational learning opportunities, as well as attend congregational programs and religious events.
- Assist students in learning prayers by practicing with them.
- Whenever possible eliminate outside activities that interfere with JEC activities.
- Take part in opportunities to repair our world (*tikkun olam*).
- Volunteer to help in the school.
- Be your child's biggest fan and supporter!

Things Students Can Do to Help the School

- Come to school on time, enthusiastic, and ready to learn.
- Participate in class activities, school special events and complete school projects to the satisfaction of your teacher and the school director.
- Attend congregational religious functions with your family.
- Be a part of social justice and contribute *tzedakah* on a regular basis.
- Be a *mensch*, treating everyone, including yourself in a respectful manner. Behave ethically and appropriately at all times.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Bet Shira JEC creates the best possible learning environment for every student and family. We work with students and families in identifying a student's learning needs and strive to find the most appropriate environment for every student to learn Hebrew at his or her own learning pace. Our school is designed to provide age appropriate learning for our students and the school program hours are set with this in mind.

PRIMARY PROGRAM: Gan - Kitah Bet (Kindergarten - 2nd grade)

Sunday 9:00 a.m.-noon

Is designed for students ages 5-7 (Kindergarten-Second grade attending secular schools) and introduces Hebrew prayers and blessings, holiday and Shabbat traditions and observances, Hebrew letter recognition, skills and simple vocabulary, Synagogue, Mitzvot, Tzedakah, and Torah. We teach developmentally appropriate learning through hands-on lessons. Arts and crafts, music, school-wide havdallah and special events enhance the classroom. A highlight of the 1st grade year is receiving a miniature Torah in conjunction with Simchat Torah. Our K-2 students help lead at least one Friday night Shabbat service.

ELEMENTARY PROGRAM: Kitah Gimmel-Vav (3rd - 6th grade)

Sunday 9:00 a.m.-noon & Wednesday 4:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m.

Learning continues with our 3rd-6th grade program; students grapple with big questions reflecting personal understanding and connection to Judaism studying Torah, Avodah (prayer) and *G'milut Chasadim* ("acts of love and kindness"). Students progress from learning Hebrew letters to learning Hebrew prayers, including necessary grammar and roots, and prayer themes. They assist in leading at least one Shabbat service. A highlight of our 3rd grade program is *Gimmel* Consecration where our students receive their siddur. 5th and 6th graders take part in our Tallit and Tefillin program. 6th grade students and their parents learn how to adorn Tallit and Tefillin and enjoy a bagel breakfast each Sunday morning. All students participate in Sunday morning havdallah and Wednesday afternoon mincha/ma'ariv. Music, arts and crafts, and other school-wide events enhance the program.

GESHER PROGRAM: Bridge (7TH - 8TH grade)

Wednesday (b'nai mitzvah bank - 7th grade) 4:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m.

Wednesday 4:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m (class).

We recognize that the maturity of 7th-8th grade students require a different educational model. Through our newly designed *Gesher* program we create a bridge in the learning between our K-6 program and SDJHS. Students grapple with how Torah is relevant in their daily lives and develop tools necessary for personal reflection they consider how to define themselves through prayer, and middot (ethics) and tikkun olam. They study conversational Hebrew in an ulpan (immersion) setting. 7th grade students participate in B'nai Mitzvah bank (voluntary learning) with Cantor Kula.

FIRST SHABBAT

The first Shabbat of the month at Bet Shira includes programming, events and services catering to the needs of our congregation. School services, youth group experiences, youth honors and more are scheduled in conjunction with First Shabbat. JEC Families and students are expected to attend First Shabbat as part of their JEC requirements.

POLICIES, PROCEDURES AND STANDARDS

Registration - All fees and tuition are to be paid according to the arranged schedule with prior balances due in order to register for a new school year. Parents must provide the following forms for each student: REGISTRATION, TUITION AGREEMENT, PERMISSION FORM, SNACK/DONATION FORM AND UPDATED EMERGENCY CONTACT forms. If you decide to withdraw your child mid-year, the school must receive DATED WRITTEN NOTIFICATION. Tuition will be prorated, if necessary, according to the date of receipt of the withdrawal notice.

Books and Supplies -Students are required to have their books, pens/pencils, and a kippah. Thanks (*todah*) to our parents for helping your children come to class with everything they need!

Pick Up and Drop Off - Drop off and pick up can be accomplished **quickly and safely** when our parents follow these instructions:

- a) Enter the WEST entrance on SW 120 Street and drive in a single line around the synagogue building to the school building in the rear.
- b) Drop off/pick up your child in front of the covered walkway. Pick-up is supervised by our Jewish Education Center Staff.
- c) **Turn off your car engine** while you are in the immediate pick-up area and while the children are entering the car. **AS SOON AS YOUR CHILDREN ARE IN THE CAR** please move forward.
- d) If you will need to assist your child, please drive to the side of the School Social Hall, park and assist your child. Continue around the building to exit. Do not turn around. Traffic is one-way only during drop-off and pick-up times.
- e) **DO NOT LEAVE YOUR CAR WHILE IN THE CAR POOL LINE.**

Attendance and Tardiness - "*The day is short; The work is plentiful; And God urges us*"-Pirke Avot (Chapter 3, Verse 20) Perhaps this phrase best describes the state of Jewish education at Bet Shira. We have so much that we must accomplish in a few short hours a week and in just a few short years. Therefore, it is essential that all registered students attend classes regularly and promptly. Illness and family tragedy are excused absences. All other absences are not excused. In case of absence, parents are expected to send a note of explanation. Regular attendance is a requirement for promotion and fulfillment of Bar/Bat Mitzvah standards as frequent absences and tardiness retard progress and accomplishment. Teachers will provide assistance in making up assignments missed during any illness, and teachers are available before and after classes to provide individual assistance.

Absences over 30% will require individual tutoring at the family's expense.

Early Dismissal -The curriculum and education program devised for our children is quite ambitious and requires every minute of class time for accomplishment of these goals. Therefore, we ask that students not leave school early except for medical or personal emergencies. Attempts should be made to arrange doctor's appointments on days when children are not in Jewish Education Center. If early dismissal does become necessary, students must bring a note to their teacher and have it approved by the Education Director. Parents must then pick up their children at the Education Director's office and sign the sign-out book. No student will be allowed to leave class and go to the parking lot to a waiting car or walk home alone. We are concerned about the safety and welfare of all children and want to be sure that all students are being released only to the proper authorized individuals. Students will be released only to individuals listed on the emergency contact information form and proper ID must be shown by anyone other than parent or guardian.

Emergency School Closing - Periodically severe weather conditions require the Jewish Education Center to close. In general, we are closed when conditions warrant Miami-Dade County Public Schools to close. Please listen to the radio for news of these closings, or call the school office at 305-238-2606. Our emergency phone number is 305-232-1456, which will provide a recorded message of the status of openings and closings. Whenever possible, TV station **NBC6** will broadcast if the school is closed.

School To Parent Communications - We work hard to keep the information flowing! In addition to keeping the Jewish Education Center calendar handy, please check the Jewish Education Center News in Bet Shira's monthly bulletin. The school will share information through multiple modalities: e-mail, snail mail, Facebook, Twitter, website and outside the office on our bulletin board. Do not forget to check your children's pockets and folders for flyers. We also use e-mail to send out reminders and other important information. Please make sure we have your correct e-mail address.

Food/Kashrut - Food and beverages are not permitted in school classrooms or in any part of the building unless requested as part of a school or class program. Only certified kosher products may be brought into the school and synagogue complex. If you have any questions regarding *kashrut* please call the Rabbi.

Dress - Dress code will be observed on **Sunday** as well as on weekdays. Public school appropriate clothing will be permitted. **Girls are not** to wear tube or midriff shirt or very short shorts. Boys may not wear pants that drag on the floor. Pants may not be worn below the hips. Sport caps may not be worn in place of a kippah. Boys wearing sports caps will be asked to remove them during school. Flip-flops, backless shoes and wheelies are not permitted due to safety concerns.

Tzedakah - One of the goals of our school year is to make the child feel a part of and responsible for all of *Am Yisrael* - the Jewish people. As part of our responsibility for each other, we encourage our students to contribute regularly to our Tzedakah Fund. Tzedakah will be collected in all classes every day. Students will learn about the various projects, organizations and charities that monies can be sent to and they will have an opportunity to help make monetary distribution decisions. Students should be encouraged to give a few cents of their own money or allowance rather than always asking parents for the Tzedakah money.

Homework - We want every student to be able to achieve the maximum he or she is capable of in all areas of study. In order to develop necessary skills in a consistent manner, especially in the area of Hebrew language, it is often necessary to assign students some homework to be reviewed or completed at home. Teachers are available by telephone or email in case of questions concerning the assignments.

Electronic Devices - Students may not bring electronic devices such as Ipods and cell phones to school. We cannot be responsible for these items, and they may be removed at the teacher's discretion and retrieved from the Education Director by the parents at the end of class.

Class Visitations and Guests - Students **may not** bring friends to visit Jewish Education Center classes. Parents who desire a class visit should make arrangements with the Education Director.

Accident/Illness - Parents or guardians will be notified at the time of an injury or accident or if a child becomes ill. If the parent or guardian cannot be reached, the provided emergency contacts will be called. Please keep current all contact numbers. If the accident or injury warrants a transport to the hospital via 911, a staff member will escort the child and the parents, guardians, emergency contact (the person reached) will be notified of the hospital where the child was transported.

Lost and Found - Items left at the JEC will be lovingly cared for in the JEC office until claimed by their rightful owner. At the end of the year any unclaimed items will be donated to a worthy organization.

Classroom Behavior - Our goal is to create a positive school atmosphere where learning is fun and the faces of faculty and students are smiling and happy. We want students to feel good about themselves as Jews and as human beings and to care about and be respectful of themselves, their classmates and Bet Shira. Therefore, we expect our students to come prepared for class - both physically, by bringing books and supplies needed, and mentally, by coming here ready to learn and with a positive attitude. Students are expected to exhibit proper classroom behavior by following the class rules outlined by the teacher or that have been co-developed by the teachers and the students.

Teachers will attempt to work out problems with students. We hope to respond to the frustrations of the student, not exacerbate them. When necessary, we will inform parents, not in order to call down the wrath of the home upon the student, but to explore how the child can be integrated amiably into the class routine once again and progress in learning. While we do have a Discipline Protocol, the Education Director will take swift and decisive action if necessary.

DISCIPLINE PROTOCOL

In case of behavior problems, the following will occur in sequence:

1. Teacher speaks privately with student before/after class.
2. Notification of Education Director
3. Notification of parents. Parental reaction will be noted and possible solutions suggested.
4. Parent/Teacher/Student/Education Director meeting for the purpose of adopting resolutions.
5. Continued disruption with no change effected by parents would require suspension from the school for a short period of time, with required fulfillment of missed assignments. In-school suspension may be utilized in certain circumstances.
6. Ultimately, a student will be regretfully removed from school. Arrangements for private tutoring at the parent's expense will be made so that requirements for graduation and celebration of Bar/Bat Mitzvah will be met.

PARENT/SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

Should parents have a question relating to classroom dynamics, he or she should approach the issue in the following manner:

1. Contact your child's teacher.

2. Should the parents remain dissatisfied, the parents can then contact the Education Director. The Education Director is the ultimate authority.
3. Parents who feel that their needs have not adequately been addressed may contact the Jewish Education Center Chairperson, Alison Deutsch. Only questions of overall policy should be brought directly to the attention of the School Board. However, if you wish to speak at the meeting, you should contact the Chair prior to the meeting, in order to be included in the agenda.

We want to provide regular opportunities for effective parent/student/teacher communication. We also want to provide a structured means of assessing student progress for both the benefit of the student and the information of the parent; therefore, Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held as necessary. Progress Reports will be issued twice during the year - one in December and one in June. Whenever parents feel they would like an extended discussion of their child's report or progress, feel free to contact the respective teachers and arrange a conference outside of class hours.

Parent Involvement - There are many opportunities for parents and grandparents to be involved with our school. We hope you find a way to enrich our School and your own life by becoming an active participant!

Education Committee - This committee meets once a month to give input into all facets of the Jewish Education Center program. The committee is an elected board, and all parents are welcome to attend its meetings. Call Alison Deutsch, Jewish Education Center Board Chairperson to find more ways to get involved.

Class Parents - Class parents provide extra "back-up" for teachers. You may be asked to make phone calls, help with a special art project or holiday celebration. This is a great way to be involved with your child's education. Please volunteer to be a class parent.

Volunteers- Most volunteer jobs require the ability to smile and follow directions. If you cannot make a regular commitment, perhaps you can help once in a while for special projects or events. Each of us makes a difference!

Learning styles/Learning challenges - We recognize that all students learn at their own rate and in their own way. Each student has his or her own strengths and weakness, natural abilities and challenges. At the Bet Shira JEC we attempt to plan lessons that will reach a variety of learning styles and needs with the goal that every student reaches his or her full learning potential.

To assist us in meeting that goal, please candidly share with us any knowledge of how to best teach your child. If your child has an IEP or other learning plan, please provide us with a copy and, if possible, access to others implementing the plan so that we may attempt to meet your child's needs.

SCHOOL PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

Chugim (Clubs) - On Sundays, students in grades 3-6 select a chug to participate in; chugim may include: drama, multimedia, Hebrew, cooking, choir, etc. depending on student want and faculty expertise.

The Arts - Music, art, dance and movement are all part of Bet Shira's integrated arts program for all primary, elementary, and gesher students. The program exposes our young people to the rich variety of our Jewish art heritage.

Computer - Elementary students have the opportunity to enhance their learning by being exposed to Jewish computer sites.

Library Enrichment - Students will be encouraged to use our library resources for special projects.

Intergenerational Programs - Jewish learning is l'dor v'dor, from generation to generation. At Bet Shira Jewish Education Center we believe that all Jewish learning involves immersing ourselves in Jewish Experiences, Creating Jewish Memories, and Forging Lifelong Jewish Identities. Throughout the year we will provide intergenerational experiences for you to participate.

Bar & Bat Mitzvah - Jewish Education Center students who are B'nai Mitzvah candidates must be enrolled in an ongoing education program for a minimum of five consecutive years immediately preceding the B'nai Mitzvah date (USCJ guidelines). Students are strongly encouraged to attend our Bar/Bat Mitzvah Bank program the year prior to their B'nai Mitzvah. Children becoming Bar/Bat Mitzvah in the 8th grade school year must be enrolled in the JEC Gesher Program. For more specific questions regarding the Bar/Bat Mitzvah process, please speak with Rabbi Caplan.

Madrichim - Students in grades 8-12 are invited to work in our JEC as *Madrichim* (teacher assistants or Hebrew tutors). Our school is enriched with our teens' participation and teens are enriched by the experience. Madrichim earn community service hours. Call the school office to apply.

Acceptable Use Policy (AUP)¹

Purpose

Bet Shira JEC computers are for students to work collaboratively or independently on projects specifically related to their classroom experiences under the guidance of the school faculty. Teachers may use the computers to research resources, design materials, and plan collaborative assignments.

Scope of AUP

Access to the Bet Shira JEC computers are a privilege. The Acceptable Use Policy defines the appropriate uses for the computers.

Access

Computers for student use are located in the art room/media center. They may only be accessed under the supervision of the multimedia specialist or other faculty member present in place of the multimedia specialist.

User Responsibility

Computer users agree to:

Follow all school policies and government law

Cite all sources

Follow simple rules of Netiquette

 Not load any programs onto the equipment

Not access personal email, chat rooms, or messaging programs

Only use the equipment when supervised and with permission.

Personal Safety

For the reasons of personal safety while using the computers students:

Will not reveal information of a personal nature while using the Internet

Will not access any messaging programs

 Will report any spam

Will report any malware on the computers

Inappropriate Use

Inappropriate use of Bet Shira's computers will result in the loss of privilege to use the systems. In the case of the infringement of laws, the abuse will be reported to the appropriate authorities.

Consent

In order to use the computers students and their parents will sign a copy of the AUP. The AUP will be provided to students the first time they use the computers. In addition, the AUP will be mailed to parents prior to the student's first use of the computer. Signed AUPs will be kept on file in the office.

¹ Adapted from Yahoo!igans! Teacher's Guide: Acceptable Use Policies (<http://www.yahoo!igans.com/tg/aup4.html>) and Yahoo!igans! Teacher's Guide: Sample AUP (<http://www.yahoo!igans.com/tg/aup5.html>)



B'NAI MITZVAH

Aug. 29	Blake Birms
Oct. 17	Caroline Radell
Oct. 24	Simon Stebbing
Nov. 7	Brett Dembrow
Nov. 14	Joel Thaler
Nov. 28	Avery Budin
Dec. 5	Arielle Grusky
Dec. 12	Raquel Szomstein
Dec. 13	Regina DelCastillo
Jan. 16	Evan Steinman
Jan. 23	Alexa Kasner
March 13	Remi Beek
March 27	Matthew Reinhard
May 1	Joelle Frank
May 8	Mallory Blum
May 15	Trace Arrick
May 22	Jonathan Kobert
May 29	Ericka Koenigsberg

Service Information First Shabbat

Join us for First Shabbat! The first Shabbat weekend of every month, October-May will cater to the needs of families. All class services will be held during first Shabbat weekends.

Class Services

Fri. Nov 6	Gimmel Consecration
Fri. Feb. 5	Kindergarten-2nd Grade
Sat. March 6	3rd-6th Grade
Fri. May 7	Kiyum
Tallit & Tefillin (6th Grade)	
Oct. 18,25	Feb. 7, 21, 28
Nov. 1, 8, 15, 22	Mar. 7, 14, 21
Dec. 6, 13	Apr. 11, 18, 25
Jan. 10, 24, 31	May 2, 9

NO JEC

Sept. 27	Erev Yom Kippur
Nov. 11	Veterans Day
Nov. 25-Nov. 29	Thanksgiving Break
Dec. 20-Jan. 3	Winter Break
Jan. 17	Martin Luther King Weekend
Feb.14	President's Day Weekend
Mar. 28-Apr. 04	Spring & Passover Break

Holidays

Sept. 18	Erev Rosh Hashanah
Sept. 19-20	Rosh Hashanah
Sept. 27	Kol Nidre
Sept. 28	Yom Kippur
Oct. 2	Erev Sukkot
Oct. 3, 4	Sukkot
Oct. 10	Shemini Atzeret
Oct. 11	Simchat Torah
Dec. 11	Erev Hanukkah
Dec. 12-19	Hanukkah
Jan. 30	Tu BiShevat
Feb. 28	Purim Carnival
Feb. 27	Megillah Reading
Feb. 28	Purim
Mar. 29	First Seder
Mar. 29-Apr. 6	Pesach
Apr. 11	Yom Hashoah
Apr. 18	Yom Hazikaron
Apr. 19	Yom Ha'atzmaut
May 2	Lag B'Omer
May 12	Yom Yerushalayim
May 18	Erev Shavuot
May 19-20	Shavuot

Intergenerational Programs*

- August 30 (Orientation)
- October 4 (Sukkot)
- March 21 (Pesach)



Gan-Kitah Bet/K-2nd grade Sunday

Aug.	*30
Sept.	13,20
Oct.	*4, 11, 18, 25
Nov.	1, 8, 15, 22
Dec.	6, 13
Jan.	10, 24, 31
Feb.	7, 21, 28
Mar.	7, 14, *21
Apr.	11, 18, 25
May	2, 9, 16

Kitah Gimme-Kitah Vav/3rd-6th grade Sunday & Wednesday

Aug.	*30
Sept.	2, 9, 13,16, 20, 23, 30
Oct.	*4, 7, 11, 14, 18, 21, 25, 28
Nov.	1, 4, 8, 15, 18, 22
Dec.	2, 6, 9, 13
Jan.	10, 20, 24, 27, 31
Feb.	3, 7, 10, 17, 21, 24, 28
Mar.	3, 7, 10, 14, 17, *21, 24
Apr.	7, 11, 14, 18, 21, 25, 28
May	2, 5, 9, 12, 16

Gesher/7th-8th grade Wednesday

Aug	*30 (Sunday)
Sept.	2, 9, 16, 23, 30
Oct.	7, 14, 21, 28
Nov.	4, 18
Dec.	2, 9
Jan.	20, 27
Feb.	3, 10,17, 24
Mar.	3, 10, 17, 24
Apr.	7, 14, 21, 28
May	5, 12 (Graduation)

May 2009



BET SHIRA YOUTH GROUPS

Rounding out the total Jewish education experiences for our youngsters, our youth programs encourage socialization and integration of Jewish values in a fun and relaxed setting.

- **Yachad** - For students in 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades, we offer Yachad which meets two Sundays per month.
- **Kadima** - For students in 6th, 7th, and 8th grades, we offer Kadima which meets most Wednesday evenings from 6:30-8:30 PM. The Youth Lounge will be open to 8th graders beginning at 4:00.
- **U.S.Y.** - For 9th through 12th graders, we offer U.S.Y. (United Synagogue Youth) which meets most Thursday evenings from 7:00-9:00 PM.

Please call our Youth Director Jason Segelbaum on our **YOUTH HOTLINE** 305-238-5555 for current information.

Website: <http://www.bsb.moonfruit.com/>

Sample Youth Group Calendar (September 2009)

Yachad

September 13 Wacky Olympics 12-2:30PM
September 29 Bowling at Bird Bowl 5:30-8:00PM

Kadima (6:30-8:30PM Wednesdays)

September 2 Tournament Night
September 9 Casino Night
September 16 Capture the Flag
September 23 Home Movie Night
September MM Night

USY (7:00-9:00PM Thursdays)

September 3 Tournament Night
September 10 Color War (week 1)
September 17 Color War (week 2)
September 24 Charity Poker Tournament

SOUTH DADE JUDAICA HIGH SCHOOL (9th-12th grade)

Wednesday 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Students in the 9th-12th grade continue their Jewish studies through the community based SDJHS program run by CAJE. Students have an opportunity to select classes based on their interests and to learn with community experts.

Pre-Kiyum (9th)

Our 9th grade students participate in the CAJE convened South Dade Judaica High School program. Students engage in meaningful Jewish learning with teachers who understand how to connect Jewish topics to real world situations. In addition to their SDJHS courses they meet periodically with the clergy reinforcing strong Jewish bonds.

Kiyum (10th)

Kiyum is a Hebrew word which means affirmation, observance and survival. Bet Shira Congregation has chosen it as the name for our young adult program that affirms their place among the Jewish people. Towards this end our 10th grade students participate in a number of activities of which STUDY, PRAYER and COMMUNITY are the key components. Students in the Kiyum program participate in a class trip, as well as lead a culminating service.

College-for-Credit (11th-12th grade)

Our 11th and 12th grade students attend SDJHS college-for-credit classes and may receive college credit from Touro College. Twelfth graders graduate from the South Dade Judaica High School with a commencement program and receive a gift from Bet Shira's Sisterhood.

High School Trip (10th - 12th grade)

As part of their Kiyum requirements, students in 10th grade attend a class trip. New this year, this trip is open to 11th and 12th grade students interested in exploring Judaism outside the classroom with a Jewish travel program.



Center for the Advancement
of Jewish Education

Ensuring Our Jewish Future

South dade CALENDAR

2009-2010 / 5770

GRADES 9-10

September	*9, 23, 30
October	7, 14, 21, 28
November	4, 18
December	2, 9

(No classes Jan. 6, 13, 20 / Special Program 1/27)

February	3, 10, 17, 24
March	3, 10, 17, 24
April	7, 14, 21, 28
May	5, 12

* Classes begin September 9th for students in grades 8-10.

GRADES 11-12

September	30 (Registration)
October	*14, 21, 28
November	4, 18
December	2, 9

(No classes in January)

February	3, 10, 17, 24
March	3, 10, 17, 24
April	7, 14, 21, 28
May	5, 12

* Classes begin October 14th for students in grades 11-12.

**Classes will meet on Wednesdays
7:00-9:00 PM**

**At bet shira congregation
7500 sw 120th street, Miami, fl 33156**