

Around the Community

Hadar High School Introduces Exciting New Programs for the Upcoming School Year

With the largest incoming class since its inception, Hadar High School is gearing up for another incredible school year on the Boca Raton Synagogue campus. Over a third of Hadar's student body this year hails from as far north as Boynton Beach and as far south as Miami Beach, representing the school's ongoing expansion into the greater South Florida Jewish community.

The growth of Hadar has undoubtedly created a need for additional leadership, and as a result, the school is excited to introduce and welcome a new General Studies Principal, Dr. Hal Levy, to the administration. Dr. Levy, originally from New Jersey, will be teaching various classes

this year including AP U.S. Government and Macroeconomics and will focus on the continued development of the school's General Studies program and curriculum to ensure that it is meeting the highest educational standards. "One of the factors that drew me to Hadar is its emphasis on a rigorous and extensive General Studies program. Faculty members are experts in their subject areas and the students are committed to their academic growth. Joining a school in which meaningful learning is so deeply ingrained in the culture is very exciting, and I am looking forward to collaborating with the faculty and administration to build upon Hadar's strong educational foundation."

Since obtaining accreditation through

Cognia (formerly AdvancEd) early last year, Hadar continues to engage in projects that improve the quality of its program and ongoing mission. As part of this effort, Hadar will introduce a new "mechaniches" program this year, assigning a teacher to each grade to oversee the religious growth of each girl and ensure that every student has the opportunity to grow religiously and spiritually throughout their high school experience. "As the school grows, it is so important that we implement innovative ways to engage with each student one-on-one and ensure that they are positioned to further their development as they navigate the complexities of High School," noted Mrs. Michal Schochet, Judaic Studies Principal. Head of School, Rabbi Moshe

Schochet shared that "Our goal is to maintain the warm and tight knit environment that we pride ourselves on, while the student body and faculty continue to expand each year."

The administration strives to create an atmosphere where students feel consistently guided on a social, emotional, religious and academic level and the school is hopeful that this program, among others, will reinforce this goal as the school continues to grow. The faculty of Hadar are excited to welcome both new and returning students to school in the coming weeks.

For more information about Hadar High School, please visit www.hadarhs.org.

Torah Academy Approaches Rapid Growth from the Inside and Out

"The sense of optimism is stronger than ever for a fresh new year," commented Rabbi Reuven Feinberg, dean, in describing how Torah Academy of Boca Raton is preparing to welcome nearly 600 students in a few short weeks. Alongside the national story of families relocating to Florida in droves, the parallel story is the exploding need for Jewish education - of which Torah Academy is proud to be an integral part.

With 2021-22 enrollment representing an increase of nearly 20% over last year, Torah Academy's expansion is occurring with whirlwind speed. Initiatives are underway to help new families acclimate to

Torah Academy and to Boca, while benefiting current families as their community connections expand. Multiple new faculty members, assistants, and support staff have joined the Torah Academy team to help the additional classes and resources available, headed by a larger administrative team as well. With the wave of additions and welcome challenges of growth, the administrators are taking their own innovative steps to continue leading with clarity and confidence.

Dubbed "The Retreat," administrators recently gathered at a tucked-away Boca venue, spending two full days collaborating on the fundamental aspects that underlie a Torah Academy education. This time



TABR administrative team holds planning retreat

spent away from other school obligations afforded the leadership a focused opportunity to analyze the foundations, direction, and processes that will lead to success. Rabbi Chaim Glazer, school administrator, noted, "It's too easy to get caught up in the multitude of details of setting up the school year, without evaluating the bigger

picture. When we set time aside to do just that, we show ourselves, and our Torah Academy family, that we are focused on Torah Academy's overarching goals."

One central theme to emerge is the unchanging commitment Torah Academy has to each individual child - a tenet that has allowed Torah Academy to retain a warm, schoolhouse feel even as its size rapidly increases. Rabbi Feinberg summarized, "We look at each student, each family, in determining how best to educate and develop every student on their own. With that principle at the core of our philosophy, we can then best create a collective educational experience that values the greatness in the individual."

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