

THE Hillel Herald

A publication of
Katz Hillel Day School
of Boca Raton
2019-2020/5779-5780
Vol. XIII ~ Issue No. 1

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561-470-5000 ~ www.hilleldayschool.org



2019 Palm Beach County
Green School of Quality



Above: EC2-B explores their sense of smell in the KHDS PTA Learning Garden.

Below: The Mechina Program welcomes new students to KHDS. See the full story on page 5.

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2 Head of School Message



Rabbi Yehudah Potok, M.S. Ed., Head of School

There is an article that I recently read called, "Will you lose your job to a robot?" With a growing number of activities that robots are able to perform, the article debates what jobs will be left for humans in the not-so-distant future. As educators, we have never been able to fully and accurately predict what the workforce would look like twenty years, let alone fifty years, down the road, but as the changes in our world accelerate, it becomes more critical for educators to provide an education that will allow our children to navigate an ever-changing world. Determining what is to be taught and how to teach it is the challenge educators face today.

Ken Robinson writes that, "the aims of education are to enable students to understand the world around them and the talents within them so they can become fulfilled individuals and active, compassionate citizens." From the lens of a Modern Orthodox day school, I would add that we also strive to teach our students how to view modernity with a critical eye, to embrace all that modernity has to offer that is consistent with our Torah values and reject that which is not, to inspire our students with a passion for life-long learning, and to gain a love for the land and people of Israel. So what are we doing, as a school, to achieve these goals?

There are a number of strategies that are helping us accomplish this goal. Hillel students learn how to ask the right questions. If one does not know what questions to ask, that individual will never find productive answers. Our students are learning to appreciate that intellect is a gift from G-d, but what they do with that intelligence is up to them. They are constantly reminded that hard work and dedication to doing one's best determines success. Grit, the ability to persevere when confronted with challenges, sets the limits of their achievement, not a predetermined measure of "smarts." The messaging provided by our teachers is that their potential is something to be developed, infinite, and dependent on attitude and vision. From a values perspective, the most important question, one that should always be in the forefront of our students' minds is, "How can I make things better in Hashem's world?"

Wayne Gretzky once said that the reason he was such a successful hockey player was because while others tended to race to where the puck is, he went to where the puck was going. This is what we as a school are doing. We do not seek to prepare our students for a world that was, or the world that is, but rather for a world yet to be determined. We cannot focus, exclusively, on acquiring information, but rather we seek to foster resilience, and promote confidence in our students that they can overcome challenges. The entire staff, teachers and administrators alike, are working to design classrooms and implement a curriculum that is cognizant of the task at hand. In the months ahead, we will continue to highlight how our school is preparing our children for life in the 21st century.

HURRICANE DORIAN

Baruch Hashem, we were spared the impacts of Hurricane Dorian. Special thanks go out to **Joe Sharp, Veeta Abramchik** and our facilities staff for preparing the Milton B. Katz Campus in advance of the storm AND then preparing it for school again. They sacrificed hours and hours of preparation to make sure that our school was safe and we are so thankful.

Our thoughts and prayers also go out to those who did not escape Dorian's wrath.



SECURITY FIRST

Guardian Defense presented an intense active shooter training for faculty and staff prior to the start of school. Safety is a priority at KHDS and we enhance our training each year. Thank you to **Steve Smith** and the Guardian Defense team.



BACK TO SCHOOL

Everyone was all smiles on the first day of school.





Chayim Dimont, M.S. Ed.
Principal, Early Childhood-Grade 3

A few years ago a parent gave me a book entitled *This I Believe*, as a gift. The book is based on a 1950s radio show in which everyday people write a 500 word essay about their personal belief system. When I read the essays I was truly inspired about people's ability to put onto paper what is most important to them. So I challenged myself, to put onto paper my own educational belief system, and here it is:

Connections:

I went into education because I thought I could make a difference in how the world taught children. I thought, if I could teach them the same information in a different way, they would have more success. I have found that I was wrong. No matter how we teach, what we teach, or where we teach, it's all the same. Yes, there are better ways, and exciting ways.... But in the end, it's really all about connections. Yes, teaching is about connections. I will say it again, teaching is about connections. It's about loving a child that is not your own flesh and blood and truly making it about them. It's having the firm mindset, "this is my kid, and I can't pawn them off to someone else." It's about internally silencing the outside opinions, and focusing on that child and doing right by them. Making sure that they know you love them for who they are right then and there and only at that point, showing them who they can be. I often have to remind myself that when I talk to children, I have to tone down the conversation of what their "potential is" because they are where they are right now. We need to get to know them, what they love, what they hate and what they are passionate about.

Connections allow children to be vulnerable. Connections help children want to work for their teacher/parent/coach they love and don't want to disappoint. They help us look for those "Aha moments" in that child's day, when they finally get the concept..... and that is what we all, as educators, crave/need. **The "I got it" moment is our air, our rejuvenation for the next uphill challenge.** Connections help us focus our teaching and formulate a future dream about ourselves, which we as educators, want to be remembered. Connections help complete our story as professionals, so that when our past students serenade us during that retirement speech that we all secretly wish for, they are equal to the final scene in *Mr. Holland's Opus* - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ng314vEN3Dk>.

I believe that for each of my 175-180 school days, I will begin with the end in mind, and ask myself, "how do I want to be remembered?"



Hadassah Smolarcik, M.S. Ed.
Principal, Grades 4-5 and Judaic Studies Grades 1-8

From an early age, I was always fascinated by elephants. When visiting the zoo or circus, the elephants were the first exhibit I would run to observe! Perhaps the allure had to do with the largeness of the mammal, the tusks, the ears and certainly the trunks.

As a result of my fascination with elephants, I became quite knowledgeable regarding their etymology, characteristics and behavior. (Did you know that elephants are very empathetic towards their families and members of their clans?)

Where am I going with this information? Consider the elephant that is trained to perform. The trainer attaches a relatively thin chain to the ankle of the animal while the other end is attached to a metal pole in the ground. Elephants can uproot entire trees, isn't the elephant capable of pulling out the pole from the ground with a simple tug? The elephant does not do so because since the elephant was a baby, the trainer attached the elephant calf to the same pole and being that the calf was not yet strong enough to break away, the calf surrendered and now as an adult animal, the elephant still assumes that he or she cannot break the chain!

From my years of experience, I have observed students who perceive themselves from a young age as unable to succeed in certain areas and as they mature and grow, they surrender without even attempting—this is known as "learned helplessness." Children with learned helplessness often attribute their inability to succeed with excuses such as, "I failed because the teacher hates me," "I can't do math so I won't even attempt to learn Algebra," or "I don't have friends because I am not smart."

At KHDS, the mantra that directs all learning is the notion of "growth mindset." "I may not have mastered a skill yet, but I have been through difficult situations before and I did succeed," is what we try to have the students understand and reflect. Teachers work on encouraging positive thoughts and focus on self-worth. We work on empowering a student to help improve the situations rather than allowing a child to resign to failure. Tomorrow is a new day and what happened yesterday does not mean one will not succeed in the future. You, as parents, should also support and invest the time and effort to help the child develop positive evidence and remind the child of their past successes. Instilling in a child self confidence in one area, will spill over into other areas as well.

We look forward to the amazing growth of every one of our students and encourage your partnership throughout the process.

Best wishes for an awesome year!



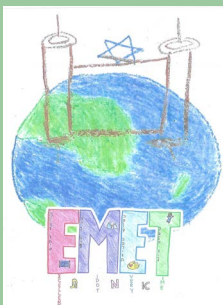
Grades 1-5 gathered for Hallel in honor of Rosh Chodesh Cheshvan!

KHDS EMET CLUB WINNERS

Excellent
Midot
Every
Time

Mazal Tov to all of the winners!
(as of press time)

Brielle Aharon	Jackson Jacobs	Sophie Wexler
Liat Aharon	Chaim Kassorla	Alexa Wirtschafter
Jonah Aronovski	Charley Klein	Atara Wolk
Meirav Asher	Jack Lassar	Azi Zangre
Moshe Austein	Max Matias	Shemaya Zangre
Simcha Austein	Akiva Mayer	Yemimah Zisquit
Lielle Avezbadalov	Leora Meiteles	
Yosef Bassoff	Levyah Menczer	
Sara Benabou	David Shalom Miller	
Jordana Benchimol	Esther Moskowitz	
Ava Bienenfeld	Eithan Nissim-Geter	
Leeraz Blanka	Tamar Oppenheimer	
Noah Charm	Edden Potok	
Eitan Daum	Judah Rackman	
Noa Deichman	Emunah Rosen	
Nathan Dorfman	Hadarah Rosen	
Ruth Epstein	Clem Saad	
Ella Farbstein	Esther Saunders	
Yoel Freedman	Joey Schoenfeld	
Rikki Gately	Linda Shulman	
Noa Goldman	Eitan Schultz	
Elchanan Greenbaum	Elizabeth Slesinger	
Natan Greenbaum	Yishai Stein	
Tani Greene	Yishai Steinberg	
Annaelle Harari	Dani Taillard	
Johanna Harris	Zachary Warshawsky	
Liana Holczer	Liana Weisstuch	



Mazal Tov to the EMET Banner Design Contest Winning Artists:

Edan Carmel
Noa Carmel
Sarra Stein

4 Classroom Dedication

DANNIE GRAJOWER, Z"L, CLASSROOM DEDICATED

Board members, middle school students, faculty and friends from KYHS gathered with the **Grajower and Epstein families** on Friday, October 25 as "*The Dannie Grajower Classroom*," was officially dedicated. This Capital Campaign donation was generously donated by the **Epstein Family** in memory of their beloved *Dannie Grajower, z'l*.

Rabbi Yehudah Potok, Hadassah Smolarcik, Rina Lanner, Sydney Freedman, Daniel Katz, Laurie Epstein and Rabbi Josh Grajower all gave meaningful speeches at the dedication ceremony where the beautiful plaque was unveiled outside of Dannie's classroom, Room 203.

Following the ceremony, participants gathered to share in Dannie's memory with the family. We thank the Epstein family for their generosity.

*May Dannie's passion for teaching,
Torah and growth continue to inspire us.*





New Mechina Program Offers Enrollment Opportunity for Students with Limited Judaic Studies Background

In keeping with our mission to promote the love and understanding of living a Modern Orthodox life to all students, for the first time, KHDS has created

a program for Middle School students who have not had experience with a Judaic studies curriculum. This fantastic program will offer these students the opportunity to catch up with their peers and to join them in their classrooms.

"It is incumbent upon us to ensure that our children are offered every opportunity to strengthen their Judaic skills, passion for Torah, to inspire pride in the State of Israel, and to ignite a love of living a Modern Orthodox Jewish life," said **Daniel Katz**, KHDS President.

Appropriately named, the Mechina (which means to prepare) Program teaches basic skills that will allow 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students to enter their regular Judaic Studies classes at the same level as their peers and to better prepare them for more advanced high school Judaics. "The curriculum is modified and adapted to the individual needs of each student," explained **Hadassah Smolarcik**, Judaic Studies Principal.

"Some students need more personal attention to focus on skill building, while others need to catch up on basics, or even on Ivrit (Hebrew language) skills," noted Rabbi Shlomo Schwartz, who is coordinating the new program.

The Mechina Program is for middle school students who may be entering KHDS as a new student and who have a limited Judaic Studies background. **Rabbi Yehudah Potok**, Head of School, said that the greatest educational gift we can give to our children is to bring them to the path of Jewish learning. "This program makes it possible for all children to receive this gift," he added.

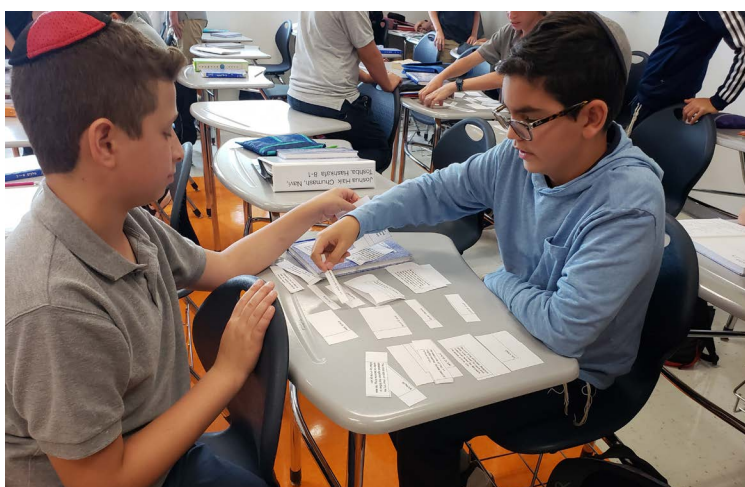
Share this information about the Mechina Program with our community so that we can share the gift of Jewish education!



Middle School students begin every morning davening in the Beit Midrash.



1st graders in **Morah Shira's** class participated in an Israeli election and cast their votes for either extra recess or an ice cream party. The ice cream party won by a landslide!!!



8th grade boys Navi.



6th graders get creative and decorate their Tefillah journals.

KHDS Happenings



As part of 3rd grade's back to school activities, students discussed how words are more powerful than anything, and that we need to think before we speak. They read a story called "My Mouth is a Volcano," about a little boy who learns how important it is to work on being patient while others share. Students worked in groups to squeeze toothpaste out of a tube and then tried to put it back in with toothpicks to show how it was like words; once they come out it is hard to take back.



We are so excited to once again partner with the KidSafe Program. Students in EC4-3rd grade will be getting a meaningful and intensive education on how to keep safe, both in their physical and digital environments.



5th graders broke into small groups for sessions focusing on the elements of writing.



Funny bones! In science, the 4th grade learned about the skeletal system and labeled each other's bones!



7th graders create in the Makerspace.



Each week the 3rd grade explores the meaning of the week's parsha. Students learned about kosher and non-kosher animals in Parashat Re'eh (above left) and they made crowns for Parashat Shoftim (above right).





3rd graders did an outstanding job working in groups on a STEM project to create the highest perch for "Fuzzy Harry," the pom pom bird.



5th graders modeled the greenhouse effect in **Mrs. Deichman's** class.



Holy smokes! 8th graders explored changes in states of matter using dry ice in science class!



Photo op with **Coach Moishe!**



In commemoration of 9/11, Middle School students heard about **Rabbi Feder's** experiences as a member of the Queens Hatzala unit, which responded immediately on that horrific day. His message of Emunah had a great impact on our students.



KHDS welcomed **Lee Kaplan**, who performed his show "Bully", twice (once for Middle School students and again for their parents) in September. His autobiographical solo theater show is based on events recorded in Lee's 6th grade journal.

NAMES, NOT NUMBERS® PROGRAM



Mrs. Tova Fish-Rosenberg, creator of the Names, Not Numbers® Holocaust education project, addressed the 8th graders as the program kicked off for the 2019-2020 school year.



Patricia and Gerald Posner shared their journalistic experience with our 8th graders helping prepare them for their interviews with Holocaust survivors.

ELUL SPEAKERS PROGRAM

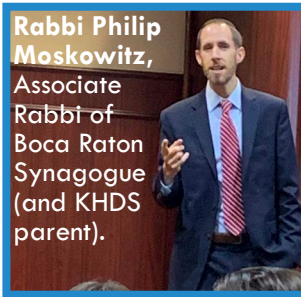
Middle School students had the opportunity to hear from some amazing and inspirational community speakers during the Elul Speakers Program.



KYHS Head of School (and KHDS parent) **Rabbi Avi Levitt**.



Rebbetzin Yocheved Goldberg of Boca Raton Synagogue.



Rabbi Philip Moskowitz, Associate Rabbi of Boca Raton Synagogue (and KHDS parent).



Rabbi Yaakov Gibber, Morah Da'asrah of the Boca Jewish Center.



Rabbi Efrem Goldberg, Senior Rabbi of Boca Raton Synagogue.

KHDS was honored to have **Mrs. Devorah Kigel** address our Middle School girls on September 9th. Mrs. Kigel is a popular speaker who lectures female audiences on topics of dating, marriage and tzniut. She engaged the students with her wit and enthusiasm, as she discussed her journey from growing up without a religious background to embracing Judaism and religiosity. Her experience of choosing to dress modestly resonated with the entire audience and the students asked very pertinent and relevant questions. We hope Mrs. Kigel visits us again!



Meanwhile, the Middle School boys were split up into groups and heard inspiring and powerful messages from each of our Rebbeim about the month of Elul.



The votes are in!

2019-2020 STUDENT COUNCIL

President: Zev Kay
Vice President: Judah Roberts
Treasurer: Adam Dobres-Chapman
Secretary: Shira Grunhaus

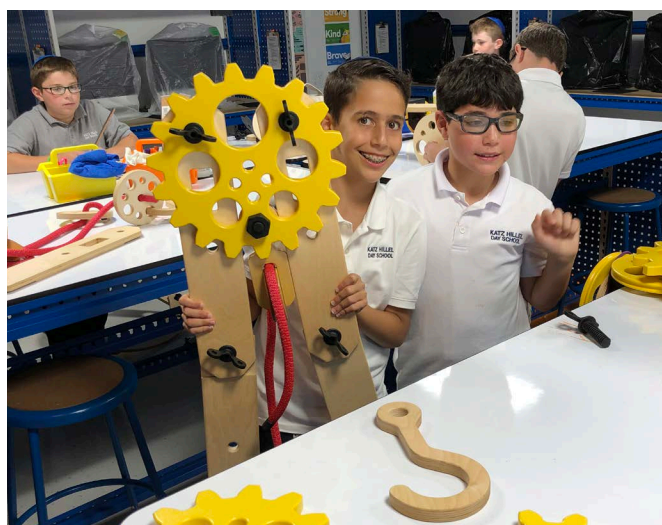
6th Grade Representatives:
 Isabella Gately & Samuel Shapiro

7th Grade Representatives:
 Rhyan Rackman & Avi Young

8th Grade Representatives:
 Arianna Raab & Aaron Newman



Not all students present for photo.



6th graders worked in the Makerspace to build life size creations with our new Rigamajig building set.

ELECTIVES

Middle School electives kicked off with many offerings including: Table Tennis, Netflix & Nosh, Golf, Makerspace, Game Time, Web Savvy, Better Together, Spontaneous Debate, Acrylic Painting, FitRX/Sports, Health & Fitness, Ready-Set-Sketch, Twinning Abroad and Money Talks. Thanks to **Mrs. Zangre** for coordinating this year's electives.



10 KHDS Happenings



4th graders reunited with former classmate **Dovid Grajower** during recess.



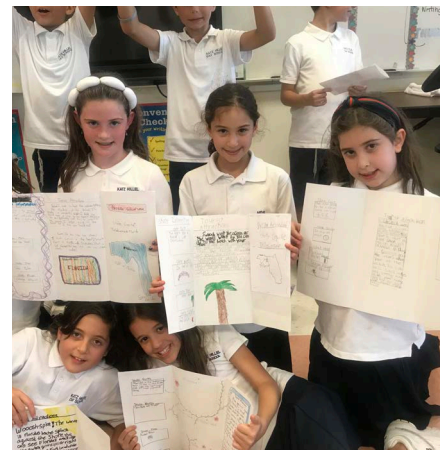
Morah Hadassah visited Kitah Alef to tell the story of Yonah!



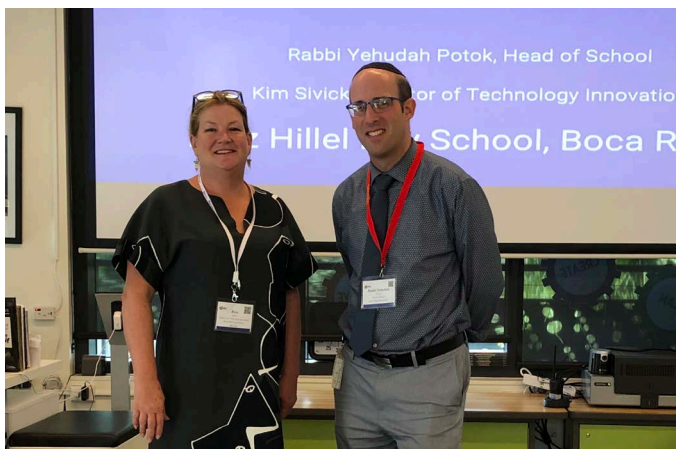
EC4 is participating in a "Pen Pal" program with two of HALB's Lev Chana EC4 classes in New York. They have been exchanging letters and photographs with the adorable children and the excitement on both ends is infectious.



5th grade took a field trip to the Gumbo Limbo Nature Center where students learned about coral reefs and the threats to sea turtles at the sea turtle rehabilitation hospital.



Visit the Sunshine State! 4th graders promoted Florida tourism with their creative brochures.



Rabbi Potok and **Kim Sivick** presented, "Make the Move Against 1:1 Devices," at the ShiftinEdu conference on October 25 in Miami. ShiftinEdu is a forward thinking learning event hosted by St. Stephen's Episcopal Day School in Miami. Thought leaders and educators from all over the world come to be empowered as influencers in their communities. The focus of the summit was to drive innovation in education through leveraging new methodologies and technologies in learning.



In Parshat Vayeilech, 3rd graders learned about how the last mitzvah in the Torah was for each person to write their own Sefer Torah. Thank you to **Rabbi Matan Wexler** for teaching us about how the Sefer Torah is written. The students really enjoyed learning with you!

Even over the summer, we were hard at work striving for excellence!



KHDS Executive Director **Joe Sharp** spent the day on Capitol Hill with OU Advocacy and Teach Florida to advocate for increased Federal security funding and other issues important to KHDS and the greater Jewish community. It was also an opportunity to express our hakarat hatov to our elected officials for always being receptive and responsive to the needs of our community.



More learning continued over the summer as KHDS faculty members, **Rabbi Dr. Mordechai Smolarcik** and **Kim Sivick**, attended the Legacy Heritage Teachers Institute at Hebrew University in Yerushalayim.



Our dedicated team attended the FACTS conference in Chicago as they prepared and trained for our new school management system.



KHDS Executive Director **Joe Sharp** presented at the EDS Summer Conference with nearly 40 other Jewish day school executive directors.



KHDS faculty **Devorah Kahan**, **Ofra Strugano**, and **Lisa Ready** participated in the KKL-JNF World Education Conference, a 7-day tour of Israel, over the summer. The conference focused on immersing teachers in a variety of Israeli environmental projects and Zionist programs. They look forward to applying their experiences from this outstanding trip in their classrooms. Above, they plant a tree in the Lavi Forest.



KHDS faculty had the opportunity to learn from **Ron Clark**, best selling author and amazing educator.



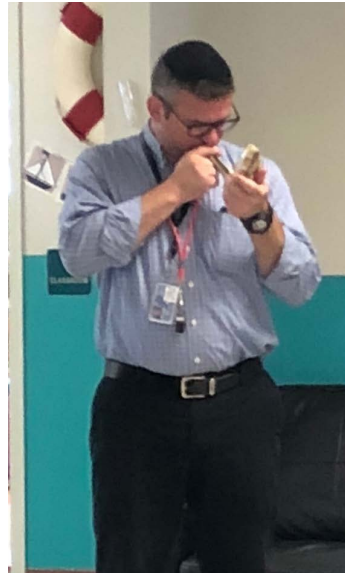
SHANA TOVA 5780



Buzzzzzz... 1st graders worked on their honey bee Rosh Hashanah art projects.



3rd grade prepared to celebrate Rosh Hashanah!



The new month of Elul began on September 1st and throughout the month we were very aware of the importance of repentance and being prepared for the upcoming holiday of Rosh Hashanah. Each morning, students gathered in the Teddy & Linda Struhl Elementary School corridor as Morah Hadassah taught a short lesson through her beautiful storytelling, followed by the sounding of the shofar.

MAZAL TOV TO OUR STUDENT ARTISTS WHOSE ART WAS FEATURED ON OUR ROSH HASHANAH CARD MAILING.

ROSH HASHANAH CARD COVER ART DESIGN: Evan Henner, 5th grade*



*Art was created during the 2018-2019 school year.

Thank you to **Mrs. Lisa Pinkis**, Art Teacher, for her assistance on these projects.



SIMANIM CARD ART DESIGN:

Laya Haik, Kindergarten*
Jonah Oz Jacobs, 1st grade*
Elizabeth Slesinger, 2nd grade*
Benjamin Landau, 3rd grade*
Sarrah Stein, 4th grade*

Sruli Muschel, 5th grade*
Aiden Pinkis, 6th grade*
Doronit Skoczylas, 7th grade*
Isaac Greenbaum, 8th grade*



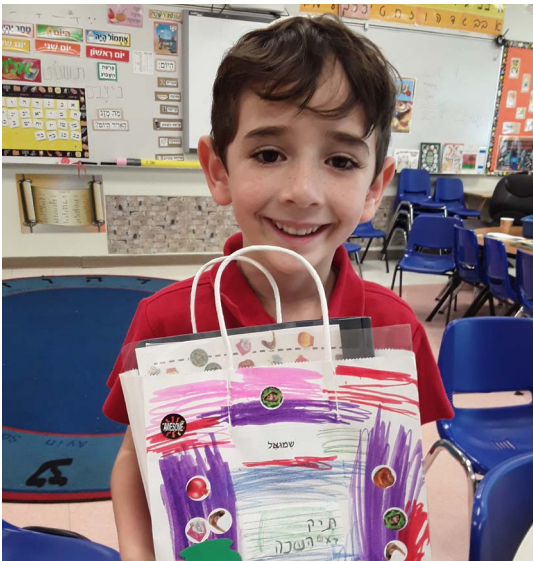
5th graders took a trip to KYHS to learn about honeybees. Thank you to **Dr. Gosser**, **Rabbi Wolk**, and **Mrs. Hochner**, for their help in planning and educating the students.



3rd grade celebrated Rosh Hashanah with all the traditional foods.



5th grade students used the new virtual reality headsets to experience being inside a honeycomb beehive.



Kitah Aleph prepared for Rosh Hashanah.



Mechina built a Sukkah for some hands-on learning.



Students created Sukkot-themed art.



EC2A students have been busy! From swim class, to lighting Shabbat candles and creating Rosh Hashanah art.



Maia Shaffer, Athletic Director
Julie Abrams, After School Sports Coordinator

What an exciting start to the 2019-2020 KHDS athletic season!

The fall season started with Girls Volleyball, led by Head Coach **Samantha Shields**. The girls finished their challenging season with a winning record and a spot in the playoffs. This season was filled with lots of fun and growth.

The girls had great attitudes while working hard to hold each other accountable. They won, and lost, as a team. After such a great season (making it all the way to the playoffs!), everyone walked away as winners. Together, as a united team, the girls grew and overcame challenges. Coach Sam mentioned that it was her pleasure, and honor, to coach the Lady Lions through a successful season!

The Boys Flag Football team has concluded their regular season, led by Head Coach **Shawn Kerzer** and Assistant Coach **Ben Uchin**. It was a successful season and the team worked hard to finish with a winning record while showcasing their fantastic middot along the way. Overall, Coach Shawn is very proud of the team for working hard and being able to obtain a winning season.

The KHDS Athletic Department kicked off the season with its first ever middle school intramurals. The sport this season was flag football and the boys played weekly on teams, earned points and learned new skills while having fun! Intramurals was led by Coach **Steve Nazaire**. All of the participants received t-shirts and at the end of the season, received medals. Our next session features boys soccer.

We are looking forward to our next season of play with Girls Varsity Basketball, Boys Varsity Soccer and JV Flag Football.

Thank you to the parents for your ongoing support.

Come and cheer on your Katz Hillel Lions!
 ROAR!!!!



NEW!

Fall Intramurals - Flag Football



Boys Varsity Flag Football

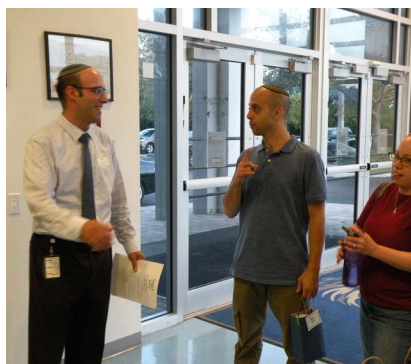


Girls Varsity Volleyball



KHDS WELCOMES OVER 50 NEW FAMILIES

Welcome, to our over 40 families who are new to KHDS this year! A New Parent Orientation was held on the evening of August 14 for families new to our school. The program provided them with the opportunity to interact with the administration and ask questions in an open forum. Families also mingled with other KHDS newbies, received a welcome goody bag and enjoyed refreshments.



MEET OUR AMAZING BNOT SHERUT



Moriya Barel (left) & **Efrat Garama** (right) are our amazing new B'not Sherut. The girls both live in Elad (near Petah Tikva) where they attended high school together -- they are also best friends! They were youth leaders in Ezra, a Jewish youth movement, and also have completed national service at a school and in an Ethiopian community in Yavne.

Moriya was born in Kfar-Sava and has two brothers and two sisters.

She enjoys playing guitar, sports, travelling and listening to music.

Efrat was born in Petah Tikva and has two brothers and 1 sister. She likes to dance, draw, travel and participate in extreme sports.

The girls bring the vibe of Israel to Boca Raton while teaching our students Hebrew and other Israeli customs through creative lessons and activities relating to *Tzionut* (Zionism).

If you would like to host the B'not Sherut for Shabbat, Chagim, or any other time please contact Rachel Harow at rachelharow@yahoo.com or Chava Weissstuch at chava.weisstuch@gmail.com.

ALUMNI RELATIONS

Kudos to our KHDS Alumna from the Class of 2013, **Shoshanna Golish** (left) and **Eliana Aiken** (right), who are serving in the IDF. Send us your Alumni updates and keep in touch so we can share it with our KHDS family!





Ivana Aronovski is our new EC3-C Lead Teacher. Her role is to create a safe and fun learning environment for our youngest students. Ivana is a Florida native, born in North Miami Beach. She and her husband, Daniel, have three children who are also new to KHDS this year: Jonah (1st grade), Ella (EC4), and Aaron (EC2). In her spare time Ivana loves challenging her husband and kids to a Guitar Hero battle.



Miriam Daum joins us as the EC3-C Assistant and will be working with Mrs. Aronovski. Miriam was born in Philadelphia, PA and she and her husband Akiva have three children, all KHDS students: Asher (2nd grade), Eitan (Kindergarten), and Dovi (EC3). She enjoys reading, baking and spending time with family.



Wyatt Doss is our new 7th and 8th grade Social Studies teacher. More specifically, he is teaching 7th grade civics and Holocaust studies, 8th grade U.S. history and is also in charge of our Middle School Student Council. Wyatt was born in Jupiter, FL and he loves to travel, particularly to unique camping destinations. He is also an avid reader of science fiction and historical non-fiction.



Nechama Feder is teaching Middle School Judaics and Middle School ETGAR secular studies, including 8th grade Chumash and Middle School ETGAR, English and math. Nechama and her husband, Rabbi Shimon Feder, have six children: Moshe (20), Riva (19), Malka (17), Avraham (15), Adina (11) and Rusi (6). Nechama was born in New York and she has lived in Boca for 14 years. She loves to spend time with her family and enjoys reading.



Michael Gale joins us as the 6th grade Social Studies teacher and is also leading the new Middle School Advisory program. Born in New York, Michael has two children: Joshua (28) and Dana (31). Dr. Joanne Nemiroff is his significant other. Michael is an avid Bridge player and also enjoys tennis, golf and going to the theater. He spent 45 years in government and politics, working on his first Presidential campaign in 1960 when he was in 2nd grade (in the campaign headquarters for three hours a week). He even got President Ronald Reagan to call his 2nd grade teacher

many years later when he was working in the White House.



Yael Hirth joins us full-time as the 2nd grade Judaics Assistant. Her role is to support Morah Sheina Kuptchik and the 2nd grade students in a nurturing and safe learning environment. Yael was born in Manhasset, NY, but grew up in Boca Raton and is a KHDS alumna (Class of 2002). She is grateful for the amazing education she received here and hopes to impact the same to her students. Her daughter, Eliana Laufer, is a KHDS Kindergarten.



Sheri Ricard is the new Middle School English teacher for 6th, 7th and 8th grades. Born in Mt. Clemens, MI, she and her husband, John, have one child: Connor (age 4). Sheri loves gardening--especially in the winter months.



Shayna Rosenthal is the 3rd grade Judaic Studies Assistant and is helping the students follow along with the teacher during daily lessons. Shayna was born in New York and she and her husband, Eliyahu, have two children: Bella (age 2) and Miriam (age 3 1/2). The Rosenthals are Boca newbies, having moved here the very same week that school started. Eliyahu will be joining the new Kollel.



Jodie Salit joins us as Kindergarten Assistant and EC Floater. She is assisting in all EC classes and getting to know all of our youngest students. Born in Queens, NY, Jodie and her husband Alan have three children: Yonit (age 16), Meira (KHDS 8th grader) and Orlee (almost age 2). Jodie has a passion for teaching and has a great interest in Holocaust research. She also enjoys cooking foods from different cultures.



Rabbi Shlomo Schwartz is our new Mechina Room Rebbe and he is helping students improve their Judaic skills. With over 20 years of classroom experience in teaching Judaic studies, Rabbi Schwartz is able to assess each student's needs and help them reach their goal. When his son was in 3rd grade, he had difficulty with the English translation of the Artscroll Mishna so Rabbi Schwartz created sheets to promote his son's learning. Since then Rabbi Schwartz has authored seven volumes of Mishna Rishona, available to Mechanchim online at chinoch.org. Born in Brooklyn, NY, he and his wife Risha have five children: Sarah (age 26, and mother of his two lovely grandchildren), Tzirel (age 23, who teaches at Central HS in Queens, NY), Dovi (age 20, and a 3rd year Beit Midrash student), Esther (age 16) and Miriam Reba (age 12).



Sora Minna (Smin) Shaps joins KHDS as a Lower School Judaics teacher in our ETGAR program. She is working with 3rd and 5th graders to teach them Chumash, Dinim and Chagim. Born and raised in North Miami Beach, FL, she also lived in New York for seven years where she completed her Masters in Special Education. She and her family then moved to Ottawa, Canada, where they lived for four years before moving to Boca Raton this past summer. Seven of Smin's siblings live in Florida.

She and her husband Yoey have four children: Ilana (age 8), Tamar (age 6), Ezra (age 3) and Daniel (8 mos.).



Chana'le Stell is our new 3rd grade Judaic lead teacher educating our children in Chumash, Parsha, Chayeinu and so much more! Chana'le was born in New York and since she was a little girl, she knew that she would be a teacher one day. She and her husband Yeuda are newlyweds. She enjoys travel and has been to Thailand, Europe, Israel and many other exciting places. Chana'le looks forward to an incredible first year at KHDS!



Miri Touger is our new EC4-B Hebrew assistant teacher. Miri was born in Jerusalem, Israel, and she loves art. She once traveled to Hong Kong where she stayed for 3 months and had an amazing time. Miri is excited to part of our KHDS family.



Danny Aghion, M.D., FRD Co-Chair
Orlie Cohen, Ph.D., FRD Co-Chair
Suzanne Rice, Director of Development

We are excited to welcome **Dr. Danny Aghion**, who has joined **Dr. Orlie Cohen** as Co-Chair of Financial Resource Development! Danny and Orlie will be leading our fundraising efforts to ensure a successful campaign year!

There are many giving opportunities available throughout the year! From our **Major Gifts Societies** and **Capital Campaign**, to our **Every Parent Campaign**, which encourages all families to make a donation in **ANY** amount before the end of the school year.

Our **Atid Legacy Society** is building a foundation for the longevity of our school through planned gifts such as including KHDS as a beneficiary in your will, retirement plan or IRA.

Dedicate a siddur (see below), reserve a Day of Learning through the **Koppie Cohn Day of Learning Program**, donate to the **Charles Scher Teacher's Discretionary Fund**, participate in our **Mega Raffle** or purchase merchant gift cards through **SCRIP** or **DLTYED** and the school will receive a percentage back. You can even donate your spare change through the **Changebowl** app. More information about all of these opportunities and more are available on our website under the "Donate" tab.

We are anxiously awaiting the January 8, 2020 **Annual Journal Dinner**, our biggest fundraiser of the year, as we honor **Dr. Ben & Cara Freedman**, present the **Helen Cohan Dor L'Dor Society Award** to KHDS grandparent **Batzi Berman**, and the **Faculty Dedication Award** will be presented to **Chari Bernten**, **Stacey Kaner** and **Suzanne Rice** for 13 years of service. Show your support for these long-time members of our KHDS family by attending the dinner, joining the Tribute Committee and placing an ad in the Ad Journal.

Looking forward to another amazing year at KHDS!

? Did you know that leaving a legacy can be as easy as designating the school as a beneficiary in your retirement plan or IRA — simply by filling out your plan's beneficiary form? Any percentage is appreciated and voila, you're an Atid Legacy Society member!



T"בב

KATZ HILLEL DAY SCHOOL OF BOCA RATON
ATID LEGACY SOCIETY

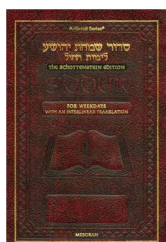
Sal & Leslie Abady Daniel & Liora Adler Danny & Emely Aghion Anonymous Ari & Cara Beim Rabbi Gur & Ira Berman William & Batzion Berman Marc & Sara Bienenfeld Harry & Shelly Bloom Rabbi Josh & Simone Broide Rotem & Jordana Carmel Mark & Helen, z"l, Cohan Aaron & Sarah Cohen Anna S. Cohen Eli & Orlie Cohen Eyal & Elise Cohen Jerry & Jeanne Cohen Meyer & Laura Cohen Todd & Naomi Cohn Rabbi Adam & Shira Englander Benjamin & Cara Freedman Rabbi Simcha, z"l, & Anna Freedman Rabbi Efreim & Yocheved Goldberg *Glen & Rosa Golish Jeffrey & Naomi Gross Chanoch & Rachel Harow Matthew & Tova Hocherman Noam & Jill Kaminetzky *Daniel & Caroline Katz David & Sharon Kay Evan & Ilana Landau	Philip & Jennifer Landau Stephen J. & Elizabeth Landes *Rabbi Samuel J. & Breindel Levine Robert & Linda Levy Howard & Lisa Lubner Mark & Jessica Matias Zoltan & Jolana Matias Aryeh & Brandy Meiteles Rabbi Yehudah Potok & Shira Loewenstein Michael & Jill Rose Herschel & Dvora Scher Aron & Penina Schoenfeld David & Rand Schwartzwald Reid & Naomi Shapiro Joe & Shira Sharp Joseph & Selma Sitrick Rabbi Mordechai & Hadassah Smolarcik Gil & Lysee Stein Ido & Gila Stern Joshua & Stephanie Stern Ted & Linda Struhl Teddy & Phyllis Struhl Hommy & Syd Tannenbaum Neal & Bonnie Weinreb Ashi & Chava Weisstuch Jonathan & Suri Winograd Uri & Rachel Yudewitz Hedy & Dori Zaghi Michael & Risa Zimmerman *Founding Members Legacy Gift Confirmation Received
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DEDICATE A SIDDUR

Our 1st grade students receive their first siddur through the generosity of the **Michael & Amy Schiffman Endowment Fund** and their first Chumashim through the generosity of the **Tobie & William Wiener Endowment Fund**. Each year, our PTA generously gifts our graduating 8th graders a personal siddur. There are, however, many other opportunities for you to dedicate any of the hundreds of other siddurim that are used daily at KHDS, and we'd like to invite you to share in the incredible zechut (merit) of our children's prayers.

Visit our website to see the dedication opportunities so that you may partner with us and share in this priceless merit!

<https://www.hilleldayschool.org/support-hds/designated-gifts/>



EXPANDED WALL OF HONOR



Our newly expanded Campaign Wall of Honor was installed over the summer as we added our newest categories: **Hillel Society** for donors who give a cumulative gift of \$1 million or more, and the **Menachem Begin Society** for donors who have pledged \$100,000. We thank these donors for their generosity.

The Wall of Honor is located in the lobby of the Teddy & Linda Struhl Elementary School building. An annual or designated gift of \$1,000+ will ensure your name is displayed on the Annual Campaign board for the prior year.



Rachel Harow, PTA President

The year is off to an amazing start, and PTA has hit the ground running! It has been such a pleasure to work with all of our amazing volunteers throughout the summer and the last few months to implement so many great ideas! We truly appreciate all of the time, effort,

and contributions provided by our supporters, and we have so much more in store for the KHDS community. Planning and programming is ongoing, so come join in the fun! Please reach out if you would like to help plan any of our upcoming events, including the Scholastic Book Fair, the Chanukah Extravaganza, or any of our Moms' Nights Out. If you have an idea that you would like to put in motion, we would love to hear about it! Feel free to join one of our monthly board meetings and share your suggestions. In the meantime, keep snapping your receipts for Shoparoo, scanning them for BoxTops®, and shopping through our Amazon link. As always, please support our sponsors!

PRE-ROSH HASHANAH BOUTIQUE



PTA hosted its annual Pre-Rosh Hashanah Boutique at Boca Raton Synagogue on September 16, and it was a tremendous success! Shoppers enjoyed browsing and purchasing Judaica items, jewelry, toys, clothing, houseware gifts, and much more, just in time for the holiday. Delicious food was available from Holy Smokes BBQ and Grill, and Cinnaholic. Back by popular demand, the gift basket raffle was a big hit, and several lucky winners

took home great presents.

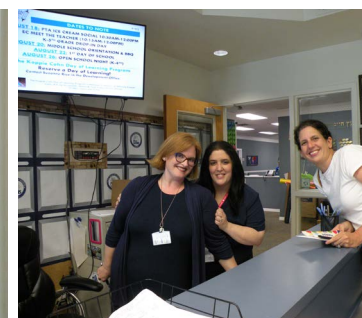
There was also a collection of supplies that were brought to a local drop-off site for the victims of Hurricane Dorian in the Bahamas. Special thanks to KHDS parent **Shlomi Lugassy** of Express Moving & Storage for his assistance with this effort.

Kudos to **Orlie Cohen** and **Rachel Harow** for once again organizing this popular community event and fundraiser. We are so grateful to **Veeta Abramchik**, **Deena Frist**, **Chani Katz**, **Chava Weisstuch**, and **Andrea Zucker**, as well all of the KHDS and KYHS student volunteers for their assistance. Many thanks to the amazing staff at BRS, all of our incredible vendors, everyone who donated to the raffle baskets, and of course all of our shoppers!



ICE CREAM SOCIAL COOLS OFF SUMMER HEAT

KHDS families bonded at the Annual Ice Cream Social during Drop-In Day. Students and parents had a chance to meet new KHDS families and reconnect with old friends, while dropping off their school supplies and enjoying the delicious ice cream, generously donated by **Chuck** from our local Carvel. Thank you to **Shira Menczer** and **Elana Rackman** for organizing the event, and to all our student volunteers for helping to distribute the ice cream!



BRUNCH FOR NEW MOMS

Moms new to KHDS were able to meet and mingle at the New Moms Brunch held in August. They had the opportunity to hear about all the wonderful and worthwhile PTA programs, while meeting many of the PTA board members and volunteers. Thank you to **Liora Adler** for once again graciously opening up her home to host this event.



NEW UNIFORM SHOPPE OPENS FOR BUSINESS

Have you stopped into our new and improved Uniform Shoppe? Please take a moment to check out our renovated space on the first floor of the Teddy & Linda Struhl Elementary School. The PTA team has worked tirelessly to bring you an improved shopping experience. We hope you'll visit us for all of your uniform needs and swag. We will gradually be expanding our merchandise options, so check back often! The Uniform Shoppe is open in the mornings from 8:05am to 9:00am and in the afternoons from 3:00pm until the end of carpool.



With Praise, Thanks & Admiration

❖ Thank you to **Shari Bloom, Dvorah Eisen, Daniella and Deena Frist, Aiden and Emma Harow, Talia Lipshitz, Shira Menczer, Michelle and Penina Schoenfeld, and Chava, Abby, Elisha, and Liana Weisstuch**, for the immense amount of work that was put into our Uniform Shoppe renovation. Also PTA thanks **Marisa Weg-Chametsky** for keeping everything in order and making sure the day to day operation of the Shoppe goes smoothly.

❖ Thank you to **Naomi Katz**, for organizing the Shabbat Challah program. We also thank the The Grove for providing fresh baked challot every Friday.

❖ Thank you to **Naomi Katz, Arielle Kieffer, Leorah Marcus, and Penina Schoenfeld** for coordinating picture day.

❖ We are grateful to **Phyllis Struhl** for creating the photo collage from the 5th Annual Parent-Child Golf Outing. You can view all of our recent event collages in the corridor of the Teddy & Linda Struhl Elementary School building.

❖ Kudos to **Cinnaholic**, as well as to the **Freedman (Ben & Cara), Greenbaum, Lazar and Schwarzman** families for bringing in the contents of their tzedakah boxes as a donation to PTA! If you need a tzedakah box, please request one at the front desk or in the Uniform Shoppe.

❖ Thank you to **Dvora Scher** for once again coordinating the EPI School Supply order. We also thank Dvora and her children, **Sarit, Yosef, Akiva and Matan**, for distributing the supplies to the students.

❖ Thank you to **Michele Dimont** for her time in coordinating the new KHDS Directory on the Membership Toolkit app. It is a great resource to find contact information on families and faculty.

❖ The new KHDS PTA Calendar would not have been possible without the hard work of our calendar chairs, **Lillian Aharon, Jordana Carmel, and Penina Schoenfeld**, as well as our calendar committee, **Yael Hirth, Jackie Neuman, Holly Seidenfeld, and Marisa Weg-Chametsky**. Thanks to our many advertisers, we have raised upwards of \$20,000! Special thanks to our calendar sponsors.

NEW TEACHER'S LOUNGE

When school started after the summer, we were thrilled to unveil our new Teacher's Lounge, located on the second floor of the Teddy & Linda Struhl Elementary School. Special thanks to **Chava Weisstuch** for her vision, design, and assistance in overseeing this project. The teachers are loving their new space! We also thank **Dvora Scher** for outfitting the lounge with plenty of supplies.



AMAZON SMILE



With Amazon Smile, users need to 'add' KHDS as their "charity choice" and Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the KHDS PTA. AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service. Support KHDS PTA by starting your shopping at smile.amazon.com.



BOXTOPS® GOING DIGITAL

Exciting news... the BoxTops program is transitioning to an app! All you have to do is scan your receipts and the school will make .10 cents for each BoxTops item that you buy. It's such easy money for the school! We are continuing to count BoxTops but we are encouraging families to download the BoxTops app. Since the start of the school year, 780 BoxTops have been submitted! And each month a lucky winner will be randomly chosen in our monthly raffle.

TEACHER APPRECIATION BREAKFASTS



Thank you to **Cara Freedman** for coordinating the Teacher Appreciation Breakfasts again this year. Thank you to our monthly sponsors throughout the year and special thanks to our annual sponsors. You can sign up any time to sponsor a TAB!



GOOD & WELFARE CARDS

The PTA offers beautiful Good & Welfare cards to honor lifecycle events. The suggested donation per card is \$10 or three for \$25. The PTA saves you time and postage by sending the card(s) for you with your message! You can pay for your donation by cash or check, or via credit card online. For more information, please contact **Dvora Scher** at dvora@dwpalaw.com.



Buy Mabel's Labels to support our fundraiser. Labels for clothes, shoes, containers and more.



MABEL'S LABELS

Shop for Mabel's Labels products online (mabelslabels.com) and our school will earn 20% back for your order. All you need to do is select "Support a Fundraiser" in the top right corner of the webpage and choose KHDS when placing your order. For more information, please contact **Sara Greene** at sagreen74@gmail.com or (310) 614-1836.

The Back Page



Joe Sharp, Executive Director

We seem to be inundated with news of tragedies and near-tragedies in schools and synagogues in recent years, and so it's no surprise that security is the most discussed topic among my contemporaries around the country. Undoubtedly it's also a frequent topic in your homes and places of work, and security on our campus is sure to be on all of your minds now, more than ever. Please allow me to reassure you that the security of your

children is, and has always been, our utmost priority, and we don't need more tragedies to spur us into action. We've long taken a proactive approach to campus security, balancing our desire for new innovations and practices with limited financial resources, while continuously assessing the effectiveness of the latest trends in security. In addition to the security enhancements we've made each year, we've implemented many more efforts over the past few months.

During teacher work week, our staff underwent another active threat response training with **Guardian Defense**. Their training and mock scenarios heighten our situational awareness and is reinforced by our monthly safety drills. If there is a silver lining to our students growing up with active threat drills, it's that their situational response is second nature. For our adult staff, this is a relatively new reality, so the training and ongoing consultation from Guardian Defense over the past 4 years has been invaluable.

We installed new exterior doors with armored glass on the gymnasium and Loewenstern Cafetorium, and we now have all four of our buildings secured with electronic access control. We've also recently added several new surveillance cameras. We've just installed the **Gabriel Network**, a multi-faceted system for alerts and communication, situational awareness, and crisis management using state-of-the-art technology. We're fortunate to have received **State of Florida Security Funding** for the new doors, access control, cameras, and Gabriel system.

We can never have enough available methods of instant communication under challenging circumstances. To supplement our various existing tools, we purchased additional radios for our safety team (our team of nearly 20 staff members trained to respond in certain situations and advise on matters of safety and security). As another layer of redundancy, we recently created a WhatsApp group to communicate security alerts to our staff, and have also been utilizing a geofence alert system from the **Palm Beach Sheriff's Office**.

Baruch Hashem, we have a 24/7 security presence and physical deterrents on our campus and are given critical training and tools on an ongoing basis. Though we hope, G-D willing, to never need these tools, we recognize that there are other enhancements and new technology being developed daily to aid our efforts. We've been so fortunate to have secured funding for our past projects, and hope that forthcoming government funding, private grants, and generous gifts from donors like you will enable us to implement those measures. However, while we continue our ongoing efforts to keep our children and staff safe, we first and foremost beseech our ultimate protector, Hashem, to bless us all with the ability to learn and pray at KHDS in safety and security.

KHDS Studios Presents

THE "NEVER TOO LATE" LATE NIGHT SHOW AKA ANNUAL JOURNAL DINNER

January 8, 2020



Starring Dr. Ben & Cara Freedman, Honorees

Special Guest Batzi Berman, Helen Cohan, z"l, Dor L'Dor Award Recipient

Featuring Chari Bernten, Stacey Kaner & Suzanne Rice, Faculty Dedication Award Recipients

Directed by Philip & Jennifer Landau and Drs. Elan & Juliana Rosenblatt, Co-Chairs

www.hilleldayschool.org

561-470-5000

VISIT US ONLINE!

Visit our website for the most up to date calendar of events. The publications page features a library of previous **Hillel Heralds** and **Annual Reports**, get supply lists, forms and much more!

Katz Hillel Day School is a "Makom Torah," a place where Torah is studied. As such, dress should conform to what would be appropriate when visiting a synagogue.

To submit information for a future **Hillel Herald**, please email Suzanne Rice at srice@hilleldayschool.org.