

# Parent Handbook

great vision

great academics

great values

great faculty

חטיבת הביניים ע"ש אבא ואסתר דנילק

THE ABA AND ESTHER DANILACK  
Middle School



great students

great community

great results



A Great School

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ברוכים הבאים

*Welcome*

Добро пожаловать

*Bienvenue*

*Beinvenido*

Dear Parents,

We'd like to take this opportunity to welcome new and returning students to the Associated Hebrew Schools family.


We all have a shared agenda: providing our children with the best possible Judaic and General Studies education. We provide an enriched academic, social and Jewish environment. We are dedicated to nurturing the minds and spirits of our students, enabling each individual child to achieve her/his potential.

Jewish education is the key to Jewish continuity. You have entrusted us with the education of your children; this trust is a privilege and a responsibility. In this venture, parents, teachers, principals and administrators are all partners. We encourage you to share your thoughts and ideas with us and we look forward to an open dialogue with you.

This Parent Handbook outlines the policies and procedures that we follow in our School. It includes technical details (i.e. arrival and dismissal times) as well as our philosophical outlook (our mission statement). We trust this Handbook will be a valuable resource.

We extend our warmest wishes for a successful school year, a sweet New Year, and health and happiness to you and yours.

**B'Hatzlacha בהצלחה**



**Dr. Mark Smiley**  
Director of Education



## *Educating the Adolescent*

The Danilack Middle School was created to meet the unique needs of the pre-adolescent and adolescent. We offer a stimulating educational program in a vibrant academic environment, staffed with dedicated professionals.

Middle School is the link between the elementary years and high school. In addition to the core curriculum, we teach organizational skills, and homework and study skills. We place a special focus on social and emotional development, and we teach students how to cope with the demands of modern life.

Associated is dedicated to developing B'nai Torah – students who are dedicated to Torah study and religious observance. Our link with Israel is a vital component of our program, both in the classroom and in many school events. Our Judaic Studies classes are taught Ivrit B'Ivrit, and we surround students with meaningful reminders and connections to our People and our Land.

Middle School students assume more responsibility and receive more privileges. Students follow a timetable, and rotate classrooms. There are more tests, and formal

exams. Lockers and Agenda books contribute to the independence and self reliance of students. Student Council and the Mentorship Programme are an integral part of school life, and we encourage students to assume leadership roles. Yearbook, school play, inter-school sports teams, and clubs help create a vibrant learning environment.

The Centre for Diverse Learning (CDL) at the Danilack Middle School provides a range of in-class and withdrawal supports for General and Judaic Studies in order to address the diverse strengths and needs of our students. Our skilled team of support staff work with classroom teachers in planning and delivering these programs.

The Danilack Middle School is academically excellent, with rigorous standards. We support the intellectual, social and moral growth of our students. We believe each child is capable of learning and achieving at high levels. We have high expectations for our students and are committed to helping each child reach his/her highest potential. Our research has shown that our graduates are extremely well prepared for high school, and have positive memories of their Associated years.



בראש ובראשונה

## *First Things First*

### **Welcome to the Middle School**

Please check the website at [associatedhebrewschools.com](http://associatedhebrewschools.com) for specific information. On the opening day, all students will be asked to gather in the schoolyard and line up beside their class number. They will be met by their teachers and will participate in a Middle School orientation.

Their orientation will be followed by regular classes. Dismissal is at 4:15 pm.

### **Hours of Instruction**

The hours of instruction for Middle School are 8:40 a.m. - 4:15 p.m.

### **Arrival and Dismissal**

Students should arrive promptly in the morning and leave after school dismissal, unless visiting the library, attending extra-curricular activities or meeting with a teacher. **As early morning supervision is not provided, Middle School students should arrive after 8:20 a.m.**

Skateboards, scooters, rollerblades or wheeled shoes must not be brought to school.

Students may not leave the school grounds during school hours without a letter of permission signed by a parent and this

should only be for medical or urgent family matters.

### **Students are not permitted to leave early on the basis of a telephone call.**

If your child is to be dismissed other than at the normal time, s/he must present a note from home that is signed by a parent. A fax is acceptable.

Please note that the School will only release a student to an adult designated on the student's emergency contact form or blanket permission form. Please keep the school informed as to any changes required.

There may be times when chartered bus transportation or carpool arrangements fail, delaying a student's return at the end of the day. Parents are advised to notify the school office if they know that carpool arrangements are delayed. Students whose transportation home has been delayed, should go to the office and call home. In this way, School personnel is aware of the problem and can assist. The office is open on regular school days until 6 p.m.

## Locks/Lockers/Valuables

Each student is assigned a locker and a lock. Each Grade 6 students must pay \$5.00 to their homeroom teacher. Grade 7 and 8 students may pay \$5.00 or exchange the new lock for the one they used last year. The School office retains the serial numbers and combinations for its records.

Valuables should not be brought to the **gym**. They are safest when locked in students' lockers. There are additional lockers provided in the gym change room, but they do not have locks assigned. Students must remember to bring their own locks from home.

## Admission/Emergency Information Cards

Admission/Emergency Information Cards must be given to the Period 1 teacher on the first day of school. Please verify and complete the pre-printed Emergency Information form and make any corrections or changes as necessary.

## Curriculum Night

Parents will be invited to a curriculum night during the first four weeks of school. A detailed overview of the educational program and the curriculum will be mailed to parents in August. Parents are encouraged to read the overview before curriculum night. The written curriculum overview is also available from the School office and on the School website.

## Policy Regarding Class Placement and Changes

AHS does not accept written and/or verbal requests from parents concerning a specific teacher. This policy is not intended to impede the partnership between parents and school. Parents are always welcome to discuss any concerns that they may have involving their children. The objective of this policy is to guarantee the best academic and social environment for every AHS student.

Full text of the Policy Regarding Class Placement and Changes is available in each School office.

## Class Lists

Class lists with names, addresses and phone numbers will be available after the school year begins. Your child's information will not be distributed without your explicit written permission. This permission slip is part of the Emergency Information form signed at the beginning of the year.

## Student Activity Fees

Student activity fees are collected during the first week of school. These fees cover the cost of special activities, which include trips and in-school events. An itemized list of the events and the exact fee for each grade will be sent home during the first week of school. Please be sure to pay student activity fees promptly. If for any reason you are unable to pay the fee, please contact Mrs. Segal.

## Security/Access to Buildings

As a security measure, access to all School buildings is strictly monitored and restricted. During the day, only the main doors of each building are open. All other doors will be locked.

## Visitor Policy

The safety and proper conduct of all members of the school community can best be protected through everyone's diligence. The Visitor Policy (which is part of the Code of Conduct) also applies to parents, alumni and other members of the School Community.

- All visitors must sign in at reception.
- Parents will be asked to wear a visitor badge if they go to school classrooms during school hours.
- Instructions and direction to all parents or visitors will be conveyed in a manner that

respects privacy, confidentiality and consent issues.

- Visitors and parents must respect the School's practices and protocols for lock downs and evacuations.
- Visitors and parents must respect the protocols of bus safety, parking lot safety, fire drills, fire emergencies, alarms and security practices.
- The presence of unknown and/or unauthorized visitors on school property must be reported immediately to the school office or a staff member.
- Police will be called if the presence of unauthorized visitors gives any cause for suspicion.

## E-Communication and E-Updates

Associated's E-Communication service allows parents to receive weekly branch e-newsletters, e-mails, flyers and up-to-the-minute news such as snow day information, reminders about in-school activities, and much more. For that reason it is important that parents register for the e-communication service and continue to manage their profile.

### Website

The Website is a valuable resource for parents with important information, useful documents and links and interesting updates on school life.

Go to [www.associatedhebrewschools.com](http://www.associatedhebrewschools.com).

For important Middle School information, click on the Hurwich link (top right)

### Twitter

Follow us at Associated Danilack - @AssociatedMS

## Graduation

In Grade 8 we celebrate the **Graduation** of our children in two special ways: a beautiful **Banquet** for students and staff (catered dinner, dancing, and distribution of awards); **Graduation Exercises** for students, family and friends, and staff. These are both meaningful and enjoyable.

The **Banquet** and the **Graduation** are occasions to remember for a lifetime.

Associated does not condone a graduation "prom" where children may be placed in uncomfortable social situations.

## School Calendar

The Middle School provides each family with a magnetic calendar with important dates for Middle School students. A list of important dates is also available on the School website.

## Early Closings

Please refer to the magnetic calendar for specific information about early closing times.

## School Closing – Winter Weather

In the case of severe weather, school closings will be announced by **7 a.m.** on radio stations CFRB 1010 AM, CHUM 104.5 FM and CBC 99.1 FM.

**The announcement will likely state that "All Jewish Day Schools will be closed". Associated will not be identified by name. In addition, in the event of a school closing, a communication will be sent to all those registered on the e-communication service.**

**If it is announced that York Region School Buses are cancelled due to inclement weather this means that Associated's Shuttle Buses are cancelled as well.**

## DURING SCHOOL HOURS

If there is ever a need to close school early, an announcement will be made on the same radio stations.

Students who use bus transportation may arrive home early on these days. Please make appropriate arrangements for these emergency situations, and make sure that your child is aware of them.



אורח חיים יהודי

## Our Jewish Way of Life

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We consider the diversity of the Jewish community a strength and seek to provide a Jewish environment, which is comfortable and stimulating for all students. We have a number of expectations concerning religious observances. These expectations help maintain an open, supportive and respectful environment in which all students can feel comfortable.

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### Kashrut and Shabbat

Associated maintains strict standards of observance as far as *Kashrut* and *Shabbat* are concerned. Therefore, please abide by the following:

*For lunches and snacks, only kosher dairy or pareve food is acceptable.  
Meat is not permitted.*

Please consult your child's teacher before sending in any treats for the class. **No homemade food of any kind may be distributed to the students.**

Approved "treats", i.e. cookies or cupcakes, must comply with both the School's *Kashrut*

policy and the Peanut/Nut Policy. Some of the recognized Kosher symbols are COR, (U), MK. If you have any questions, please consult the teacher.

### Bar/Bat Mitzvah

In Grade 7 we hold a unique and meaningful Bar/Bat Mitzvah celebration for all boys and girls.

Please ensure that your family Bar/Bat Mitzvah parties reinforce Jewish values and traditions as the primary focus of the celebration and adhere to *Shabbat* and *Kashrut* observance so that home and school are consistent.

When planning a Saturday night party, please start your party at least half an hour after *Shabbat* ends. Please make sure that the caterer is under COR supervision so that all students will feel comfortable. If you have any questions, please consult one of the Principals or Vice Principals. Invitations to Bar/Bat Mitzvah parties may not be handed out in class.

Before students go to a party, we encourage parents to address the issues of appropriate standards of behaviour and respect. When planning a party, please ensure that the level of supervision and the activities taking place are age-appropriate.

## Student Dress Code

The *Talmud* teaches that, “a House of Learning enjoys the sanctity of a Synagogue.” In keeping with the *Kedusha* (sanctity) of a Synagogue, we follow a student dress code.

Clothing should be modest and modestly worn.

Girls may wear a knee-length dress, skirt, mid-calf capris, or long pants, and **tops that are long enough to be tucked in and that have long or short sleeves**. Leggings **may only** be worn with a knee-length or longer skirt or under a top that extends to mid-thigh.

Boys may wear pants, a shirt, a sweater or sweatshirt.

Boys and girls may wear T-shirts and pants without pictures and writing or with small logos. AHS T-shirts are permitted.

**Unacceptable clothing for boys and girls include:** tops which are: **tank, sleeveless, low-cut, tight, crop, sheer or revealing;** pants which are: torn, pyjama bottoms, pants should not have writing on the back; all shorts including: cut-offs, bicycle and gym; shoes, including: flip-flop sandals, and high-heeled (platform) shoes.

Boys must wear *kippot* at all times in school and during school activities. Caps, visors and headbands must be removed in school.

**Should a student dress in a manner that does not conform to our Student Dress Code, the parent will be called and expected to bring appropriate clothing.**

If the parent cannot, the student will be internally suspended for the day. We wish to avoid situations where the clothing worn by students is offensive or provides a distraction to learning. The administration’s decision will be final regarding the appropriateness of a student’s clothing.

## Adult Dress Code

We request that all adults entering our building respect our dress code. Men should wear *kippot* and women should wear appropriate clothing for a traditional school environment (*e.g. no halter tops, bike shorts*).

## Daily Services

Daily *Shacharit* services are part of the curriculum for all students. Boys of *Bar Mitzvah* age must wear *Tefillin*. *Siddurim* must be in good condition. Services are led by the students. Girls and boys sit separately for the daily services.



בריאות ובטיחות

## Health & Safety

### **Peanut/Nut Policy**

One of our key responsibilities is to promote a safe environment for every student. A number of children who attend our School are so highly allergic to peanuts and nut products that even the smallest trace of a substance, such as peanut butter, can cause a potentially fatal reaction.

In order to create the safest possible environment, we maintain a strict no peanut/nut policy. Please do not send ANY foods containing peanuts or nuts, particularly peanut or nut butters.

Notwithstanding our best efforts, the School and families of allergic children acknowledge that it is impossible to guarantee an absolutely safe environment for those with life-threatening allergies.

We depend on you for your efforts and co-operation in ensuring the safety of all our children.

If you have any questions regarding nut allergies and peanut/nut free foods, please call The Anaphylaxis Network of Canada, (416) 785-5666, or refer to their website [www.anaphylaxis.org](http://www.anaphylaxis.org).

### **Minor Injuries or Illness**

The School is well-equipped to handle minor injuries such as superficial cuts or bruises. If we have any question as to the severity of an injury, we will contact parents at the emergency numbers we have on file.

We will contact parents if a child becomes ill in school. A Principal or Vice Principal will send a student home if, in her/his opinion, that student is not well enough to remain at school.

A child returning after any absence must bring a note signed by a parent.

Accident insurance forms are available online at [iapkidsplus.com](http://iapkidsplus.com). Parents are encouraged to review their own coverage and consider the advisability of obtaining this additional protection.

### **Nutrition Break**

All students will have 2 five-minute nutrition breaks each day. Please send one of the suggested snacks in the student agenda for nutrition break. Please make sure snacks are easy to open and eat in five minutes.

## Reporting of Communicable Diseases

There are several communicable diseases that **must** be reported to the School office. These include: chicken pox, measles, meningitis, mumps, pertussis (whooping cough), and rubella. Instances of fifth disease should also be reported to the School office.

## Personal Safety

1. For the safety and security of all, students are expected to identify themselves when requested by any staff member.
2. When participating in any public online communication (chat rooms, Facebook walls, ,etc.) students, staff and parents should not divulge any information regarding the school that could compromise the safety of any member of the school community, locations of entrances/exits, passwords, entry codes).
3. Students are expected to refrain from bringing anything to school that may compromise the safety of others and themselves.

## Head Lice

Pediculosis (head lice) is not a threat to health but can be a nuisance. Control of head lice is a shared responsibility of both parents and the School.

Parents can help limit the problem by checking their children's heads regularly, treating the lice if found and notifying the School.

The School will notify parents if lice is suspected in a classroom. Also, if parents are having difficulty treating head lice, they will be referred to the public health nurse.

**Students with lice may not return to class until hair is checked following treatment and determined to be clear of lice and nits by a professional lice specialist.**

## Medication

If your child needs to take medication during the school day, **you must send a letter with full instructions.** Medicine will be kept in the School office.

Medication **will only** be administered at school when:

1. The student is not able to administer her/his own medication.
2. An acknowledgement and release form is signed by the parent/guardian, discharging Associated Hebrew Schools of any liability related to the administering of the medication.

If your child is Anaphylactic, two "Epi-pens" must be kept at school, one for the office and one with your child.

If your child needs to take medication such as Tylenol, you must provide your own and it will be locked in the main office.

Please arrange emergency procedures with a Vice Principal.



דווח ותמיכה

## *Reporting & Centre for Diverse Learning*

### **Report Cards and Teacher Conferences**

There are two formal report cards a year. In addition, we use two interim reports to communicate student progress with parents. Fall/Spring interim reports are sent to all students and form the basis for Parent-Teacher conferences.

We encourage ongoing parent-teacher communication throughout the year. Your child's teacher will call you when there is something s/he would like to discuss with you. From time to time, a teacher may request a conference with parents.

If there is a matter you would like to discuss with your child's teacher, please call the School office or leave a message in the teacher's voicemail box. The teacher will return your call. Please provide the school with an up-dated e-mail address for easier home-school communication.

### **Centre for Diverse Learning (CDL)**

The CDL consists of a Coordinator, skilled teacher and a staff psychometrist from Jewish Vocational Services (JVS) who does psycho-educational assessments and a social worker from Jewish Family and Child (JF&C) who provides ongoing counselling at school. Remedial enrichment and ESL are part of the CDL.

Any problem or situation which prevents a student from reaching her/his true academic potential is a matter for the CDL. Parents, teachers and students are encouraged to communicate with the coordinator of the CDL.



ההורים כשותפים בחינוך

## Parent-School Co-operation

### Absence

AHS seeks parent co-operation in ensuring that students arrive on time.

Please avoid scheduling medical and other appointments during school hours. If a situation arises and a parent must take a student out during school hours, a note must be sent to the School office. No student will be excused without a written request from the parent. If the need to leave school early was not known in advance, the parent must personally sign the child out.

If a student is absent for three days or longer, please contact the School.

**A note is required on the day that a student returns after an absence.** Each student is expected to have a "homework buddy" who is responsible for gathering the necessary materials. Please contact the office or your child's teacher to arrange for work to be sent home with your child's "homework buddy."

Associated Hebrew Schools does not condone parents taking their children on vacation during the school year.

### Attendance

If your child will be **absent or late**, please call (416) 494-7666, and press #8 to inform the Middle School.

*\*Please note:*

1. A **note** is required when a student is **late**.
2. A **note** must be brought to the office to readmit the student following any **absence**.

### Homework

Students receive homework in all subjects. Those requiring extra help may occasionally receive additional assignments. We encourage you to help your child establish a homework routine and to arrange a quiet place to complete the assigned tasks. Please refer to your Kavod publication for the complete Homework Policy.

## Assessment and Evaluation

Assessment of student learning occurs throughout each lesson and guides teacher's instruction to maximize learning. Teachers evaluate student learning in various ways: quizzes, tests, essays, research projects, inquiry projects or even art pieces. Students in Grades 7 and 8 write exams at the end of the year as a part of their overall evaluation in specific classes.

## Physical Education

Students must wear appropriate gym clothing to participate. Boys and girls may wear a white short-sleeved t-shirt (no writing, slogans or pictures) or a Parent Teacher Council t-shirt, solid gym shorts or sweatpants, and white socks. Only non-marking running shoes (with Velcro or laces, no slip-ons) may be worn.

## Library/Resource Centre

The Middle School has a comprehensive library and resource centre, with reference materials for both Judaic and General Studies, as well as an extensive fiction collection.

**Thanks to the Parent Teacher Council, these collections are current.**

Teachers and librarians help students select books according to their interest and reading ability. Library research skills are integrated into the curriculum. We encourage students to share their reading experiences through oral and written book reports, plays and creative arts. If a book is damaged or lost, the student is required to pay for it. Students pay a late book charge of 10 cents per day.

Computers and audio/visual equipment are used to enrich the Judaic and General Studies programs.

## Parental Concerns

If you have any concerns regarding your child's progress, we encourage you to speak directly to the staff member responsible.

**1. If a concern involves a teacher, the first attempt should be made to discuss the matter with the teacher.**

To contact a teacher, please call the Middle School office to leave a message. Each of our teachers is accessible by voice mail and e-mail. The teacher will then contact you directly.

**2.** If the problem is still not resolved, or if you have further concerns you would like to discuss, please contact one of the Middle School Principals or Vice Principals. The Danilack Middle School phone number is listed at the back of the book.

**3.** If, after speaking to the teacher, the Vice Principals and/or the Principal, the problem is still unresolved, please call the Director of Education, Dr. Mark Smiley, at (416) 494-7666, ext. 101.

Financial and non-educational concerns should be directed to the Executive Director, Elliott Brodtkin, at (416) 494-7666, ext. 200.

Parent Teacher Council Liaison Representatives and Grade Parents are eager to work with parents. Please feel free to contact them if you have any concerns. The names and phone numbers for PTC Liaisons are listed on page 18 in this book.



התנהגות נאותה

## Overview of the Code of Conduct

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"Associated promotes responsibility, respect, civility and academic excellence in a safe learning and teaching environment.

A positive school climate exists when all members of the school community feel safe, comfortable and accepted.

Associated is a *Makom Torah*, a place where Torah is learned and practiced. Acting as caring, kind and considerate individuals is a core value in Judaism. As Jews, it is our obligation to behave in ways that reflect these values."

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Associated Hebrew Schools believes that all students deserve the opportunity to study and develop in safe and secure environments. We rely on the family as our partner to ensure that student behaviour is understood, disciplined and consistent. The home and the classroom must model fairness and respect for others in order to nurture a framework for positive social development. We believe that this shared responsibility helps children understand the limits of acceptable behaviour as they explore "freedoms" in and around school.

Every student, parent and staff member has the right to fair and respectful treatment, free from harassment, pressure or insensitivity. It is important that communication with and among individuals be truthful, sincere and open. It is not enough to speak about *Derech Eretz* (positive, respectful behaviour); actions speak louder than words.

This Code of Conduct outlines the school's expectations of behaviour, including the roles and responsibilities of teachers, students and parents.

Standards of Behaviour are also clearly outlined in the Code of Conduct. By enrolling in Associated Hebrew Schools, every student automatically assumes the obligation to comply with the provisions of the Code of Conduct.

The Code of Conduct indicates in detail, the importance of Standards of Behaviour, Student Safety, Physical Safety and the consequences for breaching the Code of Conduct.

The School is responsible for enforcing this Code of Conduct and imposing consequences for unacceptable conduct. In doing so, the Administration may consult with teachers, staff, students or others, as is deemed appropriate.

The Code of Conduct will be distributed to all parents in September. Parents are expected to review the document along with their children and formally acknowledge that they have received, reviewed, and understand the Code of Conduct.

## Policy Against Bullying

In our continuing effort to promote positive social development, **AHS DOES NOT TOLERATE BULLYING in any form.** Every student is entitled to a safe and supportive learning environment.

## Vandalism

If a student intentionally vandalizes school property, the following steps will be taken:

- fine/penalty and letter home
- three-day suspension and warning letter
- expulsion

We expect that our students will behave appropriately outside of school. In particular, we expect students attending private (Bar/Bat Mitzvah) parties to remember that the event is for the honouree and that they are privileged to be invited. We expect that students will behave in a dignified manner; nothing less is acceptable.

## Illegal Substances

The possession and/or use of alcohol or drugs will not be tolerated anywhere on school property. Students under the influence of drugs or alcohol will not be allowed on school property or at school sponsored events and programs that take place off school property.

Possession or use of drugs or alcohol is a serious offence for which a formal suspension is a consequence and police will be notified.

## Technology

All students, parents and staff must respect and comply with Associated's Technology Plan. In addition, anyone using any of the School's computers and/or online systems that inadvertently does something to compromise its security or integrity (e.g. forward an email that contains password information) will report such action to an appropriate authority. Similarly, anyone who sees another person doing something that may compromise the security of our systems must also report that action to an appropriate authority.



As a result of Associated's "Kavod Initiative" many of the School's policies including the Code of Conduct have been revised. A booklet of policies was e-mailed to each returning parent in August 2010. New families will receive the booklet in the mail with their admit to class card. If you require an additional copy, please contact the school office.



מידע נוסף

## *Additional Information*

### **Shuttle Bus Service**

AHS manages a shuttle bus from strategic locations to the Hurwich Education Centre. This service returns students to the departure locations at the end of the day.

In order to ensure safety on the shuttle bus, students are required to sign and adhere to the shuttle bus code of conduct. If there is a breach in the shuttle bus code of conduct, then the consequences listed in this signed contract will be enforced.

Arrangements for Shuttle Bus service are usually made by June of the previous school year. To inquire about available space or for further information, please contact Anne Malc, (416) 494-7666, ext. 201.

### **Parking**

Please respect the rights of our neighbours by adhering to the municipal parking restrictions on streets surrounding the School, particularly during winter when congestion is aggravated due to snow.

Please respect the No Parking restrictions on school property. These signs designate fire routes.

Pick up and drop off must only be in school-yard.

### **Lost and Found**

Every year, valuable items are turned in to the School's Lost and Found. Many of these

cannot be returned because they lack proper identification. We recommend that parents attach **name tags** to all outer clothing as well as inside lunch boxes and books. If your child is missing a personal item, please check the Lost and Found. We suggest that valuables not be brought to school. Items not retrieved will be distributed to the needy during Winter and Summer breaks.

### **School Telephone and Cell Phones**

Students may use the office counter phone, or the phone in the foyer. The phone in the foyer is available for routine student use during lunch, recess and after school. Students may use the phone during class time with a written note from their teacher.

Telephone messages cannot be accepted except in an emergency. Please bear in mind the difficulty of delivering messages to individual students, especially at the end of the school day. Parents are requested to make all necessary arrangements before students leave for school so that class interruptions may be minimized.

Students may use cellular phones before school, at lunch and after school. They must not be brought to class and are to be kept in the student's locker during instructional time and locker breaks.



ועד הורים ומורים

## Parent Teacher Council

The Parent Teacher Council is an organization comprised of parent and teacher volunteers whose goal is to enrich the educational environment for our students. Through a well-organized liaison system of parents, the PTC acts as a vital link between the parent body and the professional staff. With representation on the Executive Committee, *Va'ad Hachinuch* and the Board of Directors, the PTC represents parents at all levels of decision-making within the School.

Another aspect of the PTC is the provision of educational enhancements for our children through a number of different fundraising programs. With the monies raised, the PTC supports many essential and innovative School programs. The PTC supports new initiatives in art, gym, *Tefilla* and has funded the wonderful Pre-school Enhancement and continues to provide funding for:

- Computer and SMARTboard technology;
- Library books and author programs;
- *Siddurim* for Grade 1 students;
- Graduation gifts for Grade 8 students;
- Student lunches;
- Middle School Shabbatons.

The PTC is immersed in the School and plays an integral role in helping AHS fulfill its mission of providing the best educational experience for all the students.

The School calendar is a major project of the PTC. Pertinent School information, including early closings, *Yom Tov* and *Shabbat* candle-lighting times, and other special events, are noted throughout the calendar. The School calendar helps to ensure that every family is kept up-to-date on all major School activities. To order a calendar, please contact your school office.

For the benefit of the parents and students, the PTC also sells the following:

- Grade 7 & 8 textbooks, locker shelves, and agendas;
- Gym clothing;
- Purim Cards;
- Library donation cards *In Honour* or *In Memory* of a loved one are available for \$10.00 and up.

The PTC also sells bulk cards at a cost of 6 cards for \$25. A charitable tax receipt is available for bulk card purchases. These cards are suitable for recognizing life-cycle events or as thank-you cards for friends or teachers.

For individual or bulk card purchases please call Stephanie Brandman-Smith (416) 385-7376, Stephanie Goldschmied (905) 553-2311 or Anne Malc at the Hurwich Office (416) 494-7666, extension 201. Bulk cards may also be purchased at all School offices.

The PTC welcomes and encourages your participation and thanks all parents for your commitment and involvement. Please feel free to contact your school liaison regarding questions or concerns.

We look forward to  
your support and  
involvement.  
Together we can  
make a difference in  
the education of  
our children.

## Liaison Representatives

### Danilack Middle School

*Sheri Kulik*

Sheri@dvp.net

905 832-9990

*Rene Rosenzweig*

jrosenzweig@sympatico.ca

416 802-2254

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### Kamin Bet Hayed

*Sanchia Rabin*

sanchiarabin@hotmail.com

905-370-0480

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### Kamin Elementary

*Hayley Braverman*

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905 889-7813

*Ann Rastin*

Ann@VictoryFireworks.com

905-707-5200

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### Posluns Bet Hayed

*Karen Rosenstein*

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### Posluns Elementary

*Jessica Miller*

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416 782-9577

*Anjie TK*

poslunsliaison@ahschools.com

*A list of class parents will be distributed in the fall.*

## PTC Contacts 2011-12

### President

Sari Bercovitch

ptcpresident@ahschools.com

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### Vice-President

Diana Naiberg

ptcvicepresident@ahschools.com

For a complete list of the PTC Executive for 2010-11, please visit our website at  
**[www.associatedhebrewschools.com](http://www.associatedhebrewschools.com)**

Our Middle School ensures that students receive relevant programs, high-quality instruction and excellent preparation for secondary school and beyond. The key to our success lies in the quality of staff and in parental support.

**Parents can support the School's efforts by:**

**Giving** learning a high priority in daily life

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**Nurturing** a student's strengths and unique qualities

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**Showing** pride and enthusiasm in a student's achievements

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**Encouraging** students to view school as a valuable place for learning

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**Demonstrating** support for teachers and the administration

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**Providing** support for classroom activities, such as visiting art galleries and museums, providing a quiet place to do homework, etc.

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**Assisting** students to make decisions that reflect a balance between school and personal needs

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**Helping** students recognize a balance between their needs and those of other children

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**Appreciating** the need for both co-operative and individual efforts at school

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**Participating** in and attending school events

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**Communicating** with Associated Hebrew Schools when questions or problems arise

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**Supporting** School policies outlined in this manual, such as the dress code, *Kashrut* and *Shabbat*

## Middle School Administration

**Danilack Middle School**  
Hurwich Education Centre  
252 Finch Ave W  
Toronto, ON M2R 1M9  
Tel: (416) 494-7666  
Fax: (416) 494-3477

Principals  
Mordechai Cohen  
(416) 494-7666 x 541  
mcohen@ahschools.com

Brenda Stein Dzaldov  
(416) 494-7666 x 544  
bdzaldov@ahschools.com

Elisabeth Segal  
Vice Principal  
(416) 494-7666 x 515  
esegal@ahschools.com

### Centre for Diverse Learning

Dafna Ross, Vice Principal  
Director of Learning and Teaching  
(416) 494-7666 x 542  
dross@ahschools.com

Linda Gordner,  
Danilack Coordinator  
Enrichment/New Teacher Mentor  
(416) 494-7666 x 532  
lgordner@ahschools.com

## Administrative Offices

Hurwich Education Centre  
252 Finch Ave W  
Toronto, ON M2R 1M9  
Tel: (416) 494-7666  
Fax: (416) 494-2925

### Director of Education

Dr. Mark Smiley  
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### Executive Director/CFO

Elliott Brodtkin  
(416) 494-7666 x 200  
ebrodkin@ahschools.com

### Admissions & Tuition

Ossy Goldenberg  
Manager, Admissions and Tuition  
(416) 494-7666 x 300  
ogoldenberg@ahschools.com

### Development

Rella Margolis  
Manager, Development and Special Projects  
(416) 494-7666 x 261  
rmargolis@ahschools.com

# The Mission Statement

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## Who We Are

The Mission of the Associated Hebrew Schools of Toronto is to continue our long history of providing our students with an excellent Jewish and General Studies education, based on Torah values, in a safe and supportive learning environment.

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## What We Stand For

### Excellence in Education

**Utilizing** the best available means to educate our students

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**Assisting** each of our students to reach his or her potential

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**Nurturing** a love of learning

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**Teaching** the social and educational skills necessary for future success

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**Providing** a Judaic Studies programme taught Ivrit B'Ivrit (classes conducted in Hebrew to promote fluency in the Hebrew language) and based on classical Jewish sources

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**Continuously** evaluating and improving all facets of the programme including educators, curriculum and student performance

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**Ensuring** regular dialogue between educators and parents regarding curriculum, academic and behavioural expectations and individual student achievement

### Education based on Torah Values

**Fostering** a commitment to

- a Jewish way of life based on Jewish law, values and practice
  - The State of Israel
  - Klal Yisrael (The Jewish People)
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**Instilling** a love and respect for Torah

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**Preparing** our students to be responsible members of society

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**Providing** a solid foundation for continued learning

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**Promoting** high moral and ethical standards

### A Safe and Supportive Environment

**Welcoming** students from the entire Jewish community, regardless of religious affiliation or economic means

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**Promoting** mutual respect amongst students, staff and parents

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**Fostering** open communication among students, parents, educators, administrators and the Board of Directors

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**Encouraging** parents to take an active role in the School and in their children's education