

Religious School Annual Report 2017-18

Submitted by Barbara Fink, Principal, and Deborah Zuckerman Goldberg and Carolyn Sorkin, co-chairs, Board of Education

Our school year started off with a successful waffle breakfast sponsored by Brotherhood.

Our theme this year was Tikun Olam. We had a wonderful family program in March around this theme. Families joined together to learn about different mitzvot and were able to perform them in our own social hall. We won an innovative program award from the Commission on Jewish Education and Leadership of the Jewish Federation of Greater Hartford for this program.

Other highlights included amazing high holiday family programming by Rabbinic Intern, Leora Kling Perkins, the introduction of boxes of books and quiet activities in the sanctuary for children, a Chanukah themed Olympics put on by JTConnect, a Tu B'shevat program where Rabbi Small was Honi the circle maker, a night at the Hartford Wolfpack after havdallah and a Six13 acapella concert, and finally a Shavuot program that brought in over 30 families to celebrate Shavuot and the end of a successful school year.

We "upped the game" so speak with our Hebrew reading and our 2nd graders are reading simple Hebrew words and our first graders are beginning to blend 2 letters and vowels together! Our 3rd graders received their siddurim on a wonderful Shabbat morning. Our 6th graders took our K/1 class to Israel and our 7th graders debated the age of Bar/Bat Mitzvah (should it be at 13 or 18?)

We began to once again grow our early childhood program with a series of playdates in March, a pasta dinner in the sukkah, a Pesach matzah factory (that also won an innovative program award from the Commission on Jewish Education and Leadership of the Jewish Federation of Greater Hartford), and a program at Build a Bear Workshop teaching about the bedtime ritual of saying shema. We partnered with PJLibrary for all of these programs.

Finally we thank all of our religious school staff for the hard work and dedication that makes our school as wonderful as it is:

Debbie Mehlman
Erik Martin
Beckie Sahl

Robin Rosenthal
Nancy Fichman
Carolyn Topol

Jennifer Molinari
Fay Mannheim
Beth Katten

Gail Mackey
Hazzan Sanford Cohn
Rabbi David Small

And our Teacher Aides:

Calli Beatman
Jared Beatman
Saige Beatman
Lilian Black
Ben Bomzer
Michael Cherny
Zoe Friedman

Yonah Goldberg
Natalie Goodman
Harrison Heller
Max Plenby
Simon Rosenberg
Dara Sadinsky
Aaron Schlossberg

Lillian Schulman
Ben Smith
Joshua Waitsman
Sammy Ward
Brandon Wolmer