



Jewish Educational Wisdom,
Experience & Leadership

Congregation Haverim's* School Mission Statement

The mission of the school of Congregation Haverim* is to inspire in students commitment to *Avodah* (prayer and spiritual growth), to *Torah* (study), and to *Tikkun Olam* and *Gemilut Hasadim* (repair of the world and of caring) through the learning and experience of Jewish texts, rituals, values, and history/civilization. The philosophy of the school, reflected in all aspects of its operation, is based on the founding Statement of Principles of Congregation Haverim.

Congregational School Vision Statement

Jewish learning is a life-long process, which our students formally begin in our school. Through a creative, dynamic and interactive program, our students are introduced to the breadth and depth of Jewish civilization through an exploration of art, literature, culture and music, interwoven with the study of language, Torah, History, ethics, holidays and rituals. Particular attention is paid to our textual and liturgical traditions as tools for living with Jewish social, spiritual and appropriate and political consciousness.

The school curriculum is age-appropriate and sequentially linked, building on students' learning from one year to the next. In addition to a core curriculum the program provides opportunities for delving deeper into particular subjects as well as opportunities for going beyond the curriculum into areas of special interest.

The faculty members of the school are educators with a profound love of Judaism and the desire and skill to communicate that love to their students in a way that cultivates their sensitivity and growth, spiritually, politically and socially.

They share a commitment to the values expressed in the Congregation Haverim Statement of Principles, as well as a commitment to the school itself. They are knowledgeable about Judaism, child development, learning styles and pedagogy, and effectively put that knowledge into practice. They are creative in their methodology and skillful in engaging the students and making learning joyful.

The parents of our students are both committed to and involved in their children's Jewish education. The school is a place where parents are regularly included in their children's classes and in scheduled family events. Consequently, parents and children learn side by side and experience Judaism together. In addition, there are classes specifically for adults that supplement and support the topics and themes the children are learning.

Written by Rabbi Erin Hirsh following an extensive visioning process with a congregational school.

* This is a pseudonym.