

TERS Message

July 2020

On June 21, we concluded the 5780 school year with our students, teachers and faculty assistants on our final "End of School Year" Zoom call. Although, we could not gather in person, we certainly still marked the occasion with sentimental togetherness.

The students enjoyed voting, on a live Zoom poll, for the organizations that will benefit from the school's tzedakah donation funds, which totaled \$600 for the year. This year, we guided the voting by providing the students with two options for each Jewish value that is supported through the donation. These were the categories and corresponding organizations that the students elected to support:

- 1) **Helping People in Need:** Almost Home
- 2) **Bringing People Together:** Heads Up Hartford
- 3) **Supporting Youth:** Waterford Youth Services

We celebrated all of our teachers and faculty assistants during the meeting. We are so grateful to all of you, for your dedication to the school and our students. We enjoyed the heartfelt comments shared by those who took a moment to address their fellow staff members and students. We congratulated the graduating high school seniors on our staff--Trevor Fornara and Ellanora Lerner--who we will miss greatly next year. We wish them both much success and happiness in college. We also encouraged our 8th graders, who will soon be moving up to Jewish Community High School, to continue as part of the religious school community by serving as faculty assistants next year. Lastly, we acknowledged the consistent presence of those students who had perfect attendance on Sundays and Wednesdays throughout the year.

We have invited school parents to share their thoughts and concerns as we make plans for the next religious school session. We will also apply insight gained from the Temple's building re-opening ad-hoc committee meeting. As soon as we have concrete guidance about realistic and safe conditions for resuming classes in the building, we will share them with everyone. In the meantime, please be assured that we intend to come back in the fall with a full Hebrew and Judaics curriculum, regardless of the meeting place and times.

Save the date for Sunday, September 13 as the first day of the fall session. Please review your registration packets when you receive them and send them in at your earliest convenience. We will be in touch with more information.

We wish everyone a relaxing, safe and healthy summer!

Warmest regards,

Armi Rowe and Jennifer Zettler, TERS Co-Administrators

religiousschool@tewaterford.org