



Coalition for  
Jewish Learning  
**MILWAUKEE**  
JEWISH FEDERATION

June 2017

# Jewish Education in Milwaukee

# Innovations for All Ages



**T**he Coalition for Jewish Learning supports educational innovation in Milwaukee. Throughout this publication you will see examples of exciting new approaches and techniques being used in our community. One example, pictured above, is *Israel Through the Senses*, a joint program CJL conducted with local synagogue schools, StandWithUs, and the Israel Center of Milwaukee Jewish Federation. More than 50 middle school students from six schools participated in a ground-breaking program about Israel. Students experienced the tastes

and smells of Israel by making chocolate balls. They heard the sounds of Israel through Jewish music videos. They experienced the sights of Israel through a walking tour using VR goggles. They experienced Israel through touch by making Israeli fish that decorated the Walk for Israel on May 7. In this photo, you see StandWithUs intern Yoni Altman-Shafer and a group of students playing a game that involved walking on a map of Israel to learn about geography. Read more about innovative partnership programs on page 2.

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# Partnerships

## CJL is all about partnerships.

Our goal is to bring together students, educators, schools, and agencies to strengthen the process of Jewish education. When we work together, it enhances education for everyone. All the Jewish schools in Milwaukee participated in the Salute to Jewish Educators (page 3), and teachers from across the community engaged in professional development through CSI (page 6).

This year, CJL had the opportunity to partner on programs with: Nathan and Esther Pelz Holocaust Education Resource Center (HERC) and Israel Center, (both programs of the Milwaukee Jewish Federation), StandWithUs, Milwaukee Jewish Community Hebrew School, Bader Hillel Academy, Milwaukee Jewish Day School, and Congregations Beth Israel Ner Tamid, Emanu-El B'ne Jeshurun, Emanu-El of Waukesha, Shalom, and Sinai.

In preparation for Yom HaZikaron, CJL collaborated with the Israel Center, the Yom HaZikaron Committee, and Omer Braymok, Milwaukee's Shinshin, to do a project with local day schools and religious schools. CJL compiled information about Israeli fallen soldiers. Omer visited classes, shared stories of individual soldiers, and had the students write the names of the soldiers on

rocks collected from Lake Michigan. (See picture on page 8). These rocks were used at the community Yom HaZikaron program to create a memorial to the fallen soldiers.



In another joint effort, CJL and HERC developed a program called "Repairing the Glass." Dr. Shay Pilnik and Tzipi Altman-Shafer worked with middle school students from Bader Hillel Academy helping them understand Kristallnacht not just as history, but as a part of their lives. While remembering the past and the broken glass of Kristallnacht, we began to Repair the Glass by looking forward to the future. Repairing the Glass included: a workshop about the history of Jewish life in Germany, a presentation at Pinat Hativkah by Betsy Riley from HERC Speakers' Bureau, a Skype call with a rabbi from Germany, creation of three-dimensional artwork depicting German synagogues destroyed on Kristallnacht



with art teacher Jackie Redlich, and speeches by Bader Hillel Academy students Jaycelan Stewart, Natan Bushee, and Yosef Lerer at the Community Kristallnacht commemoration.

Another joint program was a trip to the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center. HERC and CJL arranged a trip for local religious school students and their parents. HERC covered the cost of the bus and the



museum fees. Not only did families see the museum, but were privileged to hear a survivor tell her story.

A final joint program was the In Their Honor series through HERC. About 30 students from four local congregations joined with people throughout the community to hear survivor Howard Melton talk about his experiences in the Holocaust. Students had breakfast and a talk-back about the program with Dr. Shay Pilnik and Tzipi Altman-Shafer. The program concluded with a tour of the Pinat Hativkah (Corner of Hope) memorial.



## First locals finish Spertus program

by Leon Cohen

For Carrie Barbakoff, the most valuable thing she learned over the past two years was "the value of Jewish non-profit work [which] is providing for the future of American Judaism."

For Rabbi Shari Shamah, it was "that learning never ends" and that she could "set this example for my children."

For Lauren Berger, "I learned that I am able to accomplish a lot more than is reasonable on a limited amount of sleep" — but also that she had forgotten that "I

love learning, and I hope to continue as much as possible after we graduate."

All three learned these lessons from the Master of Arts in Jewish Professional Studies program of the Chicago-based Spertus Institute for Jewish Learning and Leadership. They are among the eight Jewish community professionals who are completing the program's first class in Milwaukee.

Spertus created the program in 2007. According to the Spertus website, bringing the program to Milwaukee resulted from "conversations between Spertus Institute senior staff and the senior leadership at the Milwaukee Jewish Federation and the Coalition for Jewish Learning," the MJF's education program.

Over the program's two years and three months, classes enable working Jewish community professionals not only to earn a master's degree, but to obtain skills and knowledge applicable to their jobs.

"Our faculty [members] design courses that have both immediate application, but are also deep enough to have sustained impact over the student's career," Tal

Rosen, director of the program, wrote in response to emailed questions.

Moreover, the program "also had the benefit of pulling together students from many different types of organizations (Federation, Jewish Community Center, synagogue, etc.) and provide them with a cohort of colleagues to collaborate with across the community," according to Rosen.

For example, Barbakoff is administrative coordinator at Orthodox synagogue Anshe Sfard Kehillat Torah and a teacher at Reform Congregation Shalom. Shamah is Jewish Family Specialist at the Harry & Rose Samson Family JCC. Berger is the Young Leadership director at the Milwaukee Jewish Federation.

In response to emailed questions, all three said they learned from the program much that was directly applicable to their work.

"As a fundraiser, and as a professional who facilitates programs for young professionals (and millennials specifically), I did a lot of research and writing on tzedakah and millennial engagement," wrote Berger. "This has changed the way I think about programs and events, and how I approach younger people and their philanthropy."

Shamah wrote, "Many of our papers had us apply a concept that we had learned in class to an issue or challenge in our jobs which was incredibly helpful."

And to Barbakoff, "I think the two most beneficial classes were the management course and the leadership course. I learned about how to be a better, more productive leader, and I learned how to develop and manage a budget."

The other participants were: Toni Davison-Levenberg, director of the Steve and Shari Sadek Family Camp Interlaken of the Harry & Rose Samson Family JCC; Ellie Gettinger, education director of the Jewish Museum Milwaukee; Elana Kahn, director of the Jewish Community Relations Council of the MJF; Benjamin Kranitz, former executive director of Congregation Beth Israel Ner Tamid; and Rabbi Marcey Rosenbaum, rabbi educator at Congregation Shalom.

According to Rosen, Spertus is recruiting for a second Milwaukee class that will begin this autumn; and the deadline for preferred applications is June 30.

For more information, including schedule and costs, contact CJL or visit the Spertus website: Spertus.edu.



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## Salute to Jewish Educators

The annual Salute to Jewish Educators took place on Sunday afternoon, February 26. CJL Director and Jewish Education Community Planner Tzipi Altman-Shafer and Advisory Board Chair Roger Carp presided over the festivities. The event, held at the Harry & Rose Samson Jewish Community Center, honored excellence, innovation, compassion, and commitment in local formal and informal Jewish education.

# EDUCATOR of the YEAR

by Roger Carp

### EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR:

The highlight of the event was, without a doubt, the selection of Cantor Marsha Fensin as the CJL Grinspoon Jewish Educator of the Year. The more than 200 Jewish educators and family members, clergy, and students in attendance paid tribute to their distinguished and beloved colleague. During a career spanning 40 years, Cantor Fensin has been affiliated with the faculties of many congregations and now serves as Hebrew Coordinator at Congregation Emanu-El of Waukesha. Two generations of her family cheered as she was honored, with her husband, Lee, offering a look back at Marsha's lifelong devotion to Jewish learning and her eagerness to share her knowledge, especially of Jewish music, with her students.



**GIFT AWARD:** Two dedicated and forward-thinking educators were honored with Gill Incentive for Teachers GIFT Awards for projects demonstrating innovative and exciting teaching plans and principles: Diane Boland of Congregation Beth Israel Ner Tamid (left) and Yoni Schlüssel of Torah Academy of Milwaukee (right).

### MITZVAH AWARD:

Three projects and programs designed to advance social justice were recognized with Rabbi Emanuel and Deborah Lifshutz Mitzvah Awards. The honorees (left to right) were Phil Musickant of Congregation Emanu-El of Waukesha, Rabbinic Chaplain Aggie Goldenholz of Congregation Sinai, and Mara Kleiman of Milwaukee Jewish Day School (shown with her student, Matan Steigman).



**INSPIRATION AWARD:** The newest among the prestigious awards presented at the Salute to Jewish Educators went to Josh Richman of RUACH (shown with his son). He was presented with the Inspiration Award for Informal Education in recognition for years of outstanding and caring teaching held beyond traditional classrooms.

### CHAI AWARDS:

A powerful commitment to Jewish teaching, whether in congregational or day schools or various informal settings, inspires long careers. Nine individuals who have participated in Jewish education for 18 years received Chai Awards. Three rabbis whose careers each span 36 years were honored with Double Chai Awards. Their names, along with those of educators and supporters provided by a host of local institutions, brightened the annual tribute book, sponsored by advocates of Jewish education in Milwaukee and its outlying communities.



### Albert & Ann Deshur JCC Rainbow Day Camp

The Albert & Ann Deshur JCC Rainbow Day Camp is an inclusive summer camp, guided by Jewish values, for children and teens, that fosters personal development, friendship, and community. Rainbow Day Camp encourages children to step out of their comfort zone, meet new friends, try new things, and simply play.

### Bader Hillel Academy

After extensive research and exploration Bader Hillel Academy is pleased to announce our new STEM curriculum. BHA continues to excel in arts and humanities with a cutting edge, uncompromising program. We provide a value-based education, fostering leadership, strong Jewish identities, and involved members of the community.

## BUILDING OUR COMMUNITY ONE BRICK AT A TIME

Jewish education, both formal and informal, is the foundation upon which our Jewish community is built.

Read about the myriad of exciting educational opportunities for children in Milwaukee.

### OSRUI (Olin-Sang-Ruby Union Institute)

Olin-Sang-Ruby Union Institute, or OSRUI, is the Reform Jewish summer camp located in Oconomowoc, WI, established in 1952, the first of its kind. OSRUI provides creative and innovative Jewish experiences combined with all the fun of summer camp for campers in grades 3-12.

### Congregation Emanu-El B'ne Jeshurun

CEEBJ Religious School was proud to welcome the newest member of our Hebrew support team this year – Josie! Our trained and certified service dog offered a fun and cuddly incentive for students to work hard and a chance for students to build confidence by reading in a judgement free environment.

### Congregation Emanu-El of Waukesha

Congregation Emanu-El of Waukesha's Sunday school is great! With small class size and a high energy level, students are actively engaged in learning and doing. We also take pride in getting our students connected to the larger world, for example through the Waukesha Interfaith Senior Program and our twinning program with the Israeli school, Mul Gilad.

### CTeen

The vibrant CTeen Milwaukee, a youth group affiliated with Chabad, had an incredible year, from mingling with over 2,000 other Jewish teenagers at international New York convention to a Milwaukee chapter Shabbaton in Los Angeles. CTeen also hosted plenty of Shabbat dinners for Jewish teenagers in the community and partook in community volunteering. CTeen is a warm and welcoming group for Jewish teenagers of all denominations.

### Gan Ami Early Childhood

Gan Ami Early Childhood is a progressive early childhood program led by passionate and caring professional educators who are dedicated to meeting each child's physical, emotional, intellectual, social, and spiritual needs. Children are encouraged to explore their natural sense of curiosity and creativity as the entire family is provided opportunities to build community through Jewish values.

### Steve and Shari Sadek Family Camp Interlaken JCC

Located on 106 acres in Wisconsin's northwoods, the Steve & Shari Sadek Family Camp Interlaken JCC is home to over 400 campers each summer. Since 1966, Interlaken has welcomed Jewish youth entering 3rd grade through 10th grade from all over the world. Driven by Jewish values, Interlaken celebrates a balance between instruction, competition, and fun.

### BBYO

Teens are drawn to BBYO for the fun, but come away with the skills to lead, a strong sense of self, and an enduring commitment to Jewish community.

### Milwaukee Community Hebrew School

Milwaukee Community Hebrew School was created to provide education that will instill pride, a sense of history, love for the land of Israel, and a genuine understanding of what Judaism is all about. Our school welcomes every Jew, regardless of religious background or level of observance. No synagogue membership required.

### Congregation Beth Israel Ner Tamid School of Jewish Studies

"If there be among you a person with needs, you shall not harden your heart, but you shall surely open your hand." (Deuteronomy 15:7). The Congregation Beth Israel Ner Tamid School of Jewish Studies welcomes all children with open arms and an open hand. We nurture and support students, meeting each child where he/she is at. Our school staff includes a Hebrew Specialist and a Special Needs Specialist. Both professionals work closely with the teachers to meet the academic, social, and emotional needs of our youth.

### Kids Center (part of the Harry & Rose Samson Family JCC)

The Kids Center before and after school program at the JCC offers a safe and enriching experience daily. Children are welcomed by our well-trained, caring, and enthusiastic staff. With an emphasis on the Judaic values that guide us, we offer a variety of different programming including homework support, swimming, art, sports, and more.

### Peltz Hebrew School

At the Peltz Hebrew School in Mequon, boy and girls from all backgrounds enjoy the hands-on learning experiences and discover the beauty of our heritage. They learn Hebrew, in depth Jewish history, and the beauty of our holidays. We also have a fascinating teen program.

### Congregation Sinai

This year at Congregation Sinai, we launched our new family education program, Shabbat Shelanu, bringing families together on Shabbat for learning and community building. We also had a pilot year of Project Based Learning, where our 3rd-7th grade students created and published their own prayer book.

### Nathan and Esther Pelz Holocaust Education Resource Center

The Nathan and Esther Pelz Holocaust Education Resource Center, a program of MJF, supports both Jewish educators and students across our community with survivor speakers, lectures, films, field trips, exhibits, and more. We are here to ensure that the stories of our precious survivors and the lessons of the Holocaust will never be forgotten.



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### Bader Hillel High School

Bader Hillel High's goal is to provide Milwaukee with a compelling, high quality, and affordable Jewish high school. Our approach to Jewish education caught the attention of communities across the country and has quickly become a model for Jewish high schools everywhere. Come take a look at what Jews all around the country have discovered in your own backyard.

### Camp Gan Israel

Camp Gan Israel is a place where kids learn new skills and develop their self-esteem. It's a place where children are nurtured and loved. Our counselors are chosen from hundreds of applicants for their passion and devotion.

### Congregation Shalom

Congregation Shalom on Sunday morning is abuzz with activity. We begin with services, singing, and a story. Students learn with wonderful teachers and madrichim. Students' curriculum is augmented with music, dance, art, and Torah study. Chai School meets for lunch and then students study one of three topics. Seven times a year, they spend a day devoted to drama or social justice. Weekdays students learn Hebrew and explore the rich tradition of prayer.

### Mequon Jewish Preschool

At Mequon Jewish Preschool the values of friendship and individuality are a core component of how we celebrate birthdays. The planning of the birthday celebration is a collaborative process. Children create an original gift as part of the celebration, generating an experience that truly captures the essence of the birthday child.

### Jewish Beginnings Lubavitch Preschool

As we continue to deepen our Reggio journey, we are constantly amazed at the depth of our children's understanding. We have added numerous programs providing parent/child/teacher collaboration which are a natural outcome of the classroom explorations; i.e. holidays, science, social-emotional interactions, etc. These activities are extremely well-attended and have engendered very positive feedback and add to our school community.

### Jewish Museum Milwaukee

This fall, Jewish Museum Milwaukee, a program of MJF, will present The Seventh Day: Revisiting Shabbat. Help JMM develop collaborative programs that explore how we unplug in our overly connected world. JMM welcomes the opportunity to craft educational experiences with your students specifically in mind.

### Milwaukee Jewish Day School

We innovate: interdisciplinary approach to teaching. We take risks: student inquiry drives learning. We follow our passions: teachers educating at the speed of life. We find our purposes: Jewish values integrated in all aspects of our learning journey. We connect: acceptance promoted while embracing our faith. WE ARE MJDS

### MiTY (Milwaukee Temple Youth)

MiTY is a youth group that sponsors a mix of social, social action, and learning activities. Open to all youth from the Reform Jewish community in the Milwaukee area. MiTY unites youth in the pursuit to make the moral and social values of their Judaism functional attributes in their daily lives.

### NCSY (National Conference of Synagogue Youth)

NCSY is a youth group affiliated with the Orthodox Union and open to all Jewish teens. The most exciting part of NCSY is the Shabbatonim and conventions with teens from around the Midwest. Teens build lifelong friendships with kids from Chicago, Minneapolis, Kansas City, Memphis, just to name a few.

### Torah Academy Milwaukee

For 26 years Torah Academy (TAM) has provided a strong academic curriculum. Our graduates serve as educators, speech pathologists, social workers, artists, nurses, psychologists, PA's... They are excellent wives, mothers; a true nachas. TAM offers the requisite education in an atmosphere that radiates warmth and camaraderie, instilling self-confidence and responsibility.

### RUACH

Through RUACH's Project: VITAL (Values In The Arts & Life) residencies at Kathryn T. Daniels University Preparatory Academy, U.S. Grant School, 53rd Street School, Trowbridge Street School, and Bader Hillel Academy, students learn to create art that expresses Jewish values: honoring elders, kindness to animals, nurturing creativity, and respecting nature.

### WITS (Wisconsin Institute for Torah Study)

Yeshivas Ohr Yechezkel, Wisconsin Institute for Torah Study, The Harri Hoffmann Family High School has celebrated this past year 36 years of providing a high quality Torah and college preparatory education. We cultivate the future leaders and educators of Jewish communities in Milwaukee, across the country, and in Israel.

### Yeshiva Elementary School

It has been a great year at YES. We are very pleased with the tremendous impact Mrs. Chava Metzger, Director of Student Special Services, and Mrs. Chaya Censor, Resource Room Specialist, have had. Their influence extends far beyond the resource room, as they coach teachers in inclusive and dynamic ways to reach each of our 212 students.

### USY (United Synagogue Youth)

A low cost membership into USY (grades 9-12)/Kadima (grades 5-8) will provide fun experiences, lasting friendships, and leadership opportunities through fantastic local programming, as well as phenomenal region conventions and a dozen summer programs. We welcome all into our chapter, delivering memories of a lifetime.

### PJ Library (part of the Harry & Rose Samson Family JCC)

540 children in Milwaukee receive free Jewish books from the Harold Grinspoon Foundation. Housed at the JCC, PJ Library creates friendships, Jewish literacy, and memories. This year, PJ Library highlights include Rainbow Day Camp for Sukkot, welcoming 200 people to a Winter Carnival, making hamantaschen, and building Lego Shabbat Candlesticks.

# Congregational School Initiative

*The Congregational School Initiative (CSI) is a professional development program for teachers. CJL provides classes throughout the year for teachers from all Jewish schools in greater Milwaukee. Participating supplementary school teachers can earn stipends for participation.*

*The CSI theme for the 2017-18 school year will be "Deeper Learning about the Jewish Holidays." CSI will be introducing a teacher mentoring program and a class for new teachers who want to learn classroom skills or enhance their Judaic knowledge. For more information about CSI, contact Tzipi Altman-Shafer, [TziporahA@MilwaukeeJewish.org](mailto:TziporahA@MilwaukeeJewish.org).*



## Congregational School Initiative

*by Marilyn Franklin, Congregation Shalom*

I have taught second grade religious school at Congregation Shalom for the past 40+ years. In that time I've taken advantage of many in-service and professional growth workshops. These opportunities were definitely beneficial. I "took away" much relevant subject information and learned a variety of great creative teaching strategies.

However, nothing in the past can compare to the ongoing project based learning (PBL) initiative now being emphasized by CJL. As a long time Nicolet High School Board member, I have been well aware of PBL in the public schools. It seemed only natural that this approach would soon be emphasized in the religious school setting as well.

The underlying belief of PBL is that if students acquire information for themselves and if they are interested in what they are learning, the learning will be much deeper. It is then the role of the teacher to act as a facilitator for students as they work together and share ideas in small groups. This helps them develop problem-solving and creative thinking skills that are essential not only in a school setting but also later on in the real world of adult employment.

CJL has made possible many learning sessions for teachers this past year. I've become increasingly aware of the long-range important benefits of PBL. Now, when planning a lesson, I always ask

myself how can I better create a classroom experience that both imparts knowledge but also encourages students to develop higher level thinking skills. Needless to say, my efforts to master PBL continue to be a work in progress, but I am committed to the prevailing philosophy that a teacher need not be the "sage on the stage" but rather the "guide on the side."

## What does CSI mean to me?

*by Diane Boland, Congregation Beth Israel Ner Tamid School of Jewish Studies*

I have been a religious school educator for over twenty years and have participated in a variety of educational opportunities including synagogue sessions, traveling to Israel and studying at Pardes Institute of Jewish Studies, and most importantly participating in CSI classes. I remember learning as a Jewish Educator when we still had MAJE (predecessor of CJL). I believe in CSI for several reasons. Most importantly, it affords Jewish educators the opportunity to learn from peers, other community members, and outside the Jewish and secular areas. The program has transformed over the years from learning a few topics to now having a multitude of options. Imagine going from choosing a few television stations to switching to cable television. That is how CSI has changed over the years. The program has afforded me the opportunity to learn from speakers from around the



world, synagogue colleagues, hands-on workshops, *chavruta* (small group study), learning about technology, classroom management, etc.

CSI has influenced my teaching in so many ways. I know as a religious school teacher that I have resources through CSI - whether it's staff support, religious school colleagues, the MJF/CJL website, and most importantly the CSI classes. The classes have pushed me to think outside of the box. I consider myself a hands-on educator but being exposed to project based learning through CSI, I have come to the conclusion that a Jewish educator must follow the pathway of his/her *yeladim*. L'Dor V'Dor ("from generation to generation"), what a Jewish educator

should remember when planning and executing his/her lessons. What impact do I want to leave on my students?

## Connecting with Other Educators

*by Jill Voras, Milwaukee Jewish Day School*

The CJL classes that I have attended (Love and Logic and Storytelling Using Apps) has helped me so much in my kindergarten classroom.

Love and Logic has helped me to maintain a calm and natural environment with my students. It taught me to respond to my students rather than react. It portrays a sense of honesty, trust, respect, and boundaries that is fair and clear. I was so glad to have this training as it has greatly helped me with classroom management.

My students have loved using some of the apps from our Storytelling training. It is a great way for students of mine, particularly those who are quieter, to use a device to create a story using ideas from home and school. Students love to create fantasy stories using Toontastic. It has especially been a great tool for my pre-readers.

Overall, what I love most about the CJL classes is connecting with other educators in the community. It is a great way for all of us to come together and collaborate on what is best for our students. I have met so many new teachers; it is always nice to hear their classroom stories.



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# MILWAUKEE JEWISH FEDERATION Education Task Force Report

## Research

**Community Input:** We conducted 76 local interviews including 14 rabbis, four cantors, and 22 education directors (representing all Milwaukee Jewish schools), 14 informal educators, nine lay leaders, and 13 others. There was an online questionnaire completed by 137 people from 18 schools, 12 synagogues, camps, youth groups, the Harry & Rose Samson Family JCC, and multiple Milwaukee Jewish Federation programs. The questionnaire was a tool for gathering input from the community, not a statistically valid survey.

**Local resources:** The work of the Education Task Force was informed by local research including student censuses of Jewish education conducted by the Coalition for Jewish

Learning from 1992 to 2017, as well as the 2011 Jewish Community Study of Greater Milwaukee Revised. The results of the census can be seen on this page. Notice that for the first time in Milwaukee's history there are more students attending day schools than supplementary schools.

**National resources:** The task force's work was informed by national research into best practices in Jewish education from around the United States, participation at the Association of Directors of Central (Education) Agencies, consultation with Jewish Education and Engagement Director at Jewish Federations of North America, and many books and articles about issues and best practices in Jewish education.

## What We Learned

- *In order to be successful, Jewish education must be joyful, fun, and engaging*
- *All forms of Jewish education, if done well, can be effective*
- *Family is the greatest influence upon Jewish identity*
- *Intensity and duration of experiences are both important*
- *Jewish friends and social networks are key influencers*
- *Gaps and transitions between programs present opportunities*
- *Engagement can occur at multiple entry points*
- *There is cascading effect of engagement*
  - *Earlier engagement is an important foundation*
  - *Teen engagement is critical*

## Goals

- *More children involved in Jewish education (preschool, supplementary school, youth groups, overnight camp, day school)*
- *Greater retention across all programs*
- *Increased family involvement across all programs*
- *More continuity in participation (fewer gaps)*
- *Innovation and more consistently high quality education*
- *More teens participating in intensive experiences (youth groups)*

## Recommendations

The Education Task Force made four recommendations to the Community Planning and Allocations Committee for the coming fiscal year. The committee liked the recommendations and will

consider these recommendations as they prepare their budget proposal for the Milwaukee Jewish Federation board. Stay tuned for more information about the progress of these recommendations.

## Objectives

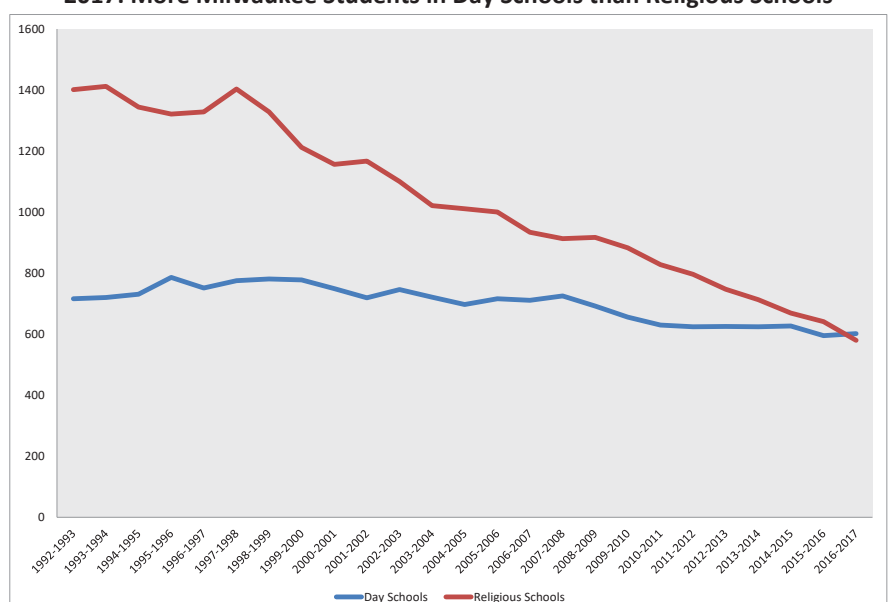
*The objective of the task force was to identify realistic recommendations for funding Jewish education in Milwaukee that help fulfill the Federation's mission of securing a strong Jewish community today and tomorrow. The scope of the task force's work included local formal Jewish education and informal Jewish education of children from preschool through age 18.*

## 2016-2017 Census

School	2016-2017
<b>Pre-Schools</b>	
Jewish Beginnings	125
JCC Gan Ami (Whitefish Bay)	211
JCC Gan Ami (Mequon)	48
Mequon Jewish Preschool	33
<b>Subtotals</b>	<b>Preschool Students: 417</b>
<b>Day Schools</b>	
Bader Hillel Academy	124
Bader Hillel High School	34
Milwaukee Jewish Day School (MJDS)	134
Torah Academy Milwaukee (TAM)	35
Wisconsin Institute for Torah Study (WITS)	63
Yeshiva Elementary School (YES)	212
<b>Subtotals</b>	<b>Day School Students: 602</b>
<b>Religious Schools</b>	
Congregation Beth Israel Ner Tamid School of Jewish Studies	47
Congregation Emanu-El B'ne Jeshurun	91
Congregation Emanu-El of Waukesha	29
Milwaukee Community Hebrew School (The Shul)	38
Peltz Hebrew School/Congregation Agudas Achim Chabad	59
Congregation Shalom	243
Congregation Sinai	73
Yavneh (Congregation Shir Hadash)*	x
<b>Subtotals</b>	<b>Religious School 580</b>
<b>GRAND TOTALS</b>	<b>TOTAL 1599</b>

\*Shir Hadash was a small school in 2013-14, but it was not included in the census. In 2014-15 it reopened at Yavneh School. There is no school for 2016-17.

2017: More Milwaukee Students in Day Schools than Religious Schools



## Task Force Members

**Co-chairs:** Linda Bader and Dan Sinykin

**Members:** Nancy Kennedy Barnett, Barbara Glazer, Sara Hermanoff, Joe Kasle, David Lowe, Dana Margolis, Andrea Schneider, Susan Solvang, and Louise Stein

**Staff:** Tziporah Altman-Shafer, Hannah Rosenthal, and Stephanie Wagner



# Who we are

*For more than 60 years, the Coalition for Jewish Learning and its predecessor organizations, working under the aegis of the Milwaukee Jewish Federation, have sought to advance excellence in formal and now informal Jewish education in Milwaukee and outlying communities.*

CJL oversees and promotes a wide range of learning opportunities for children and adults. It also establishes creative partnerships with educational and cultural institutions in Milwaukee, Chicago, and elsewhere. CJL strives in particular to encourage innovative teaching through ongoing programs and classes aimed at educators as well as their students. The future continues to look vibrant as CJL bolsters its local presence.

### Members of the CJL Advisory Board for 2016-17

- |                         |                   |                     |
|-------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Rabbi Jessica Barolsky  | Leon Cohen        | Jennifer Saber      |
| Rabbi Tiferet Berenbaum | Earl Karp         | Louise Stein        |
| Dr. Sherry Blumberg     | Moshe Katz        | Karen Torem         |
| Roger Carp (chair)      | Sherry Malmon     | Nancy Weiss-McQuide |
| Debbie Carter Berkson   | Susie Rosengarten |                     |

**Be a part of the important work done by the CJL.**

**Join** Members of the local Jewish community, whether professional educators or laypeople interested in broadening education and improving teaching, are encouraged to join the Coalition for Jewish Learning and take part in its programs and classes. They may also want to consider joining its advisory board, which meets four times a year. Board members collaborate to support high-quality Jewish education and professional development, plan for the future of Jewish education here, and advocate for teachers and informal educators of all types.

**Give** One way members of the Jewish community can support CJL while advancing outstanding and innovative Jewish education is by becoming a Friend of CJL or purchasing tribute ads/cards. Tribute cards are available year round; for a donation, a card of congratulations or consolation can be sent. Donations of all sizes are welcomed, in particular, as sponsors of full- or partial-page advertisements in the tribute booklet put together for the annual Salute to Jewish Educators. To learn more, contact CJL Executive Director Tzipi Altman-Shafer at [TziporahA@MilwaukeeJewish.org](mailto:TziporahA@MilwaukeeJewish.org). To become a Friend of CJL or to send a tribute card go to **MilwaukeeJewish.org/CJL** or mail to: **Coalition for Jewish Learning, 1360 N. Prospect Ave., Milwaukee WI 53202-3094**

## Our next big event

The annual **Global Day of Jewish Learning**, organized by the Alef Society and Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz, brings together adults from around the world to study Jewish texts. The theme in 2016 was *Under the Same Sky: The Earth is Full of Your Creation*, with the people here being part of the meaningful learning. The next event, which will be held on **November 12, 2017**, will focus on how ancient and modern Jewish texts weigh beauty and ugliness in our world and nature. We hope you will plan to attend.



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