



בית הספר היהודי הקהילתי במילווקי

MILWAUKEE JEWISH DAY SCHOOL
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MILWAUKEE, WI 53217
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www.mjds.org



ANNUAL REPORT
2016•2017
דו"ח שנתי 5777

MISSION STATEMENT

Where academic excellence and Jewish values prepare children for a lifetime of success, leadership and engagement with the world.

בית הספר היהודי היומי הקהילתי של מילוקי -
היכן שמצויינות חינוכית וערכים יהודיים מכינים את תלמידינו
לחיים של הצלחה, מנהיגות ומעורבות חברתית.

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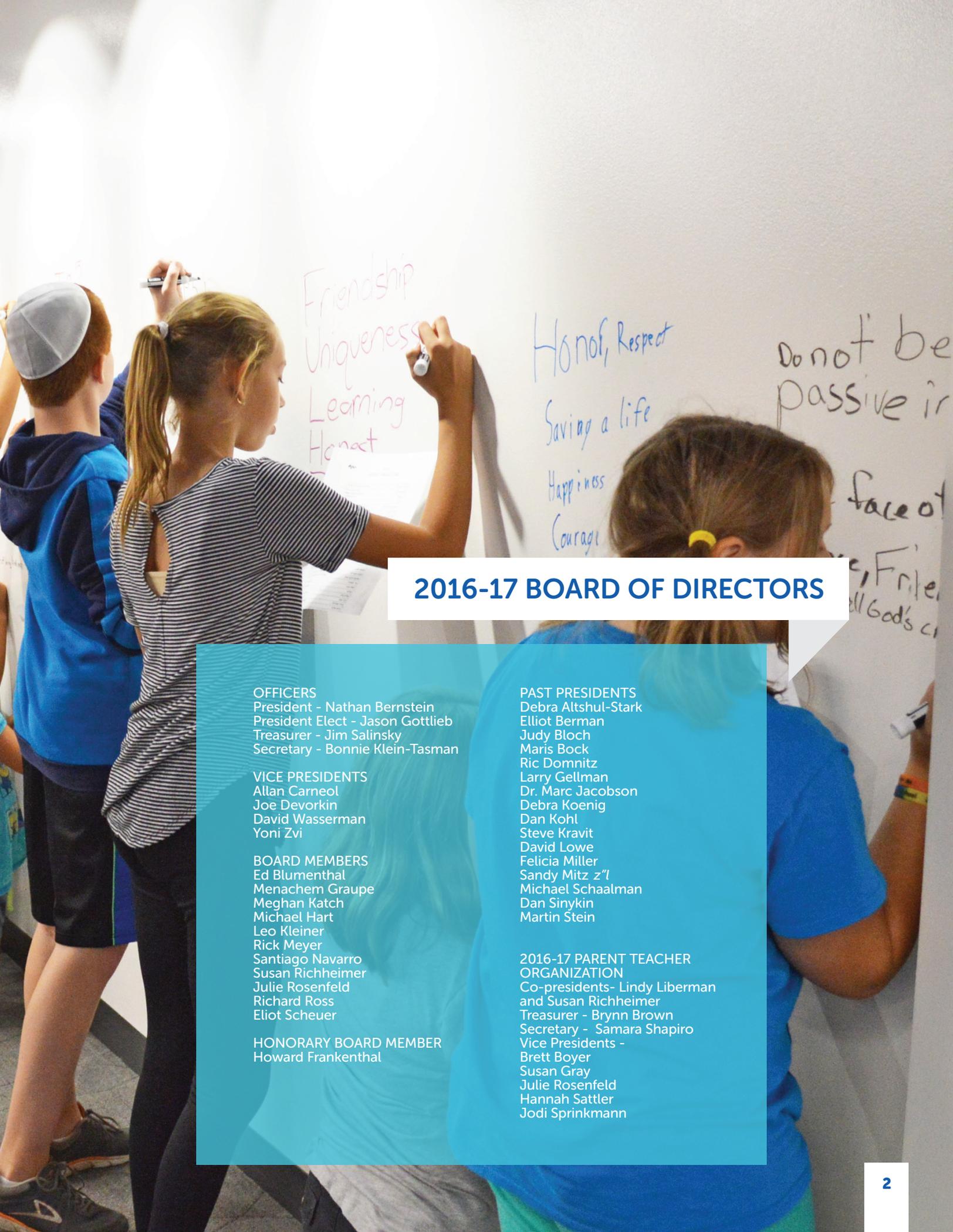
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PRIZMAH
Center for Jewish Day Schools



MILWAUKEE
JEWISH FEDERATION



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LEADERSHIP LETTER

What a year! The 2016-17 school year saw the transformational impact of a three-year learning journey and a strategic transformation to position MJDS as a leader in educational innovation. Learning through a Jewish lens, coupled with Jewish values, supports and fosters a 21st century student-owned learning approach to education that integrates the whole child into all aspects of school and community life. Never before have our children been more engaged in their learning. Never before have our children had access to so many high and low tech tools that support them as consumers and producers of information to accelerate their learning. The changes are breathtaking...and inspiring.

Our educational philosophy came to life with the opening of the Daniel M. Soref Innovation Hub. The Hub became the catalyst for dreaming, visioning, making, praying, learning, sharing, creating, failing and innovating in all grades and all subjects. Walking through this invigorating wing, we observed our seventh graders designing and building a *sukkah* using write-on white walls, design applications, hammers, nails, sandpaper and the 3D printer; our fourth and fifth graders sharing daily prayers together; junior kindergarteners creating a large donation bin for their ongoing *tzedakah* projects; third and sixth graders learning to code together; and an exciting attempt at 3D imaging and printing with students helping students. These types of experiences demonstrated the collaboration, critical thinking, creativity and teamwork needed in today's world. Innovation is no longer a "buzzword" at MJDS, but a seamlessly integrated approach to learning. This year saw an innovation mindset take hold!

Intentional and thoughtful ongoing professional learning and coaching for teachers continued to accelerate a student-centered approach to education. Literacy took center stage as teachers in grades K-8 embraced the full implementation of a Readers and Writers Workshop model of instruction, complete with a 200-book library for each classroom. Blogs and journals complemented the ongoing creation of a school of passionate readers and writers. New literacy support for all children afforded more children the opportunity to meet and exceed standards. We watched our students view themselves as empowered readers and writers who have a voice.

Tikkun olam and Jewish values are the underpinning of our students' focus and pride. Seventh grade planned and hosted the first Empty Bowls fundraiser, raising money for St. Ben's and The Gathering where they had been volunteering throughout the year. Our seventh and eighth grade students partnered with students from Milwaukee College Preparatory School to learn, volunteer and increase their understanding of one another and the world around them. Friday night family Shabbat dinners brought our families together for community and celebration. Our middle school forensics team hosted 24 schools for a city-wide competition at MJDS. Grade-level and school-wide projects, including a food drive during the counting of the omer led by fourth grade, were ever-present throughout the year. A *mishpachot* Kabbalat Shabbat celebration allowed our students to become "families" as they welcomed Shabbat and the end of the week. The eighth grade annual trip to Israel rekindled "Why MJDS" and allowed children who grew up together the opportunity to experience Israel as a group of leaders and learners who have the ability to influence Jewish communities in the future.

A quiet, yet intensive year-long search for the next educational leader to serve as Head of School was an inspiring and affirming process. Aaron Lippman was hired to assume the role beginning in July, 2017. The fact that MJDS was able to attract such a successful and highly regarded education professional supports and celebrates the depth of our transformation. Our school and its incredible community are in superb hands as we celebrate an amazing milestone: Thirty-six years of educating our future leaders.

This year of incredible growth was possible because of the unwavering support of our staff, parents, alumni and donors. Thank you to the staff members who work tirelessly for the school and for each and every child. You accomplish your goals with a passion that is simply unparalleled. Thank you to the parents who entrust their precious children to us each and every day. You are our partners and our inspiration. Thank you to the donors, foundations, Milwaukee Jewish Federation and community members who allow our school to be the best it can be for our Milwaukee children and their families. You truly sustain us in all we do. What a year...what a future!

With appreciation, pride and humility,

Sheryl Primakow

Nathan Bernstein



IMPACT OF THE AWARD WINNING MJDS DANIEL M. SOREF INNOVATION HUB

At MJDS, we nurture our students' inherent creativity, we allow them to solve authentic problems and we give them the freedom to fail and try again. We accomplish these goals in large part thanks to the award winning Daniel M. Soref Innovation Hub, a space inspired by the Design Thinking process of the Hasso-Plattner Institute of Design at Stanford University (d.school).

Design Thinking is a design methodology that provides an approach to solving complex problems. It helps learners define and re-frame problems by empathizing with human needs, by creating new ideas in brainstorming sessions and by adopting a hands-on approach in multiple prototyping and testing until a viable solution is generated. Innovators in design,

literature, art, music, science, engineering and business use this problem-solving framework. Some of the world's leading brands, such as Apple, Google, Samsung and GE have also adopted this approach.

MJDS students implement the phases of the Design Thinking process through our approach to education and the Daniel M. Soref Innovation Hub. In the Ideation Studio, students have the support to collaboratively and creatively brainstorm, record and visualize ideas before tackling the creation phase. Students are able to create initial prototypes in the Engineering Lab, MakerSpace or Art Room, reflect on creations and go back to visualization boards in the Ideation Studio to improve their solutions. Students reflect on

their learning and try multiple options when tackling a problem until they find optimal solutions.

At MJDS, Jewish values are woven into all content areas. When Design Thinking is coupled with *tikkun olam*, our students develop a deeper level of excitement, engagement and empathy for the end user. Students ask meaningful questions, believe they can make a difference and are more persistent with challenges.

The World Economic Forum recently published the Future Jobs Report, listing the top skills needed to thrive in the workforce in 2020 (shown below). MJDS students develop these skills, imbuing them with Jewish values every day, preparing them to lead, succeed and engage in any path in life.

Top 10 Skills

In 2020

1. Complex problem-solving
2. Critical thinking
3. Creativity
4. People management
5. Coordinating others
6. Emotional intelligence
7. Judgement and decision-making
8. Service orientation
9. Negotiation
10. Cognitive flexibility

In 2015

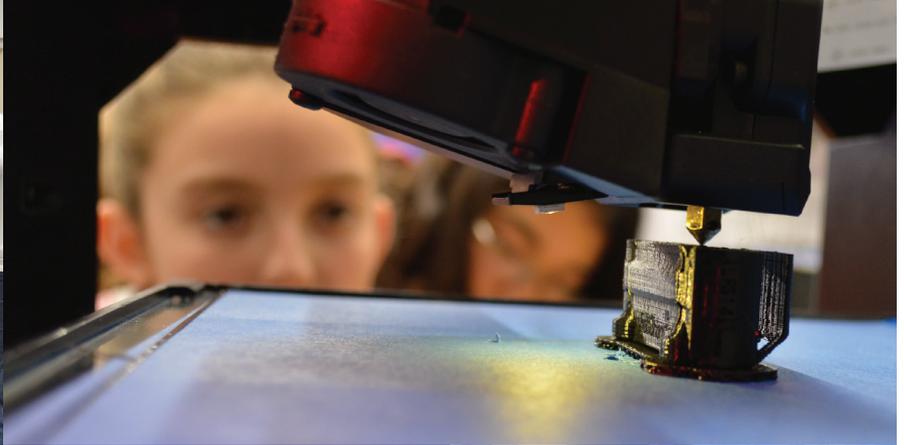
1. Complex problem-solving
2. Coordinating others
3. People management
4. Critical thinking
5. Negotiation
6. Quality control
7. Service orientation
8. Judgement and decision-making
9. Active listening
10. Creativity



MJDS INNOVATION HUB WINS ASID DESIGN AWARD

On March 29, the Daniel M. Soref Innovation Hub of Milwaukee Jewish Day School won a Silver Award in the Educational K-12 Category at the Annual Design Excellence Awards Gala, hosted by the Wisconsin Chapter of American Society of Interior Designers (ASID). The Uihlein/Wilson Architects Interior Design Team was recognized for their efforts on this project.

"Our firm is so proud of this project and we want to sincerely thank you for being a great client to work with. This award is really a testament to the wonderful work your school is doing with the students and we were happy to be a part of it."
- Rebecca Rodriguez, Interior Designer at Uihlein/Wilson Architects.



MJDS IS THE ONLY SCHOOL

in the region that offers innovation, academic excellence, and Jewish values in a pluralistic and vibrant community under the same roof.



INNOVATION

An innovation mindset pervasive throughout all learning



ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Academic excellence rooted in student-owned learning and progressive professional development



JEWISH VALUES

Contemporary Jewish values in a vibrant, pluralistic and welcoming community

OUR OUTCOMES ARE OUR PROMISE

During a ten-year learning journey, MJDS students think differently, develop a nurtured soul and own their learning.

MJDS OUTCOMES



THINK DIFFERENTLY

LIFELONG MINDSETS

- Self-discipline and resilience
- Accepting challenges
- Taking calculated risks
- Remaining positive
- Believing in oneself
- A drive to take action and help others
- A passion for learning
- Persistence and optimism

ESSENTIAL SKILLS

- Critical thinking and problem finding
- Communication and collaboration
- Agility and adaptability
- Initiative and entrepreneurship
- Curiosity and imagination
- Creativity and innovation

CORE COMPETENCIES

- | |
|-----------------|
| Language arts |
| Hebrew language |
| Math |
| Social studies |
| Judaism |
| Science |
| Wellness |
| Art |
| Music |



DEVELOP A NURTURED SOUL

- JK** Kindness | חסד
- SK** Wonder | יראה
- 1st** Mindfulness | כוונה
- 2nd** Community | קהילה
- 3rd** Empathy | דרך ארץ
- 4th** Origins | דע מאין באת
- 5th** Holiness | קדושה
- 6th** Unity | אחדות
- 7th** Service | תיקון עולם
- 8th** Pioneer | לך לך



OWN THEIR LEARNING

- Ask meaningful questions
- Are problem seekers
- Reflect on their learning
- Believe they can make a difference
- Are willing to fail
- Are persistent
- Are risk takers
- Follow their passions
- Communicate & collaborate with the outside world
- Make connections
- View learning as a recursive process

OUR PROMISE

OUR PROMISE IN ACTION

"We are extremely proud of our kindness and our ability to solve problems that need to be fixed. We know that we are playing our part in tikkun olam (repairing the world). It's junior kindergarten innovation at its best!" - Gev. Wolfe, jr. kindergarten teacher.



Innovation Born from Kindness

What does innovation look like in junior kindergarten? It looks like young children solving problems while focusing on their core value: *chesed* (kindness).

At the beginning of the school year, junior kindergarten students were inspired by a book called, *We Are All Alike, We Are All Different* by Cheltenham Elementary Kindergarteners and Laura Dwight. Students discussed how different people live and what different families have or might need. Students decided that if families did not have basic needs, they could help. At that moment their innovation mindset was ignited by the power of kindness and they decided to collect items for people in need. But where would they keep all of the things they collected? Students went to the Ideation Studio, better known by them as the "big idea room," and designed a big box that would hold whatever they chose to collect. With plenty of guidance, the juniors designed and built a huge wooden collection box from scratch in the MakerSpace.

Throughout the year, juniors collected three truck loads of baby items including furniture, 18 bags of children's clothing, hundreds of food items, over 100 children's books, over 100 mittens, scarves and hats, and about 125 pairs of socks. The items were delivered to local organizations like Sojourner Family Peace Center, Team Refugee Strangers No More, Thanksgiving food drives, homeless centers and more.





Acting Mindfully and Purposefully

The first grade students practice the value of *kavanah* (mindfulness). Throughout the year they focused on reducing, recycling and reusing, being mindful of their actions and how they impact our Earth. Students visited a recycling factory and shared their learning with the seventh graders by creating amazing presentations. They collected multiple items they could repurpose and reuse. Alongside the seventh graders, they collected applesauce pouches and brought them to a company that creates purses with a material made from the containers. Students also visited the JCC garden multiple times and helped plant garlic and potatoes. They were able to sample many items growing in the garden, including parsley, chives, mint, green peppers, carrots and even Swiss chard!

Thanks to Gov. Damico, Gov. Kleiman and partners in the community, students intertwined mindfulness into the curriculum creating amazing learning experiences that extended beyond common core standards and the classroom.



Building a Community From The Ground Up

Gov. Dowling's classroom owned the value of *kehillah* (community). They learned how to create a community and how to foster local and global citizenship. They integrated *kehillah* into everything they did throughout the year.

Second graders built their own community from scratch through a collaborative planning process. They learned about the physical and organizational components that support a neighborhood, including residential and public infrastructure, economics, politics and law. Students transformed their classroom into a neighborhood by building their own houses, earning money, voting for a mayor and learning how to pay taxes.

These students were also empowered to help our Milwaukee community by being involved citizens. They worked with Hope House Milwaukee, an organization that provides shelter and services to homeless families by collecting and donating items that were needed. They learned so much about the homeless in our area.

As a way to explore communities around the world, second graders joined an amazing journey called Semester At Sea. They partnered with a college student who participated in an educational experience at sea for six months. Via email and Skype, they learned firsthand about the traditions and communities of the countries she visited. Students "traveled" to Hawaii, Japan, China, India, Vietnam, Myanmar, Mauritius, South Africa, Ghana, Morocco and Germany.

"As a community we do real, we do "I'm sorrys" and "thank yous", we do lots of sharing and we laugh. We make mistakes, we show respect, we compliment and we dream. We work hard and create lasting friendships. We learn and grow together every single day. This is what our MJDS community is all about." – Gov. Dowling, second grade teacher.

Any School Can Teach Social Studies...But Not Like MJDS

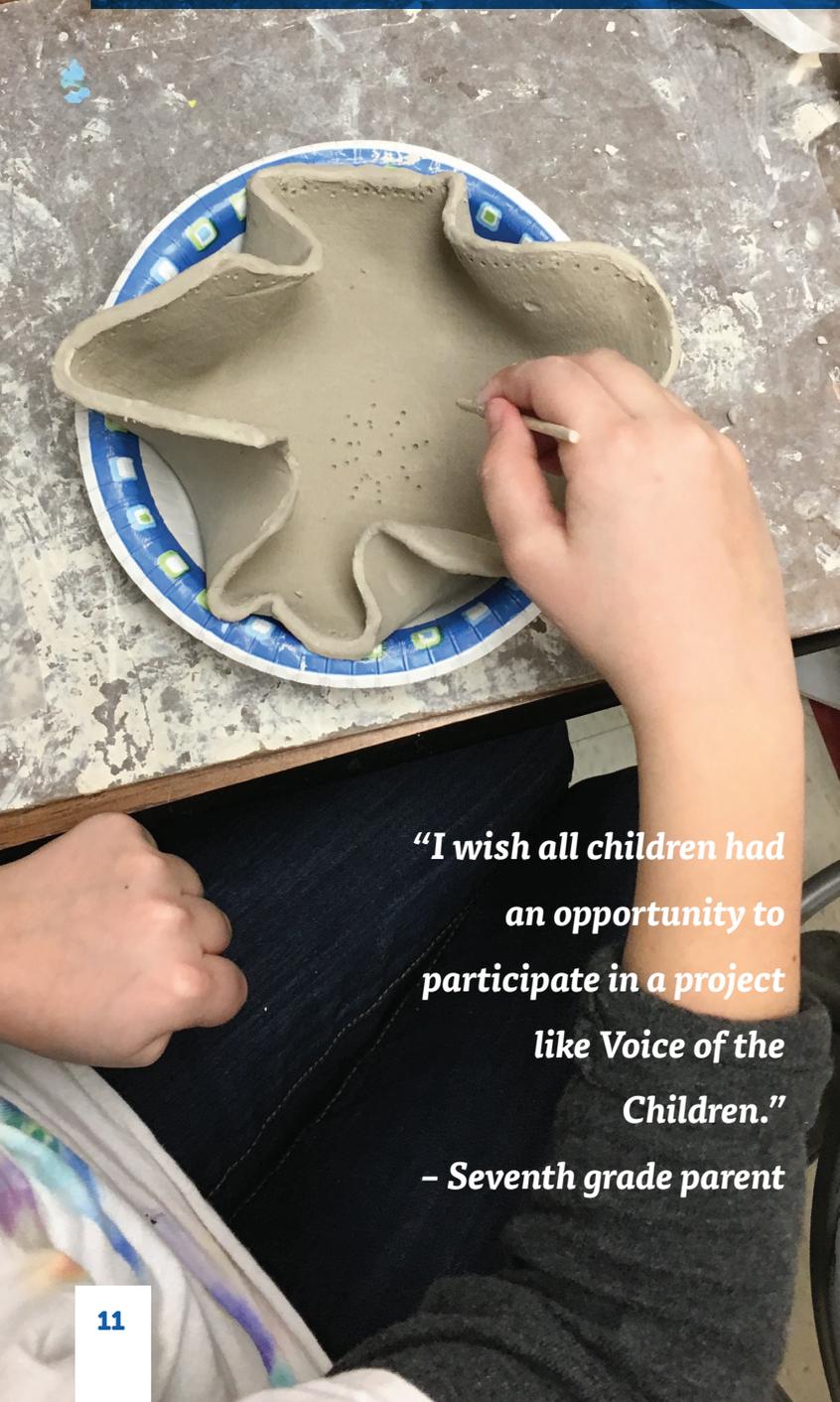
At MJDS, social studies enables students to view our world through a Jewish lens.

Few projects match the depth and scope of the seventh grade Voice of the Children (VOTC) program. Students step out of the traditional classroom study of geography and culture and immerse themselves in the reality of social issues at both a local and global level. VOTC gives our seventh grade students an opportunity to make their voices heard.

This year, Adon Kaufman and seventh grade students raised the mission of Voice of the Children to a new level. During the fall and early winter, students viewed VOTC through a local lens. They studied the issues of poverty and hunger in the Milwaukee area. They found organizations they were passionate about supporting and gave hundreds of hours of their time and energy to help make Milwaukee a better place for very needy families.

Students served meals at St. Ben's and

The Gathering. Then they decided they wanted to create an Empty Bowls event. They taught every student at MJDS how to make pottery bowls. They sold these bowls as symbols of hunger and raised approximately \$3,000. Students presented the money to representatives from St Ben's and The Gathering at a community-wide event. The donations made to these charities provided over one month of milk for guests at The Gathering (over 7,000 servings) and nearly 1,000 meals for St. Ben's Community Meal Program.



*"My child is so frustrated that Milwaukee is a segregated city. He wants to make change."
- Sixth grade parent.*



"I wish all children had an opportunity to participate in a project like Voice of the Children."

- Seventh grade parent

"I was in awe of the tenacity of our students, their ability to work collaboratively and the understanding of the grave issue of hunger in Milwaukee and around the world. I was in awe of their empathy regarding this issue and their drive to make a difference in this world. They made a difference on so many levels and learned so many skills during their Empty Bowls project. These skills will serve them well throughout their lives. Many individuals do not have an opportunity to develop and practice these skills until adulthood." - Dr. Dale Truding, MJDS Education Consultant

A photograph of two young boys, one wearing a black cap, looking intently at a computer screen. In the background, a map of Michigan is visible on the wall.

MJDS Students Learn a Third Language: Coding

At MJDS, coding is introduced in senior kindergarten and is taught through eighth grade. Through coding, children develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills and it gives them an opportunity to develop fluidity in their thinking. Coding is like writing a story in a second language, they need to know what to write and why in a particular order. When students are learning how to code, we have witnessed how they build confidence and unleash their creativity as they are empowered to build their own paths and solutions in their own way.

This year students joined Hour of Code, a global movement aiming to introduce students of all ages to the friendly and engaging programming environment. We joined this event to enrich coding at all grade levels.

“Programming stretches your mind, teaches you how to reason, problem-solve, debug and invent. I know firsthand the value of introducing children to coding at early ages. Learning a new language is a huge benefit in itself, but learning how to “condition, loop, function and message” creates more advanced thinkers. By getting kids interested and excited about coding at MJDS, we are hoping that they will continue taking computer science classes in high school and beyond. It has been predicted that by 2020 there are likely to be over 1 million unfilled jobs in the US alone that will be dependent on coding.”

- Gev. Milbeck, middle school math teacher and software engineer of 18 years.

Jewish Life

At MJDS, students do more than learn about Judaism...they live it! The prevailing culture at MJDS reflects the many expressions of Judaism and the diverse dimensions and aspects of Jewish cultural life. Within our school, Jewish art is displayed on the walls, Jewish music is heard in the hallways and Jewish values are integrated into every facet of school life – from Hebrew class, to gym, to science. We create a culture committed to the values of *mitzvot* (commandments), acts of *chesed* (kindness) and *tikkun olam* (repairing the world).





Why do I volunteer to head up Mitzvah Day?

In 2009 when my daughter Sydney was in sixth grade at MJDS and had her first opportunity to participate in Mitzvah Day, I signed up to be a parent volunteer. I feel very strongly that, as parents, we need to live by example for our children, and not just tell them the right thing to do. As I sat at the morning service before the programs, I was awestruck by the story Marilyn Ruby told the audience about Michael Kovnar. This young man was diagnosed with cancer at a very young age. I tried to imagine what this would feel like and how I would react to such news. Michael decided to fight for himself and others. He raised large amounts of money, raised awareness and made others feel better. This was a powerful example for everyone and an inspiring lesson in how to deal with incredibly difficult circumstances.

I feel strongly that the memory of Michael Kovnar and his heroic efforts should be celebrated each year. Michael made an indelible mark on me even though I never had the good fortune to meet him. He must continue to be an inspiration to others and a catalyst for all of us who want to make our community a better place.

Each year our middle school students fan out into the community to help a cross-section of people from children to the elderly to our military veterans. My hope is they understand the tremendous impact their mitzvot have on those they work with and, more importantly, are propelled to continue helping others as they move on past their time at MJDS.

-David Wasserman, Mitzvah Day coordinator and leader



Michael Kovnar Memorial Mitzvah Day

This year we celebrated the 18th Annual Michael Kovnar Memorial Mitzvah Day. MJDS continues to hold Mitzvah Day in memory of Michael Kovnar, an MJDS student who passed away due to cancer in 1999 when he was in the seventh grade. To honor his life and legacy of raising money for others in need, MJDS students volunteer at various charities all over the city. Some of the organizations where students volunteer are the JCC, Gan Ami, St. Ann's, Hunger Task Force, the Jewish Home, SHARP Literacy, the VA Hospital and Hope House. Mitzvah Day is an incredible day of community service and meaningful acts of kindness that make a difference in our community.





Because We Can: 90 Mile Bike Trip Challenge

Every year the eighth graders bike 90 miles to Rainbow Day Camp and back. It's a huge challenge even for experienced riders, and they all dug deep to complete the trip! Just like the previous year, students rode in honor and memory of fallen Israeli soldier Nadav Raymond. Thank you to Moshe Katz for leading this trip and providing an incredible experience.

Because We Can: MJDS Forensics Leaders

On February 12, MJDS was the epicenter of the middle school public speaking universe as they hosted a forensics tournament for students from all over the state of Wisconsin. Forensics is competitive public speaking in which students gather to perform individual and team selected pieces in different categories.

We housed and fed a record 400 students from 24 different area schools, with an additional 100 adult volunteers and judges present. Everyone performed well and had an amazing time. Overall, the MJDS team earned second place, with two individual champions as well – eighth graders Sara G. and Eden G.! Seventh graders Taliah L., Ariana R. and Haley S. made it to the power round. *Mazal tov* to all participants listed below for a job well done!

Sixth grade: Ezra G. and Noah B.

Seventh grade: Haley S., Ariana R., Ari G., Amalia S., Ellie S., Sydney P., Milo T. and Micah P.

Eighth grade: Taliah L., Sara G. and Eden G.

OUR PROMISE IN ACTION



At MJDS Every Student is an Artist

The art room at MJDS is a creative space that encourages in depth exploration of different media and materials. We help students find the medium they enjoy to express themselves with confidence and in creative ways. Students from junior kindergarten to eighth grade develop skills to artistically express themselves. The nature of the projects coupled with unstructured time offer open-ended results and multiple opportunities for ideas to flourish.

“I believe each child and human has a natural need to create. Art develops our powers of observation, makes our brains more flexible and helps us make connections between subjects. My goal is to help each child find the medium they love to use so they can express themselves with confidence and enjoy the creative process.” - Gev. Porat, art teacher, omanut program coordinator.

MJDS Glee

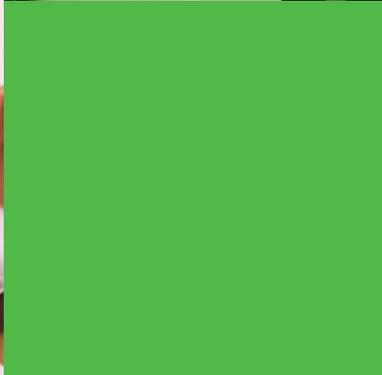
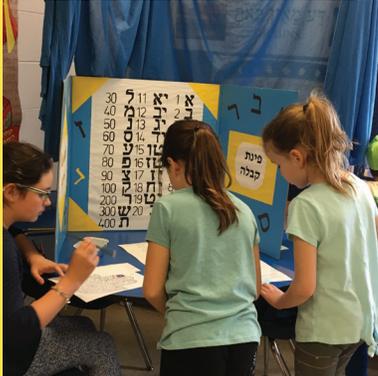
Glee was open to all fifth through eighth grade students. The objective of MJDS Glee is to give students a background in music and expose them to participation in a singing group. It also promotes appreciation of fine arts and enriches MJDS and the community through Jewish music. Students do vocal warm-ups, learn how to harmonize and develop a wonderful repertoire. Glee performed for the entire school and at multiple community-wide events during year.

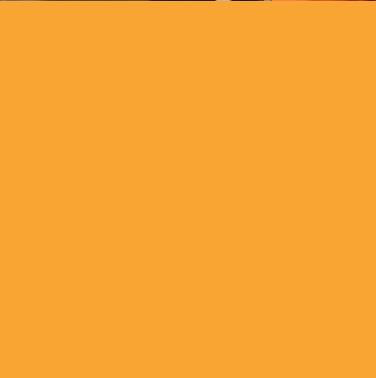
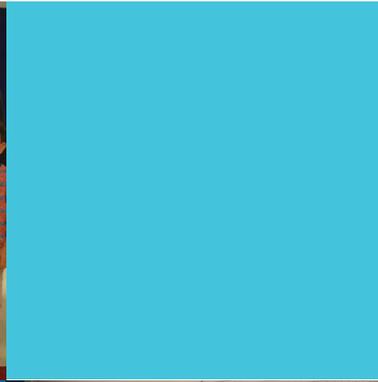


At MJDS Every Student is an Athlete

MJDS athletics are an integral part of our educational program. The athletics program is designed to enhance the overall MJDS experience by helping each student develop skills necessary for personal growth, teamwork and healthy competition. The athletics program is also a platform for Jewish learning. It is through meaningful athletic experiences that students put Jewish values into action and adopt Jewish behaviors.







EIGHTH GRADE TRIP TO ISRAEL

The annual Israel trip, now in its tenth year, takes students on a whirlwind tour of the Jewish homeland, from the iconic sites of Jerusalem to the warm home hospitality of our partnership region, Sovev Kinneret. This is the most powerful Jewish learning experience during their MJDS journey.

During their visit, eighth graders volunteered at Leket Israel, the biggest food bank in Israel. With their hard work and enthusiasm, students rolled up their sleeves to pick 1500 pounds of fresh kohlrabi for distribution to 350 Israeli families in need. We are thankful for the partnership with Leket Israel for giving MJDS students a chance to make a difference in Israel.



It's wonderful when schools come and get their hands dirty volunteering with Leket Israel. Picking produce in the fields with Leket Israel's flagship program Project Leket, is a unique way for today's youth to connect with the cause, the land and Israel overall. Showing the youth that they can make a true difference even with limited time is of utmost importance in empowering the future generation. We would be thrilled to welcome more visitors from Milwaukee Jewish Day School on future visits to Israel. - Joseph Gitler, Leket Israel's Founder and Chairman.





PARTNERSHIPS

MJDS + Milwaukee College Prep = Together Repairing Milwaukee Community

This year MJDS started a wonderful partnership with Milwaukee College Prep (MCP), a network of four successful junior kindergarten-eighth grade public charter schools situated in Milwaukee's most underserved neighborhoods. This program was coordinated by Repairing Together, an organization founded by Elsie Crawford in August 2016, with the goal of creating authentic learning experiences in order to understand what it means to help repair the world and be a caring, empathetic leader in the greater Milwaukee community.

Throughout the year, both organizations collaborated in authentic learning opportunities where connections were real, rich and insightful. We witnessed how students understood the value of true collaboration with students from diverse backgrounds and the importance of kindness, respect, community and repairing the world. These were some of the amazing and enriching experiences in which students and teachers of both schools participated together:

- Eighth graders wrote letters to WWII veterans as part of the Honor Flights program and exchanged them with partner students for peer editing.

- MJDS students served food at St. Ben's Community Meal, while Milwaukee College Prep baked Thanksgiving pies for The Gathering.

- Middle school students of both schools went to the Urban Ecology Center where they focused on urban agriculture and the environment.

- Students participated in a session about tolerance and peace run by Serve2Unite, a non-profit led by Pardeep Kaleka, the son of the Oak Creek Sikh leader who was murdered four years ago, and his partner Arno Michaelis, a former white supremacist.

- The two schools swapped teachers with MJDS teacher Adon Kaufman presenting a lesson on the Holocaust and MCP teacher Mr. Williams presenting a lesson on the Civil Rights movement to our students. This was followed by a discussion with both schools about the similarities and differences between the two historical events.

We are thankful for all the educators involved in making this wonderful partnership happen.

MJDS + University of Chicago = Best STEM Education in the Nation

We have been working closely with the University of Chicago STEM Education to develop our scope and sequence for kindergarten through fifth grade science curriculum. MJDS teachers have received intensive professional development in preparation for adopting new leading curricula Science Companion and Engineering is Elementary.



MJDS + Cardinal Stritch University = Partners in Education and Leadership

We are honored that the College of Education and Leadership (COEL) at Cardinal Stritch University believes so

strongly in the education provided through our talented teachers at MJDS that they have chosen our school as the ideal environment to train their teachers. This partnership provides rich learning experiences to Stritch COEL and their students. At the same time it offers advantages to MJDS teachers and staff, such as:

- A Stritch faculty partner present in the building at regular times each semester to serve as a resource to teachers and staff, providing professional development on an informal basis and/or furnishing professional development sessions.

- The capability to pair candidates with a cooperating teacher, which may offer opportunities for facilitation of cooperative learning or project-based learning activities for MJDS students.

Thank you to MJDS Education Consultant Dr. Dale Truding for facilitating this partnership and joining two wonderful organizations through professional development and growth.

Also through Cardinal Stritch MJDS students had an opportunity to teach a lesson to an authentic audience. Gev. Bachar's fourth graders taught a lesson at Cardinal Stritch University about the Jewish high holidays to students in a comparative religion class. After researching and creating presentations the students learned not only about the holidays but also how to build a presentation for adult learners and present in an interactive and engaging way.



MJDS GALA: PAY IT FORWARD RAISES MORE THAN \$130,000

Our second MJDS Gala: Pay it Forward took place in September, 2016. It was a very special night for our school community. *Tikkun Olam* Award honorees Dan Sinykin and Jodi Habush-Sinykin and Next Generation Award honoree Hilary Miller packed the house at Shully's Watermark in Thiensville with more than 260 attendees. This event was another huge success -- raising more than \$130,000 for MJDS!

The evening featured many highlights, from beautiful videos to moving speeches about and from the honorees. Hilary Miller received a standing ovation after delivering a stirring speech about MJDS and her Jewish identity. A special thank you to all guests and supporters for attending and believing in our mission. A thank you to event co-chairs Debra and Moshe Katz and Julie and Yoni Zvi, as well as the team of MJDS teachers and administrative staff who worked so hard to bring this event to life.





Last semester I took a class called, "Politics in Multicultural Society." My professor began the first lecture by posing two essential questions: "What is the core of your identity?" and "Is your identity ascribed or asserted?" ascribed, meaning that one is born into their ethnic or national identity, and asserted, meaning that one chooses their identity based on free will.

After he posed the first question, my classmates looked confused and a bit unsettled. They seemed as though the professor was trying to trick us, as if there was some ulterior motive. However, for me, answering the first question took no time at all. Judaism, I thought. That is the core of my identity. It always has been.

But, unlike the first, the second question was much more thought-provoking and challenging. It lingered in my head when the bell rang, "Is your identity ascribed or asserted?" This question forced me to reflect on why Judaism is so essential to my being. I concluded that in understanding my individual identity, this question cannot be an either/or question. It is much more complex and intricate than that.

And so tonight, I want to share with you my answer. I acknowledge that I am ascribed to Judaism. I was born and raised in a family where its teachings and values were emulated by weekly Shabbat dinners, Nana's matzah ball soup, mom's mandel bread and JCC men's basketball. And yet, in spite of my upbringing, I feel as if my Judaism is so much deeper than my ascription to it.

As a 19-year-old, surrounded by distractions and secular tendencies, why is it that I choose to go to Shabbat every Friday evening at school? Why do I choose to advocate for my Jewish homeland when it is so easy to submit to anti-Israel sentiment on my college campus? Why do I choose to put a Mezuzah on the doorpost of my apartment? Why do I text "Mazal Tov" and not "Congratulations?" Why do I consider my Jewish studies homework my "fun" homework? And why do I choose to wear the Shemah around my neck everyday? After much thought, I realized that the answer is incredibly simple. I choose to assert my Judaism because of the unwavering pride and joy it gives me. And the fundamental source of my love for all things Jewish is the Milwaukee Jewish Day School.

For ten years, I entered a school building in which community, tolerance and a love of learning were pervasive. I interacted with teachers who motivated me to work hard and to be a leader inside and outside of the classroom. I was surrounded by peers who showed me the true meaning of friendship and teamwork. At MJDS, I was influenced by the Jewish values and morals that were ubiquitous in every class, every hafsakah, every tefillah, every folk fair, every Rockets basketball game, every Shabbat sing and every Mitzvah Day.

I want to sincerely thank every individual in this room tonight. I am thankful to be a part of a community that cares so deeply for the continuity of Jewish life in Milwaukee and throughout the world. Given that I am receiving the "Next Generation Award", I hope to play a role in inspiring future Jewish leadership like each of you have inspired me.

Finally, I want to thank MJDS. Thank you to everyone for ten remarkable years, who allowed me to realize that my Judaism extends far beyond my ascription to it. Thank you for inspiring every past, present and future student to assert their Jewish identity no matter where they are, who they are with and what they are doing. One of those past students is my wonderful sister Erin. Today she is working for the Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence in Louisville, Kentucky.

Before I conclude, I want to share a quote by Henry Monsky, an American Jewish icon and former president of B'nai B'rith. To me, this quote encapsulates the mission of the Milwaukee Jewish Day School. It reads, "Judaism is something more than philanthropy and social service. It is a civilization many-faceted, rich and profound in its diversity. Down through the centuries of our history and throughout our literature, in the Talmud, in the Midrash and in other great Jewish classics, we find emphasis on Jewish education as a vital, life-giving force, and as a primary philosophy of Jewish life."

I'm humbled to receive this recognition and feel a deep obligation to ensure that my generation and the ones that follow are committed to realizing the value in a strong Jewish identity -- ascribed and asserted. Thank you.

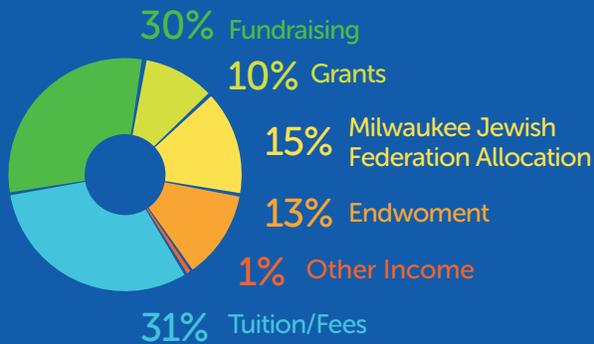
- MJDS alumna, class of 2010 and Pay It Forward recipient of 2016 Next Generation Award, Hilary Miller's acceptance speech.

REVENUE AND EXPENSES

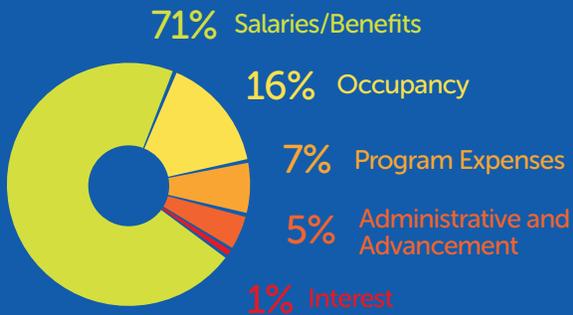
Through the generous financial support of our benefactors, MJDS is able to fulfill our mission: where academic excellence and Jewish values prepare children for a lifetime of success, leadership and engagement with the world. Thank you to Bader Philanthropies, Inc., Daniel M. Soref Charitable Trust, Milwaukee Jewish Federation, our multi-year donors and the individuals and families who have established endowments and legacy gifts. These gifts empower us to continue our legacy of innovation, academic excellence and character development in the next generation of Jewish leaders.

MJDS was the recipient of a two-year, \$200,000 grant for the development of the Daniel M. Soref Innovation Hub, consisting of an Ideation Studio, Engineering Lab and MakerSpace. In addition, a very generous donor offered an incredible matching grant for a fourth year. All new and increased gifts were matched dollar-for-dollar, securing \$100,000 in additional funds again this year. Thank you to all of our donors who so generously made gifts to MJDS!

REVENUE



EXPENSES



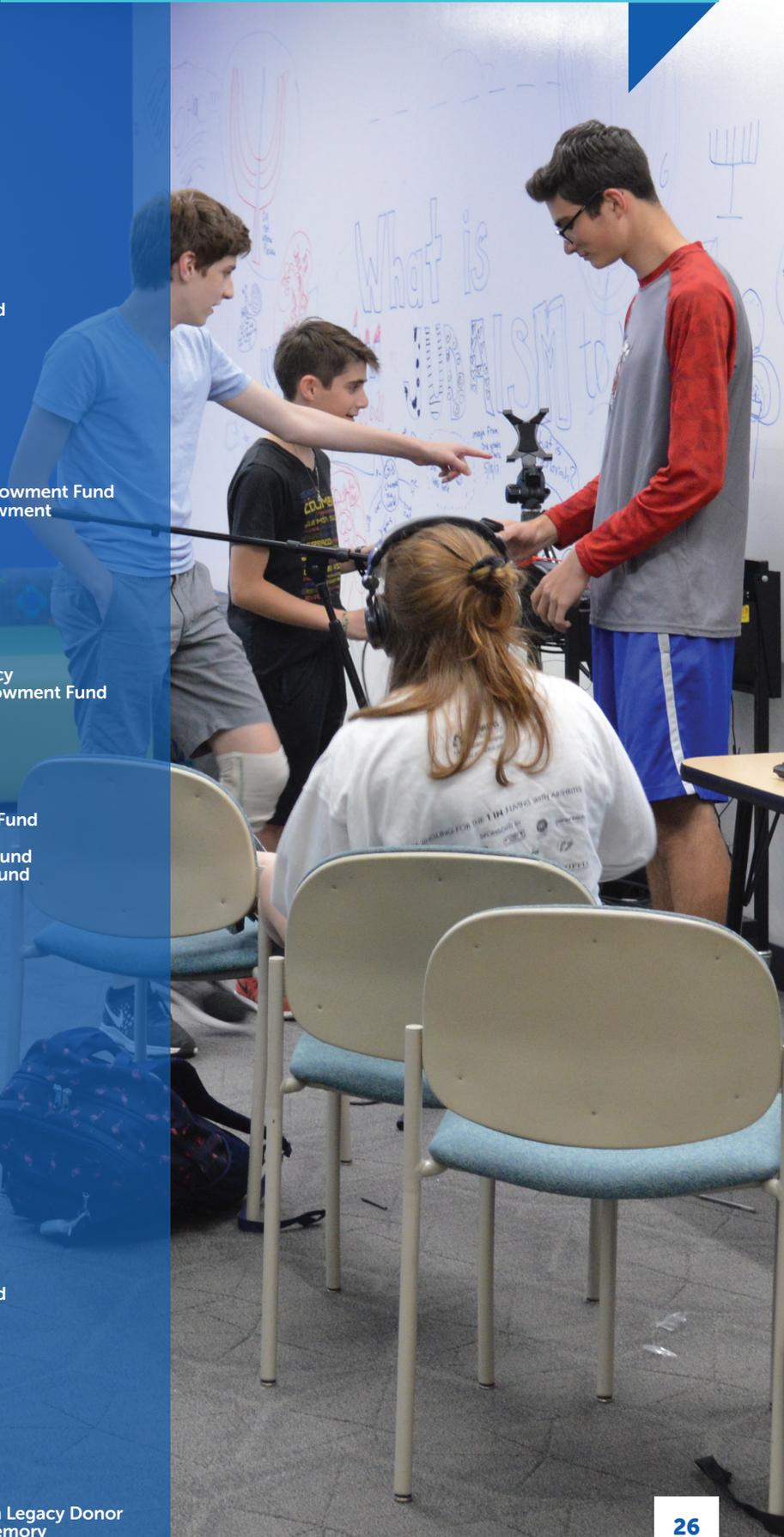
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Mazal tov to the next generation of Jewish *mensch*es, problem solvers, critical thinkers and Jewish leaders!

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Charles Silverman
Zachary Sprinkmann
Aya Vlasoff
Ela Zvi



CLASS OF 1991

Marisa Morgan is Assistant Director of Graduate Admissions at Boston University Questrom School of Business and lives in Brookline, Massachusetts. During her time at Tufts University, Marisa was president of Tufts Hillel, engaged in the university's alumni council and was later involved in the Hillel Alumni Association.



"I have so many favorite memories of MJDS, it is hard to narrow the list! My most favorite ones are Shabbat Sing, Folk Fair and friendships!" - Marisa Morgan

- Nicolet High School Class of 1995
- Tufts University Class of 1999 – BA, Sociology & Community Health
- Emerson College Class of 2002 - MA, Health Communication
- Boston University Class of 2010 - MBA

CLASS OF 1993

Hannah Sattler is a chef and owner of Hannah's Kitchen. She has three children with two at MJDS and one soon to be.

- Nicolet High School Class of 1997
- University of Wisconsin-Madison Class of 2002 – Retail Management

"At MJDS I learned the importance of community and to be proud of the decisions in life you make." - Hannah Sattler

CLASS OF 1995

Zak Wernecke is a sixth grade math teacher at Ridge Road Middle School in Charlotte, North Carolina. He is also a volleyball, basketball and baseball coach.

- Marquette University High School Class of 1999
- Xavier University Class of 2003 – BA, Arts

"MJDS is a magical school and community where students learn about and experience their Jewish identity while being given the tools to become strong and successful young adults from loving and passionate educators." - Zak Wernecke

CLASS OF 1996

Sam Gellman is Head of Photography at Uber in Cyberport Hong Kong. He is married and has a baby son that is five months old. During high school in Shorewood he was a varsity athlete in many sports, an AFS student to the Netherlands for a year and graduated as valedictorian of his class.

- Shorewood High School Class of 2000
- Stanford University Class of 2004

"My Jewish education stuck with me, and to date, I try to apply it to my life. Thanks to MJDS I gained a pride in Judaism. I had great teachers all around and very good friends." - Sam Gellman



ALUMNI NEWS

CLASS OF 1997

Daniel Beder is an orchestra teacher in Arlington, Virginia. He recently married in June of this year. During high school he was a cellist in orchestra and part of the baseball team.

- Shorewood High School Class of 2001
- Oberlin College Class of 2005 – Double major in music and applied math
- University of Illinois Class of 2013 - MM Conducting, MME Music education

"My most favorite memory at MJDS are all the math meets." - Daniel Beder

CLASS OF 1998

Jesse Beder is a staff software engineer at Google. Jesse lives in Oak Park, Illinois and is engaged!

- Shorewood High School Class of 2002
- University of Wisconsin Class of 2006 – BA, Mathematics and Physics
- University of Illinois Class of 2012 – Ph.D., Mathematics

"During my years at MJDS I learned the value of kindness, loyalty and friendship. One of my favorite memories is Rabbi Nadel singing Shabbat songs. The teachers at MJDS care tremendously about the students. It's really a nurturing environment, I'd feel completely comfortable sending my kids there." - Jesse Beder

CLASS OF 1999

Carlie Aizenberg (Miller) is a teacher at Glen Hills Middle School and lives in Fox Point, Wisconsin. Carlie and her husband welcomed their first child in June of last year. "We love being parents!"

- Nicolet High School Class of 2003
- University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Class of 2006 – Elementary Education
- Alverno College Class of 2009 – MA, Professional Development

"MJDS is a wonderful school that fosters a love for learning while also encouraging high academic standards. MJDS helped to lay the groundwork for my academic success and I have many fond memories of my time there." - Carlie Aizenberg

CLASS OF 2000

Dana Keren is the senior department administrator of the department of obstetrics and gynecology at the Tulane University School of Medicine. Dana is an alumna of Avodah, the Jewish Service Corps that sent her to New Orleans in 2010. She lives in this beautiful city with her partner and 5 year-old dog, Bobby. Dana is board member of the National Council of Jewish Women, Greater New Orleans Section and a board member and co-founder of Birthmark Doula Collective, an organization that works to improve maternal and child health outcomes for Louisiana families.

- Whitefish Bay High School Class of 2003
- University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Class of 2007 – BA, Linguistics & Women's Studies
- Tulane University Class of 2015 - MBA

"MJDS taught me core Jewish values. I also learned to love Jewish song as a means of prayer and spirituality. I still think back fondly to the time spent with Rabbi Nadel at Shabbat Sing and the time spent praying each day and before and after meals. These traditions are, in one way or another, central to my Judaism to this day." - Dana Keren

Derek Goodman is an attorney and lives in the east side of Milwaukee. He is married and has two dogs.

- Nicolet High School Class of 2004
- University of Wisconsin- Madison Class of 2004 - BA, American History, BA, Spanish
- University of Wisconsin Law School Class of 2011 – Juris Doctor

CLASS OF 2001

Alyssa Finkel is a special education teacher for students with autism in Buffalo Grove, IL. Alyssa is engaged and planning a wedding in Milwaukee in 2018!

- Homestead High School Class of 2005
- Western Michigan University Class of 2011 – Special Education
- Arizona State University Class of 2013 – Masters Education



"One of my favorite memories is Shabbat Sing. My Jewish culture and heritage was my largest take away from MJDS!" - Alyssa Finkel

CLASS OF 2002

Samantha Ladin is a medical education program coordinator at Family Medicine Residency Program in Aurora St. Lukes. She lives in Milwaukee.

- Homestead High School Class of 2006
- University of Wisconsin-Madison Class of 2010 – Rehabilitation
- Arizona State University Class of 2013 – Masters Education

Stephanie Rosenberg lives in Milwaukee and has two children, Harper is two years old and Isabella is one year old.

- Nicolet High School Class of 2006
- University of Wisconsin-Madison Class of 2009 – Jewish Studies

"MJDS is probably the best academic experience a child can get. I am looking forward to sending my kids in a couple years!" - Stephanie Rosenberg

Ryan Kimmel is a senior engineer at Promega in Madison, Wisconsin. He is married and has a giant and lovable dog named Buddy. During college he was an engineering exchange student at the Technical University of Denmark. He was part of Science Olympiad and involved with Habitat for Humanity.

- Homestead High School Class of 2006
- University of Wisconsin-Madison Class of 2010 - BS, Biomedical Engineering
- University of Wisconsin-Madison - MS, Biomedical Engineering

Sara Galicki just moved back to Shorewood after being in New York City for six years. She is a rental agent at Trike Property Management in West Allis. Sara and her husband Zachary recently had their first son Elan. *Mazal tov!* During high school,



"MJDS gave me strong communication skills and life long friendships. Two of my bridesmaids in my wedding were friends that I met in MJDS. If I were to call on anyone for help, I would reach out to any one of my MJDS classmates and feel comfortable talking to them. We were very close and continue that friendship to this day." - Sara Galicki

Sara was the yearbook editor, writer and photographer for the newspaper. She also played on the tennis team. In college Sara produced and edited a short film for Indiana Public Television.

- Shorewood High School Class of 2006
- Indiana University Class of 2010 – Bachelors of Arts
- University of Wisconsin-Madison - MS, Biomedical Engineering

Deborah Fendrich (Carneol) is the Director of Jewish Student Life & Learning at Hillel Milwaukee. Deb and her husband Ben Fendrich live in Milwaukee with their dog Maya. Both recently completed a masters degree from UWM. *Mazal tov!* One of Deb's favorite memories at MJDS is Shabbat Sing. Through out the years, Deb has been a successful student and professional as well as a caring and engaged individual in the community and Israel. During high school Deb was BBYO Wisconsin Region Siah (President). As an undergraduate, Deb was a merit-based Benston Scholar Class of 2006 and part of the group of women who brought AEPi back to the UMN campus. Some of her recognitions are the Rho Lambda in April 2009, National Leadership Recognition Society for Sorority Women Graduate and Beta Gamma Sigma in December 2016, and member of the International honor society recognizing business excellence. Deb is a member of JNF Wisconsin's Board of Directors and BBYO Advisor since 2011. She is proud of being part of the top fundraising team for the National Alliance for Mental Illness Walk and Adam-Adamah, a program through JCC Global bringing young Jewish adults together from Milwaukee, Jerusalem and Krakow.

- Nicolet High School Class of 2006
- University of Minnesota-Twin Cities Class of 2010 –Journalism and Strategic Communications & Management Minor
- University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee Class of 2017 - MBA



"My foundation for my Jewish identity was cultivated at MJDS. It helped me see my path in Jewish communal work, and showed me the importance of having an early foundation in Jewish education and Jewish knowledge. Not only did MJDS give me the tools I needed to do well academically, but it helped shape my foundation and passion for Jewish education and knowledge. MJDS along with the support I received from my parents is the reason why Judaism is at the core of all that I do in my life." - Deborah Fendrich (Carneol)

CLASS OF 2003

Dana Weinstein is Development Manager at Association of Children's Museums. She lives in Washington, D.C. She is engaged in the community through her work in St. Jude Children's Research Hospital Young Professionals Committee – DC.

- Riverside University High School Class of 2007
- Carnegie Mellon University Class of 2011 – BA, Business Administration
- Carnegie Mellon University, Heinz College Class of 2013 – Masters of Arts

Jaron Schaumberg lives in West New York and in July he started his internal medicine residency at Hackensack University Medical Center, North Bergen, NJ.

- Homestead High School Class of 2007
- University of Vermont Class of 2011 - BA
- Penn State University Class of 2013 - MA

“I credit my MJDS education for understanding the importance of teamwork and identifying & accomplishing goals.” - Jaron Schaumberg

CLASS OF 2004

Nathan Fox is a visiting assistant professor at The College of Wooster in Wooster, Ohio.



“The eighth grade bike trip to Madison was a pivotal event in my life. I was never much of an athlete as a child, and I devoted much preparation to make sure I could complete this ride. Since then, bicycling has become an integral part of who I am.” - Nathan Fox

- Nicolet High School Class of 2008
- University of Minnesota-Twin Cities Class of 2012 - BS, Mathematics, BS, Computer Science
- Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey Class of 2017 - Ph.D., Mathematics

CLASS OF 2005

Austin Schaumberg is a cloud analyst at Hubspot in Boston, Massachusetts.

- Homestead High School Class of 2009
- Bradley University Class of 2013 – BS
- University of Madison Class of 2017 – MA

“MJDS made me realize I am personally responsible for my accomplishments and failures in this journey” - Austin Schaumberg

Sara Langer is a financial analyst at Care Capital Properties in Chicago, Illinois. During high school Sara was editor in chief of the school's newspaper and a merit award winner. During college Sara was part of the Dean of Student's Advisory Board and Union Council appointee. She is distinguished in her efforts with UW Alumni and JUF Young Leadership Division Alzheimer's Association

- Nicolet High School Class of 2009
- University of Wisconsin-Madison Class of 2013 – BBA

“I credit MJDS for my Jewish values, education and Hebrew. I recently traveled to Israel on Birthright with a group of forty 22-26 year olds from the Chicago area. Aside from two other students who attended Chicagoland Shechter schools, I was one of the only individuals with a Jewish education and upbringing. This experience was eye-opening for me to realize how lucky I was that my parents chose MJDS and built a solid Jewish foundation for me to build on for the rest of my life.” - Sara Langer

Haley Carneol is a classroom facilitator for project SUCCESS. Project SUCCESS is a non-profit youth serving organization that works with the Minneapolis public schools. They offer workshops and experiential learning opportunities to help students think about, plan and prepare for their futures. She facilitates an interactive workshop in every students' English class once a month in middle school and high school. Hayley was a highly accomplished student during high school. She was on the Deans List, a Merit Award Scholar, part of the Varsity Swim Team, Vice President of Thespian Honor Society and member of National Honor Society. She had major acting roles and leadership roles in Nicolet Theater while being part of the yearbook committee and working as the video yearbook editor. Her engagement in the Jewish community was as an active BBYO participant and chapter board member. In college Haley created her own degree through the Intercollegiate Program, Member of BA Mentoring. She acted in several university theater productions, was a board member for Chabad University of Minnesota for 3 years and acted in a professional theater production with the Moving Company.

Haley is an engaged adult giving back to the community through the Outreach Committee for NextGen Board, a branch of the Minneapolis Jewish Family and Children Services, providing opportunities for young professionals to engage with the Jewish community including volunteer, social and philanthropy opportunities.

Haley is engaged and planning to get married in the fall of 2018. *Mazal tov!*

- Nicolet High School Class of 2009
- University of Minnesota, Twin Cities Class of 2013 – Bachelor of Arts

“MJDS really solidified and ingrained in me a huge pride for my Jewish community. I find my Judaism within my community and it is incredibly important to me to establish that for myself as an adult and for when I grow my own family. I often seek the same sense of community and family that MJDS provided to me now as an adult. I didn't realize the impact of going to a K-8 school until I was older, now that I also work in the schools. MJDS gave me a sense of responsibility to be a role model for younger students and to lead a life of leadership. I am grateful that MJDS not only brought Judaism into my life, but it made it an integral and enjoyable part of my life. Because of MJDS, Judaism is not an afterthought; it is who I am through and through. Now working in the schools I am so impressed with the ways MJDS engaged students through experiential learning. MJDS was an integral part of creating my identity. The school was such a family, relationships went way beyond the classroom. MJDS solidified everything my parents were trying to do by creating a Jewish life. Judaism is not just a thing you do. MJDS teaches you how to turn Judaism into your lifestyle. It instills the values of community that stick with you throughout a lifetime.” - Haley Carneol

CLASS OF 2007

Galya Fedderly is completing her doctorate of veterinary medicine degree at the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine, taking boards within the next year and a half. *Mazal tov!* When Galya was in high school, she started shadowing in veterinary clinics and has been dedicated to this field since then. In college, Galya was in the university honors program at Colorado State University and wrote her Senior Honors Thesis on research she completed during her four years of undergraduate degree. This paper was recently submitted for publication. Galya also had the amazing experience to study abroad in Tasmania, Australia where she took zoology courses, traveled and scuba dived the Great Barrier Reef. Now in veterinary school, she is about to start her third of four years and is focusing on a career in exotic animal medicine.

Currently, Galya is involved in many of the veterinary school clubs including the wildlife exotic and zoo animal club, avian club and pathology club. She also participates in Hillel events and went on Birthright Israel in December of 2016.

- Nicolet High School Class of 2011
- Colorado State University Class of 2015 - Bachelor of Science in Zoology
- University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine Class of 2019 - Doctor of Veterinary Medicine



“My education at MJDS prepared me so well for high school and today in veterinary medical school, I still use a lot of the studying techniques. I frequently use the test preparation techniques I learned at MJDS, especially those for relaxation right before an exam. MJDS also gave me a great Jewish foundation and helped me learn Hebrew, which I am still keeping up with today! It was so helpful when I went to Israel this past winter.” - Galya Fedderly

CLASS OF 2008

Alexis Block is a Ph.D. student in intelligent systems for the Center for Learning Systems (a combined program between the Max Planck Institute for Intelligent Systems and ETH Zürich). Alexis is moving to Germany for two years and Switzerland for one and then will graduate with a Ph.D. in robotics in 2020. During high school she was on Intel ISEF 2009 and 2010 finalist and award winner; captain of the dance team and FED challenge Girls State, runner up to Girls Nation.

In college, Alexis represented innovation at the University of Pennsylvania where she was presented with the London Student Award of Merit at the Ivy Day Awards Ceremony. She graduated Summa Cum Laude, was in the Dean's List and was on the dance team all four years and as captain in 2015 and 2016.

- Nicolet High School Class of 2012
- University of Pennsylvania Class of 2016 - Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering and Applied Mechanics
- University of Pennsylvania Class of 2020 - Masters of Science in Robotics

“One my fondest memories at MJDS was the Israel trip. MJDS has an excellent Hebrew program and teachers really care about their students.” - Alexis Block

Rachel Fedderly is in retail sales and lives in Pittsfield, Massachusetts.

- Maple Lace Academy Class of 2012
- Pittsfield High School Post Secondary Class of 2015 - Cosmetology



“My fondest memory from MJDS was all the individualized attention and help I received from Gov. O'Connor and Gov. Hackbarth in order to graduate.” - Rachel Fedderly

Sam Carneol is an audio and event technician at Studio Gear and lives in Glendale, Wisconsin. In high school he was recipient of the National Honors Society Nicolet Merit Award. In college he created his independent major program, designing his own curriculum and final project. Sam was nominated for most outstanding senior project from the IMP department. Throughout Sam's time in college, he was the lead sound designer and audio engineer for multiple shows.

- Nicolet High School Class of 2012
- Indiana University Class of 2016 - Theatrical Sound Design

“I credit MJDS to learning how to work well with a team. MJDS was my first introduction to theater technology when I joined stage crew in sixth grade, and I now do it professionally. During my years at MJDS I developed great and lasting friendships. MJDS teachers truly dedicate their time to having every student succeed. My fondest memory is the Israel trip.” - Sam Carneol

CLASS OF 2010

Jordan Salinsky is currently the Urban Agriculture Director for F.H. King Students for Sustainable Agriculture at UW-Madison. During the academic year, She is a House Fellow (RA) for the GreenHouse Learning Community. Some of Jordan's high school accomplishments were: Valedictorian of Rufus King High School, Top 10% of Class, IB Diploma Recipient, and a member of the National Honor Society, Science National Honor Society & Latin Honor Society. In college Jordan has been on the Dean's list Fall 2014 to Spring 2017 and published an article in Environmental Justice Journal in August of 2016. Jordan participated in Onward Israel-Green Energy program and interned at Adam, Teva, V'Din in Tel Aviv researching global pesticide policies.

- Rufus King High School Class of 2014
- University of Wisconsin-Madison Class of 2018 - BS, Community and Environmental Sociology, Environmental Studies

“At MJDS I learned the value of service, through annual events like Mitzvah Day, by being in the founding class of Voice of the Children and by everyday practices in classrooms. MJDS also was extremely important for building my Jewish identity and how I practice Judaism today. Thanks to MJDS, I believe I entered high school and thus college at an academic advantage; I was set up for success beginning in K4. The Israel trip in eighth grade was a catalyst to keep learning about Israel and paying attention to the region. I returned last summer for Birthright and Onward Israel, participated in events on campus and I am considering spending a year in Israel following graduating from undergrad.” - Jordan Salinsky



Gilad Zvi is a Field Manager at Wisconsin Environment. As a high school student, Gilad was part of Write On for Israel, an Israel advocacy program with monthly seminars based out of Northwestern University. He also was on the track team for two years and volleyball team for two years. In college Gilad was on the Dean's List during his first semester freshman year. He has had extracurricular involvement and an internship this summer with Wisconsin Environment. He is also involved in UW Hillel and Chabad, FH King Student Agriculture Group, WSUM radio station and Slackline Club.

- Homestead Class of 2014
- University of Wisconsin-Madison Class of 2019 - Community and Environmental Sociology

"Thanks to MJDS I learned how to be sensitive to the needs of others within my close proximity and in general. My fondest memory is the Israel trip in eighth grade. MJDS gives children will the depth of reasoning and interpersonal skills seldom developed in any other schools I have come across."
 - Gilad Zvi

CLASS OF 2011

Leslie Zukrow is a full time student at the University of Kansas. She will double major in Global/International Studies and European Studies. Leslie was on the Dean's list of 2016 & 2017.

- Nicolet High School Class of 2015
- University of Kansas Class of 2019 - BA



CLASS OF 2012

Jacob Coran is a full time student at Harvard University. During high school he was a National merit scholar finalist, cofounder of the Spare Change campaign, member of Cum Laude society and a three time state high school team tennis champion.

His involvement in the community has been focused in Guest House of Milwaukee. Currently he is in the Harvard Club Tennis Club and Kappa Sig fraternity.

- University of Milwaukee Class of 2016
- Harvard University Class of 2020



"My math training helped me greatly! My best friends are still the guys from MJDS. For parents who want their children to have first and foremost a great educational experience with small class sizes and teachers who genuinely care about the success of their students, and to foster a Jewish identity as young students in the Jewish community and finally to make lifelong friends, then MJDS is the right choice." - Jacob Coran

Daniel Zvi is a full time student at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. As a high school student he held two board positions in the BBYO regional board: Godol (president) and Shaliach representative. Now in college, Daniel is Brotherhood Chair of his fraternity Theta Chi-Psi Chapter; Outreach and Social Media Ambassador for SAFI (Student Alliance for Israel); as well as coming into a term on the Exec board of SAFI Recruitment Chair for Chabad at UW. Daniel has extremely fond memories of both Shabbat Sing and the Israel trip.

- Homestead High School Class of 2016
- University of Wisconsin-Madison Class of 2020



"Thanks to MJDS I learned to stick up in support of my Jewish beliefs as well as my beliefs regarding Israel. I use both of these quite often on campus in Israel advocacy and the Jewish community in general. Regardless of class size, MJDS provides an education unparalleled by anything I have been a part of post graduation. They care about your children and want first and foremost to find what way each child will succeed individually. The emphasis on sticking true to yourself as a student and member of society is one of the many things MJDS truly succeeds in." - Daniel Zvi

CLASS OF 2013

Julian Lowe graduated from Nicolet High School this spring and is going to NYU. Julian is a proud winner of the Holocaust essay contest in the high school division. Throughout his time at Nicolet, he was on the varsity tennis team participating in state tournaments.

- Nicolet High School Class of 2017
- New York University Class of 2021



Noah Wolfe graduated from Shorewood High School this spring and will be attending University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in the fall for a degree in Exceptional Ed. Noah is the first winner of the MJDS Rambam Award. Throughout high school, Noah was deeply involved and president of Best Buddies.

- Shorewood High School Class of 2017
- University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Class of 2021 - Exceptional Ed.



"My fondest memory at MJDS was in seventh grade when my group won the Voice of the Children project and the money of our class collected went to our charity. MJDS truly taught me to stand up for others and be an advocate." - Noah Wolfe

CLASS OF 2015

Evan Kleiner is attending Nicolet High School. He is on the volleyball team, Hebrew club and very involved in BBYO.

- Nicolet High School Class of 2019

"My best memory of MJDS is the Israel trip!" - Evan Kleiner

Sadie Wolfe is in Shorewood High School where she is a member of the advanced acting class. Sadie has appeared in multiple plays and has been recognized for her outstanding performances. Sadie won Outstanding Supporting Actress in the play Almost, Maine and was awarded as Outstanding Ensemble Member in Secret Garden.

Sadie is very engaged in the organization Best Buddies. Sadie's fondest memory of MJDS is the Israel trip.

- Shorewood High School Class of 2019



"My biggest learning from MJDS is 'Organization is the key to success' from Adon Ross."
- Sadie Wolfe

CLASS OF 2016

Lauren Cayle is at Nicolet High School making it through freshman year on the Dean's List both semesters. She is engaged in the community through Friendship Circle.

- Nicolet High School Class of 2019



"MJDS taught me how to build relationships with teachers. MJDS was an amazing experience."
- Lauren Cayle

2016-17 STAFF LIST

Brian Avner
Aimee Bachar
Jori Broidy
Cliff Brugman
Wendy Cohen
Karin Damico
Nancy Deveneau
Nancy Dowling
Susan Esser-Greenberg
Jodi Fox
Susan Gray
Jodie Honigman
Christy Horn
Jessika Jamir
Dacy Jirovetz
Jeanette Joseph
Lenny Kass
Moshe Katz
Noah Kaufman
Linsey Kimmel
Brian King
Mara Kleiman
Dr. Alison Kravit
Jody Lansing
Beth Meister
Yuliya Milbeck
Felicia Miller
Cristy Milrud
Donna Moeckler
Rachelle Naimon
Beth O'Connor
Michaela Peck
Michelle Petrova
Rena Porat
Sheryl Primakow
Susan Rosengarten
Richard Sanger
Machelle Schnoll
Cheryl Siegel-Gajewski
Kathy Stange
Rabbi Moishe Steigmann
Florence Steinberger
Wendy Tepper-Melton
Jennifer Thill
Jill Voras
Daniel Weston
Rona Wolfe

