



**HAND  
BOOK**

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**5784**

**23-24**

updated 3/15/24



**ADAT SHALOM - BETH ACHIM LEARNING COMMUNITY**  
**29901 MIDDLEBELT ROAD, FARMINGTON HILLS MI 48334**  
**ADATSHALOM.ORG/EDUCATION | 248-626-2153**

# EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

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## DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

**Dr. Melissa Ser, CJE • [mser@adatshalom.org](mailto:mser@adatshalom.org)  
248-626-2153 • 248-804-3501 (cell)**

## ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION & YOUTH

**Sammi Shapiro • [sshapiro@adatshalom.org](mailto:sshapiro@adatshalom.org)  
248-626-2153 • 248-417-2749 (cell)**

## DIRECTOR OF ADULT LEARNING & YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

**Jodi Gross • [jgross@adatshalom.org](mailto:jgross@adatshalom.org)  
248-626-2153**



# WEEKLY SCHEDULE

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## **Sundays, 9 a.m. until noon**

### **Pre-Kindergarten through Sixth Grade**

- We begin our mornings with tefillah at 9:15 a.m.
- Classes develop their knowledge of Judaism, holidays, the calendar and life cycle events, history, ethics, Torah, and Israel.

## **Mondays, 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.**

### **Seventh Grade**

- until 5:30 p.m. Homework time
- 5:30 to 6:00pm Dinner & Games
- 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. History and Holocaust with Abbi Emerson

## **Hebrew Tutoring**

### **Second through Seventh Grade**

- 30 minute lesson, scheduled weekly at a time that works for your family (22 30-minute lessons)
- In person or on Zoom, based on scheduling needs

## **Wednesday Schedule**

### **Second through Seventh Grade**

- Hebrew activities (4:30 to 5:00pm)
- Israel-focused learning
- Community building

# FACULTY & CLASSROOMS

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## PRE-KINDERGARTEN

**Wendy Arnold**

Room 103

wapa93@aol.com

## FOURTH GRADE

**Lauren Blitz**

Room 108

lauren.b4@icloud.com

## KINDERGARTEN

**Shelly Tarockoff**

Room 104

starockoff@gmail.com

## FIFTH GRADE

**Abbi Emerson**

Room 107

abigail.tarockoff@gmail.com

## FIRST GRADE

**Marilyn Wolfe**

Room 105

marilynwolfe544@gmail.com

## SIXTH GRADE

**Ariel Blizzard & Alyssa Diskin**

Room 108

ariel.stollman@outlook.com

diskin.liss@gmail.com

## SECOND GRADE

**Sam Arnold**

Room 102

supersam1266@gmail.com

## SEVENTH GRADE

**Abbi Emerson**

Room 107

abigail.tarockoff@gmail.com

## THIRD GRADE

**Ettie Schargorodsky & Elena Hirsch**

Room 101

ettieschar@aol.com

elenakhirsch@gmail.com



# **FACULTY**

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## **OPENING THE DOORS INCLUSION SPECIALIST**

Debbi Stybel

## **MUSIC EDUCATION**

Hazzan Daniel Gross

## **HEBREW LANGUAGE SPECIALIST**

Rochel Nachlas

## **HEBREW READING SPECIALISTS AND TUTORS**

Abbi Emerson, Adam Arnold, Adina Levin, Ariel Blizzard, Aron Kaufman, Cillia Kleiman, Debbi Stybel, Emily Hollenberg, Hadass Zaid, Melissa Ser, Rivkah Nachlas, Rochel Nachlas, Sam Arnold, Sammi Shapiro

## **SHINSHINIT: ISRAEL SPECIALIST**

Ofri Lellouche

## **B'NAI MITZVAH TUTORS**

Joyce Berlin Weingarten, Sam Arnold

## **YOUTH PROGRAMS LEADER**

Elena Hirsch

# THE BASICS

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## **Arrival Time**

We have limited time with our students, and need every minute to reach our goals! We start on time at 9 a.m. on Sundays and at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesdays. We understand that traffic and weather may make it harder to arrive on time, and we ask that students who arrive late sign in at the office and go straight to their classrooms or tefillah. Doors open Sundays at 8:40 a.m. and Wednesdays at 4 p.m.

## **Tefillah (Prayer Services)**

On Sunday mornings, students participate in either an all-school or a grade-appropriate service with clergy. Once a month, parents are invited to stay for coffee and tefillah. Check the calendar for dates.

## **What to Wear**

Boys should wear a kippah or appropriate head covering to class; girls may if they choose. We have extras in the office but have found that children tend to prefer a special one of their own that they have selected. Students and madrichim who have already become bar or bat mitzvah are encouraged to bring tallit and/or tefillin on Sundays.

We ask that students dress respectfully. If it would not be permitted in your regular school, it's probably not appropriate for Adat Shalom either. Please label your belongings. During the winter months, students often wish to go outside during their breaks. Students should come with appropriate gear for the weather.

## **Snacks at the Shalom Shuk**

For 50¢ to 75¢ per item, students may purchase snacks and/or drinks before school. All snacks are kosher and nut free, and we always have dairy free and gluten free options available. If you would like to send a snack from home, please ensure it is kosher and nut free. Cream cheese may be purchased for 25¢ at the Shalom Shuk.

# THE BASICS

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## What to Bring

- Tik (school bag) – Returning students should bring their bags with them. New students will receive one on the first day of school. If your bag has torn, please let us know and you can receive a new one.
- Kosher (dairy or pareve, nut free snack or money (\$1 to \$1.50)
- Money for tzedakah (we recommend at least 25¢ per class session) so we can make the world a better place.
- Pre-K/Kindergarten Students: Extra clothing because life happens!

## What NOT to Bring

- Cell phones (unless turned off during class; they may be used before/after class).
- Hand-held computer games or other electronics
- Fidget spinners and cubes (or any other fidget that makes noise and/or can be misused as a toy)
- Toys, unless discussed with the office

## Bagels

Plain bagels and juice/water will be available by pre-order. Limited numbers of bagels will be available in the Shalom Shuk on Sundays and Wednesdays. If you want to make sure your child has a bagel (and save money), please order in advance. During the first week of school, we will have plenty of bagels and other snacks available for purchase before the pre-orders are processed.

**If your child needs a gluten free bagel, please note that on your pre-order.**

Pre orders can be completed at [www.adatshalom.org/bagels](http://www.adatshalom.org/bagels)

# COMMUNICATION & INVOLVEMENT

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## **Email**

Every Wednesday during the school year, we send out an email to all addresses in our system. These emails contain important highlights of the coming week, dates to remember, special notices, information about upcoming programs of interest, and any changes to our regularly scheduled programming.

If you do not receive teacher emails, please contact your child's teacher directly to be sure he or she has the correct email address. If you do not receive Learning Community emails, please make sure we have your correct email address and that you have not opted-out of emails from us.

## **Facebook**

We have a closed Facebook group, called "Adat Shalom-Beth Achim Learning Community." Please request to join! You can also "like" Adat Shalom Synagogue's Facebook page to get updates on synagogue activities and items of interest.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ASBA.learningcommunity>

<https://www.facebook.com/adatshalomsyn>

## **Padlet**

The school's Padlet hub will have links, sign ups, announcements and more. It is updated frequently and is located [here](#).

## **Parent Teacher Committee**

If you are interested in being more involved in the school as a whole, please contact Rick Goren, [rick.goren@gmail.com](mailto:rick.goren@gmail.com)

## **Room Parents**

We would love to have your support in our classrooms! Please contact your child's teacher directly if you are interested in supporting the class periodically throughout the year.



# ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL

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We want to make sure that all our students and teen drivers are safe. Please take extra care when entering and exiting the parking lot during drop-off and pick-up, watch your surroundings, and drive slowly and cautiously through the parking lot. **The 13 Mile Road exit is EXIT ONLY. Cars may enter and/or exit on Middlebelt Road.**

If you wish to drop your children off without parking, please use the Kaufman entrance (orange star). You are welcome to park and walk your children into the Canner entrance (blue star).

We strongly encourage you to park and walk in if you have children in first grade or younger.

Sunday arrival begins at 8:40 a.m. and ends at 9:00 a.m. Dismissal begins at 12 p.m. and ends at 12:15 p.m.

On Mondays and Wednesdays, only the Canner Entrance will be used for drop off. Students may arrive beginning at 4:30 p.m. on Mondays and 4 p.m. on Wednesdays. Dismissal is at 7 p.m. and 6:15 p.m. respectively. On Mondays, we dismiss only from the Canner Entrance. Wednesday dismissal may use either exit.

## **LATE ARRIVALS / EARLY DISMISSALS:**

If your child arrives after 9 a.m., please park and bring your child to the school office. The Kaufman entrance will be locked at 9 a.m. If you need to pick up early, please come to the school office as well.

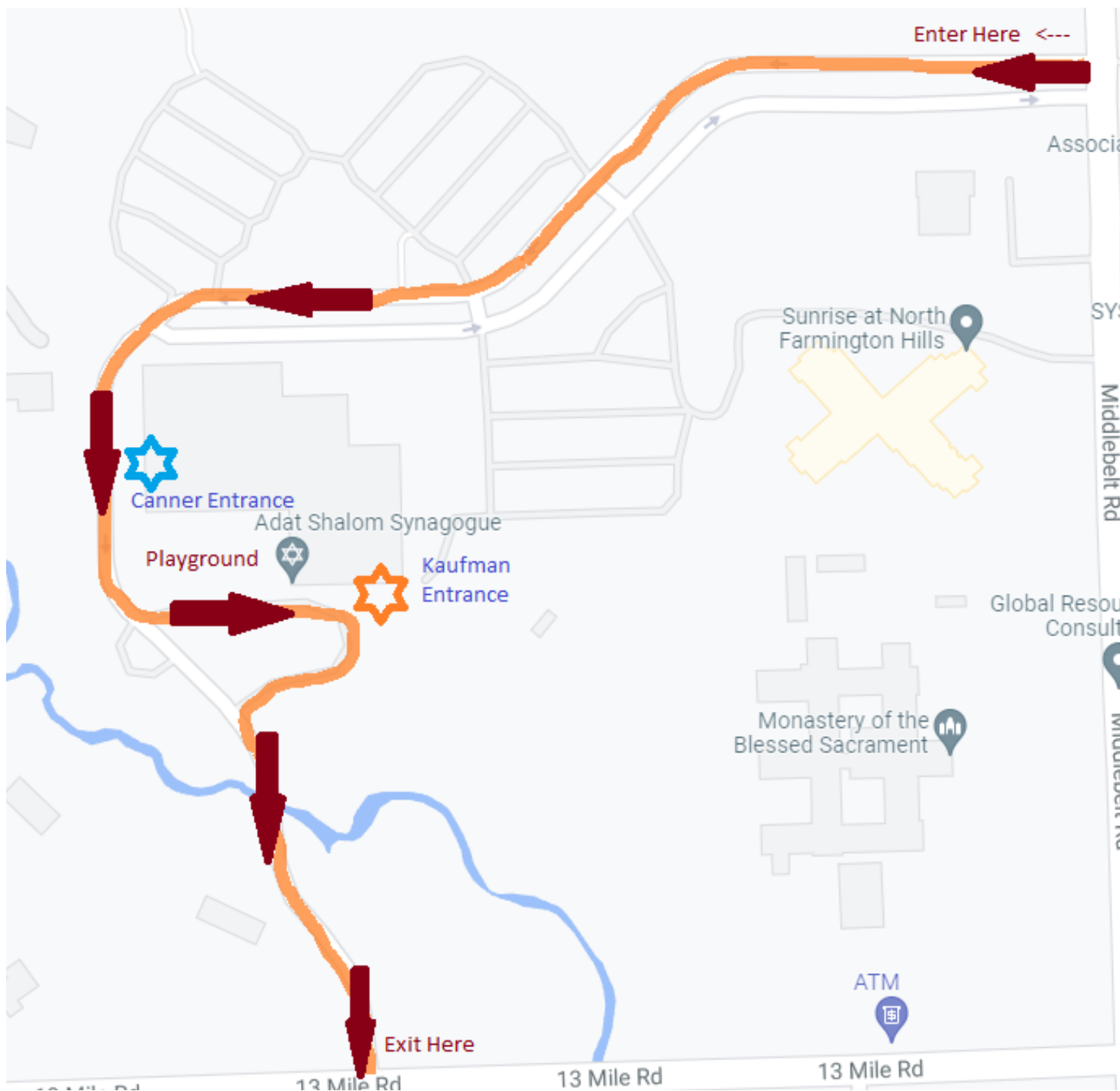
## **LATE PICK UP:**

If you do not pick your child up by 12:15 p.m., we will wait with your child near the school office and contact you. If you are running late, please let us know so that your child does not worry.

## **PARENT VOLUNTEERS:**

We could use your help with drop off and/or dismissal! If you are available to help once or twice a year, please let us know!

# ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL



# B'NAI MITZVAH

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## **Setting the Bar or Bat Mitzvah Date**

Synagogue Members: When your child turns 8 years old or enters 3rd grade, you may call Denise Gallagher, the booking coordinator, at (248) 851-5100 to schedule a Bar/Bat Mitzvah date. This date will be scheduled on or after the child's 13th birthday (12th birthday for girls) on the Hebrew calendar. Denise will gladly assist you in determining the Hebrew birth date. There is no booking fee for members.

Non-members: You may reserve a Bar/Bat Mitzvah date two years prior to the date of your child's 13th birthday (12th birthday for girls) on the Hebrew calendar, although it is not confirmed until one year prior to the date. There is a non-member usage fee for the Main Sanctuary or Shiffman Chapel for the date of the Bar/Bat Mitzvah.

## **B'nai Mitzvah Connections**

You and your child will receive an invitation to B'nai Mitzvah Beginnings with Hazzan Gross. Following that introductory session, you and your child will need to attend several additional workshops during the 12 to 18-month period leading up to your child becoming a bar or bat mitzvah. For questions, please call call 248-851-5100.

## **Mitzvah Project (Community Service)**

In the year leading up to bar/bat mitzvah, each student is expected to volunteer for a minimum of 8 hours, with a goal of 18 (chai!). These hours may be part of volunteer opportunities that we organize for you or opportunities that you create on your own. We ask that you find volunteer activities which will connect you to another living being, a true giving back to your community. Many students engage in a Mitzvah Project, a single project aimed at helping the community, based in a core Jewish value or commandment. Jodi Gross, Director of Adult Learning and Youth Engagement, coordinates group activities available through Adat Shalom.

# SHINSHINIM • MADRICHIM

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## **Shinshinim Program**

The Shinshinim Young Ambassadors Program brings recent high school graduates from Israel to our community. Young, fun, engaging representatives of Israel, the Shinshinim are here to bring Israel into our lives through programs, activities, and lectures throughout our educational programs. We will get a glimpse into what it means to grow up in Israel by learning about youth movements, current events, Israeli music, Hebrew slang, shared society in our region in Israel, how the Shinshinim's friends and families celebrate the holidays, and much more. When they return home to begin service with the Israel Defense Forces, Shinshinim carry a deeper understanding of global Jewish peoplehood and what it means to be part of the Jewish community outside of Israel. Shinshinim (or Shin-Shin in the singular form) is a Hebrew acronym for Sh'nat Sherut, meaning "year of service."

## **Teen Madrichim**

A madrich is a guide, and our school has an amazing cohort of teens who choose to continue being part of the Adat Shalom community on a weekly basis! Beginning in eighth grade, teens may volunteer or work within the school as teaching assistants, buddies, and office assistants.

Teens complete regular training and learn how to best assist the classroom teachers and their students. Madrichim often work with students one-on-one in Hebrew reading, help students with projects, run stations or games, and more.

# SPECIAL NEEDS & MEDICAL INFO

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## **Opening the Doors**

We welcome children with differentiated needs into our classrooms. An Opening the Doors specialist works with students who have learning challenges and/or special needs, as well as with their teachers and madrichim on methods of inclusion and integration and differentiated learning strategies. Opening the Doors is a program of the Jewish Community Center of Metro Detroit.

## **IEP and 504 Plans**

We request that if an IEP or 504 plan (or similar) exists, that families provide those to us so that we can aim to achieve the same benchmarks and understand the specifics of your child's needs.

## **Buddies**

Students who need a teen buddy/shadow are provided with one at no cost to the family. These teens are specially trained to work one-on-one with students with special needs, and often work with the same child for multiple years. In cases where an adult paraprofessional is needed, please contact the office to discuss arrangements and costs.

## **Allergies & Medical Conditions**

If your child has an allergy or medical condition, we must have an emergency protocol and current emergency medications, epi-pens, and/or inhalers in our office. Our school environment is nut free (you may not bring food that "may contain tree nuts or peanuts" or are "processed on shared equipment with tree nuts or peanuts"). We have students in the school with airborne nut allergies.

Thank you for keeping all our children safe.



# WELLNESS

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Please keep your child home if ill! If your child or anyone in your family tests positive for COVID-19, the flu, or any other contagious illness, please consult with your family doctor as to who needs to stay home. We strongly encourage everyone to remain up to date on flu and covid boosters.

We will follow the synagogue's policy regarding mask usage in the building.

# SECURITY

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There are GABRIEL alarm systems installed throughout the main level of the Synagogue. These are emergency devices that alert the police in case there is an active threat in the Synagogue. These are **ONLY** to be pressed and activated in case of emergency. Please make sure you and your child(ren) do not lean on or play with these devices.

In addition, security cameras around the building keep us secure. Additional security measures will be in place throughout the year. For security reasons, we are not detailing it here.

Fire and Emergency drills will take place throughout the year.

# KNOW WHERE TO GO

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## **Accessibility**

The school is located on the ground floor of the building. We have an elevator located at the far end of the building, across from an accessible and gender-neutral bathroom. Families who need to access the building without stairs should call the school office to have the doors near the elevator unlocked.

**All Gender Restrooms:** On the lower level near the Kaufman Entrance/Exit there is an accessible and unisex restroom. There is an additional all-gender restroom upstairs in the Breakfast Room.

## **Bathrooms**

There are single-stall bathrooms in/adjacent to rooms 102, 103, 104, and 105. Men's and women's restrooms are also located in the lower atrium (near the bottom of the circular stairs), inside the lower level kitchen, and on the mid-level outside the Muscle Room, in addition to the main restrooms upstairs by the clergy wing and the main sanctuary.

The restroom in Melissa's office has a supply of menstrual products and additional hygiene products that are available to anyone who needs.

## **Changing tables**

There is a changing table in the Parent-Toddler room, as well as in the handicap stalls of the men's and women's bathrooms on the main floor of the building.

# CURRICULUM

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## **Pre-K**

Jewish holidays and experiences are meaningful and fun. I can be an active part of my synagogue and community. There are Jews all around the world and I am part of a larger Jewish community. We learn about the different types of people who live in Israel.

## **Kindergarten**

Exploring Judaism through the lenses of Torah, kindness, holidays, and symbols. We begin to discover the people and places of Israel, and become familiar with Hebrew letters and language. Students begin learning about the traditions surrounding baby namings.

## **First Grade**

We continue on our journey of learning Hebrew letters and sounds, as well as language. We continue our exploration of Torah stories, holidays, making the world a kinder place, and exploring Israel.

## **Second Grade**

We begin at the beginning, exploring in more depth the values and teachable moments from the creation of the world through the story of Isaac and Rebecca. Our exploration of commandments (mitzvot) and our relationship with God, alongside a deeper dive into holidays and the people and places of Israel round out our Judaics curriculum. In addition, we begin reading Hebrew with a weekly lesson (1:1), and we reinforce that with in-class games.

# CURRICULUM

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## **Third Grade**

We continue from the birth of Jacob and Esau through the beginning of Moses's life, exploring in more depth the values and teachable moments in our tradition. We learn how to be a mensch, and how to incorporate the mitzvot (commandments) between ourselves and other people into our lives. We also begin to explore what a community is, and why being part of it is so important. We continue reading Hebrew with a weekly lesson (1:1), and we reinforce that with in-class games. As we master the alef-bet and vowels, we move on to prayers and some modern Hebrew.

## **Fourth Grade**

Jewish heroes and the values they can teach us are a big part of fourth grade, along with our continuing exploration of the Torah and Tanakh. We begin with the splitting of the Sea and the giving of the Torah, and continue through the challenges of King David! Our study includes the Jewish calendar and Jewish life cycle, and we begin to delve into the complicated issues surrounding Israel. We continue reading Hebrew with a weekly lesson (1:1), and we reinforce that by helping to lead the services (tefillah) on Sunday mornings.

## **Fifth Grade**

We begin our Tanakh study with the trial of King David and continue through the rebuilding of the Second Temple with the prophets Ezra and Nehemia. We learn about the sacred texts of the Jewish people and the history that surrounds them - including Tanakh, Mishnah, Talmud, and Midrash. We continue reading Hebrew with a weekly lesson (1:1), and we reinforce that by helping to lead the services (tefillah) on Sunday mornings. We work with senior adults in our congregation, learning with them as part of the Better Together program.

# CURRICULUM

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## **Sixth Grade**

We look to the texts of the Prophets to help us understand the world around us and how to stand up for what is just. In addition, we continue our exploration of the complicated issues surrounding Israel by using primary sources and debating them ourselves. We learn the basics of the history of Jewish civilization, from the destruction of the first Temple to our communities in North America, Israel, and around the world. We work with senior adults in our congregation, learning with them as part of the Better Together program. We continue reading Hebrew with a weekly lesson (1:1), and we reinforce that by helping to lead the services (tefillah) on Sunday mornings, and we prepare for becoming b'nai mitzvah.

## **Seventh Grade**

We continue exploring Jewish values through Pirke Avot, the Ethics of our Sages, and applying them to our lives. Jewish history before, during, and after the Holocaust is a large portion of our Monday evenings. In addition, we continue our exploration of the complicated issues surrounding Israel by using primary sources and debating them ourselves. We continue reading Hebrew with a weekly lesson (1:1), and we reinforce that by starting to participate in leading on Shabbat mornings as we prepare for becoming b'nai mitzvah.



# HEBREW READING GOALS



We use the Aleph Champ program to develop fluency in decoding Hebrew. Students earn white, red, orange, yellow, green, and blue medallions. They then move on to Hebrew prayer reading. In order to move forward, students must read each prayer fluently, chant it if applicable, identify key vocabulary, and explain when and why the prayer is said.

Generally, students take between one and two academic years to master reading fluency, and then begin working on the following prayers. Some students are motivated to learn Modern Hebrew as well!

Adon Olam

Aleinu

Amidah (Avot, Gevurot, Kedusha)

Ashrei

Barchu

Blessings for Foods

Blessings for Holidays

Blessings for Mitzvot

Blessings for Shabbat

Ein Keloheinu

Haftarah blessings

Hashkivenu

Hoda'ah (Modim Anachnu)

Kiddush

L'cha Dodi

Maariv Aravim

Mi Chamocha

Modeh Ani

Mourner's Kaddish

Oseh Shalom

Shalom Aleichem

Shalom Rav

Shema

Sim Shalom

Torah blessings

Torah service

V'ahavta

V'shamru

Yotzer Or

# HOME ENRICHMENT

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## Grades PreK, K, and 1:

Ask your child to tell you a story from the Torah that he/she has learned. Find Jewish objects in your home. Do something special on Shabbat. Read a Jewish book together. Come to the synagogue as a family when possible and bring your child to MiniMinyan and other family programming. Build a Torah story out of Lego!



## Grades 2 and 3:

Encourage your child to complete his/her 20 minutes of reading each night using PJ Library Jewish books. Encourage your child to practice Hebrew reading for five minutes a day, three days a week. Ask your child to teach you Hebrew if you do not read it. If you need resources, we can help! Bring your child to MiniMinyan and other family programming and learn together. Come to (or stream) Shabbat services as a family. Celebrate holidays together and have your child help lead blessings and prayers at home.

## Grades 4 through 7:

Encourage your child to complete each day's 20 minutes of reading using PJ Library or PJ Our Way Jewish books. Encourage your child to practice Hebrew reading skills for five to ten minutes a day, three to four times per week. Come to (or stream) Shabbat services as a family. Celebrate holidays together and have your child help lead blessings and prayers at home.

# CALENDAR - SEPTEMBER

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Sun.	10	9am -12pm	First day of classes, PK-6
		10:30am	Open House
		11:15am	Welcome Assembly
		12pm	Family Fun Day & BBQ
Mon.	11	5-7pm	First day of Monday classes, 7th grade
Wed.	13	4:30-6:15pm	First day of Wednesday classes, 2-7
Sat.	16		Rosh Hashanah Day 1
Sun.	17		Rosh Hashanah Day 2
Mon.	18	5-7pm	7th grade in session
Wed.	20	4:30-6:16pm	Classes in session
Sun.	24	9am-12pm	Classes in session, Erev Yom Kippur
Mon.	25		Yom Kippur
Wed	27	4:30-6:15pm	Classes in session
Sat.	30		First day of Sukkot

## MINIMINYAN - WEEKLY

Childcare beginning at 9:30 a.m.  
MiniMinyan beginning at 10:30 a.m.  
Saturday mornings at Adat Shalom.  
Clergy & Educators & Families.  
Snacks and coffee always ready.



# CALENDAR - OCTOBER

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Sun.	1	9am -12pm	Sukkot II Family Program & Lunch
Mon.	2	5-7pm	7th grade in session
Wed.	4	4:30-6:15pm	Classes in session
Sat.	7		Shemini Atzeret; Erev Simchat Torah
Sun.	8	9am-12pm	Simchat Torah UnWrapped Family Program
Mon.	9	5-7pm	7th grade in session
Wed.	11	4:30-6:15pm	Classes in session
Sun.	15	9am-12pm	Classes in session
Mon.	16	5-7pm	7th grade in session
Wed.	18	4:30-6:15pm	Classes in session
Sun.	22	9am-12pm	Classes in session
		9-9:45am	<b>Parent Stay &amp; Pray</b>
Mon.	23	5:30-7:30pm	7th grade in session
Wed.	25	4:30-6:15pm	Classes in session
Sun.	29	9am-12pm	Classes in session
		9:30am	Better Together (5-6 grades)
		10:30am	<b>4th Grade Family Tzedakah Box Project</b>
Mon.	30	5:30-7:30pm	7th grade in session

# CALENDAR - NOVEMBER

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Wed.	1	4:30-6:15pm	Classes in session
Sat.	4	9:30-3:30	<b>Teen Retreat @ Adat Shalom</b>
Sun.	5	9am-12pm	Classes in session
Mon.	6	5:30-7:30pm	7th grade in session
Wed.	8	4:30-6:15pm	Classes in session
Sun.	12	9am-12pm	Classes in session
		10:30am	<b>Kindergarten Family Chesed &amp; Challah Fest</b>
Mon.	13	5:30-7:30pm	7th grade in session
Wed.	15	4:30-6:15pm	Classes in session
Sun.	19	9am-12pm	Classes in session
		9:30am	Better Together (5-6 grades)
		9-9:45am	<b>Parent Stay &amp; Pray</b>
		10:30am	<b>3rd Grade Family Siddur / Hiddur Mitzvah Program</b>
Mon.	20	5:30-7:30pm	7th grade in session
Wed.	22		No classes - Thanksgiving
Sun.	26	5:30-7:30pm	No classes - Thanksgiving
Mon.	27	4:30-6:15pm	7th grade in session
Wed.	29		Classes in session



# CALENDAR - DECEMBER

Sun.	3	9am-12pm	Classes in session
		11am-12pm	<b>6th Grade Family Yad Project</b>
Mon.	4	5:30-7:30pm	7th grade in session
Wed.	6	4:30-6:15pm	Classes in session
Sun.	10	9am-12pm	Classes in session
		9:45am-11am	Better Together (5-6 grades)
		3-5:30pm	<b>Community Chanukah Celebration, CSZ</b>
Mon.	11	5:30-7:30pm	7th grade in session
Wed.	13	4:30-6:15pm	Classes in session
Sat.	16	5:30pm	Kids' Night Out / Teen Havdalah
Sun.	17	9am-12pm	Classes in session
		9-9:45am	<b>Parent Stay &amp; Pray</b>
		10:30am	<b>PreK Family Chesed &amp; Challah Fest</b>
Mon.	18	5:30-7:30pm	7th grade in session
Wed.	20	4:30-6:15pm	Classes in session - last day before break!

## CHANUKAH CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES

First Night	Thu.	December 7	5:32 pm
Second Night	Fri.	December 8	4:42 pm
Third Night	Sat.	December 9	5:42 pm
Fourth Night	Sun.	December 10	5:32 pm
Fifth Night	Mon.	December 11	5:32 pm
Sixth Night	Tue.	December 12	5:32 pm
Seventh Night	Wed.	December 13	5:33 pm
Eighth Night	Thu.	December 14	5:33 pm



# CALENDAR - JANUARY

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Sun.	7	9am-12pm	Classes in session
Mon.	8	5:30-7:30pm	7th grade in session
Wed.	10	4:30-6:15pm	Classes in session
Sun.	14	9am-12pm	Classes in session
		9-9:45am	<b>Parent Stay &amp; Pray</b>
		10:30-11am	Volunteer Day & Chesed Fest
Mon.	15	10am-12pm	<b>Tikkun Olam MLK Day program with Hillel</b>
		5:30-7:30pm	No 7th Grade
Wed.	17	4:30-6:15pm	Classes in session
Sun.	21	9am-12pm	Classes in session
		9:30am	<b>Better Together (5-6 grades)</b>
		10:30am	<b>2nd Grade Family Tu Bishevat Program</b>
Mon.	22	5:30-7:30pm	7th grade in session
Wed.	24	4:30-6:15pm	Classes in session; Erev Tu Bishevat
Sun.	28	9am-12pm	Classes in session
Mon.	29	5:30-7:30pm	7th grade in session
Wed.	31	4:30-6:15pm	Classes in session

## MINIMINYAN - WEEKLY

Supervised Play beginning at 9:30 a.m.

MiniMinyan beginning at 10:30 a.m.

Mini-est Minyan for littles • 2Cool4Shul for grades 2 and up

Saturday mornings at Adat Shalom.

Clergy & Educators & Families.

Snacks and coffee always ready.

Shabbat  
Shalom

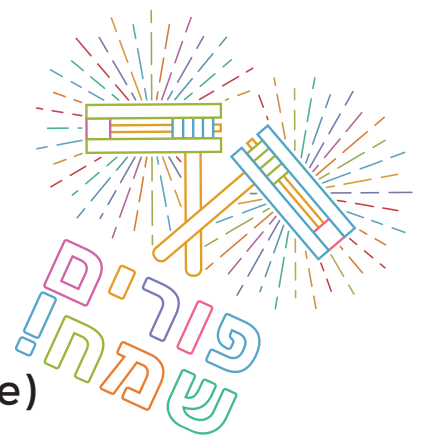
# CALENDAR - FEBRUARY/MARCH

Sun.	4	9am-12pm	Classes in session
Mon.	5	5:30-7:30pm	7th grade in session with ADL
Wed.	7	4:30-6:15pm	Classes in session
Sun.	11	9am-12pm	Classes in session
		9:30am	<b>Better Together (5-6 grade)</b>
		10:30am	<b>4th Grade Family Chesed &amp; Challah Fest</b>
Mon.	12	5:30-7:30pm	7th grade in session
Wed.	14	4:30-6:15pm	Classes in session
Sun.	18		No classes - Midwinter Break
Mon.	19		No classes - Midwinter Break
Wed.	21		No classes - Midwinter Break
Sun.	25	9am-12pm	Classes in session
Mon.	26	5:30-7:30pm	7th grade in session
Wed.	28	4:30-6:15pm	Classes in session

## MARCH

Sun.	3	9am-12pm	Classes in session
Mon.	4	5:30-7:30pm	7th grade in session
Wed.	6	4:30-6:15pm	Classes in session
Sun.	10	9am-12pm	Classes in session
		10:30am	<b>5th Grade Family Program: Chesed Fest</b>
Mon.	11	5:30-7:30pm	7th grade in session with ADL

# CALENDAR - MARCH/APRIL



Wed.	13	4:30-6:15pm	Classes in session
Sun.	17	9am-12pm	Classes in session
		9:30am	Better Together (5-6 grade)
Mon.	18	5:30-7:30pm	7th grade in session
Wed.	20	4:30-6:15pm	Classes in session
Sat.	23	8:45pm	<b>Erev Purim at Congregation Shaarey Zedek</b>
Sun.	24	8:30am	<b>Megillah Reading at B'nai Israel</b>
		10:30am	<b>No classes; Family Purim Shpiel &amp; Carnival</b>
Mon.	25		No classes - Spring Break
Wed.	27		No classes - Spring Break
Sun.	31		No classes - Spring Break

## APRIL

Mon.	1	5:30-7:30pm	7th grade in session with ADL
Wed.	3	4:30-6:15pm	Classes in session
Sun.	7	9am-12pm	Classes in session
		12pm-2pm	<b>Kids' Afternoon of Fun</b>
Mon.	8	5:30-7:30pm	7th grade in session
Wed.	10	4:30-6:15pm	Classes in session
Sun.	14	9am-12pm	Classes in session
		9:15am	<b>Third Grade Siddur Celebration</b>
		10:30am	<b>1st Grade Family Program: Chesed Fest</b>
Mon.	15	5:30-7:30pm	7th grade in session
Wed.	17	4:30-6:15pm	Classes in session

# CALENDAR - APRIL/MAY

Sun.	21	9am-12pm	<b>NO CLASSES</b>
Mon.	22		No classes; Erev Pesach / First Seder
Tue.	23		First Day Pesach / Second Seder
Wed.	24		No classes; 2nd Day Pesach
Sun.	28	9am-12pm	<b>Classes in session. WE ❤️ PESACH SNACKS</b>
		9:30am	<b>Better Together End of Year Celebration</b>
Mon.	29		No classes; 7th Day Pesach
Tue.	30		8th Day Pesach

## MAY

Wed.	1	4:30-6:15pm	Classes in session
Sun.	5	9am-12pm	Classes in session
		11:15	End of Year Assembly
		12pm	End of Year BBQ
Mon.	6	5:30-7:30pm	<b>7th Grade Siyyum - Reflections on Learning &amp; Yom Hashoah Presentation</b>

# DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

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## **DR. MELISSA SER, CJE**

Email: [mser@adatshalom.org](mailto:mser@adatshalom.org)

Cell: 248-804-3501

Melissa Ser joined Adat Shalom's professional staff in July 2012. She holds a MA in Jewish Educational Leadership from the Davidson School of the Jewish Theological Seminary, as well as both a MA and PhD in Literature from the University of Rochester and a BA in English from Florida State University.

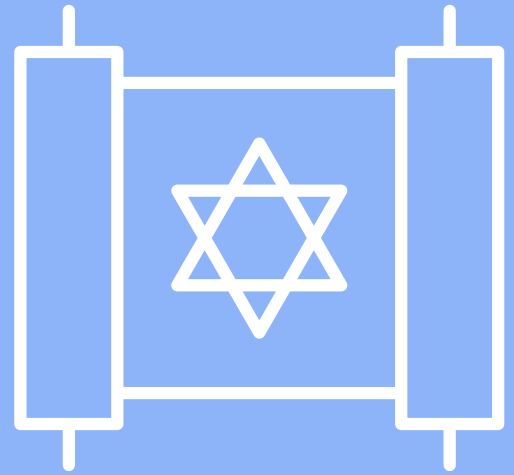
She was a fellow in the first cohort of the Pardes Senior Educator Learning Fellowship, and is a senior fellow in the Pedagogy of Partnership Midwest Fellowship program. She is Vice President of the Jewish Educators Assembly, and past president of the Metro Detroit Board of Jewish Educators. She is a part time lecturer at Eastern Michigan University in the Department of World Languages (Hebrew) and teaches for the Better to Learn program through Brandeis University.

Melissa believes that a strong community makes each individual institution stronger, and therefore teaches classes for local Jewish teachers and serves as a mentor for educators new to the field. She prides herself on keeping an open line of communication, fostering a sense of warmth and growth in all formal educational opportunities for youth, and exploring innovative ways to make authentic learning come alive for all. She and her husband Sam are the proud parents of Ariel, Yonatan, and Maya.

## OUR MISSION

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We are committed to enriching the lives of students and families within our congregation in a nurturing environment through diverse Jewish educational experiences according to the values of Conservative Judaism as they relate to God, Torah, holidays, prayer, history, the Hebrew language and the State of Israel. Our school promotes connections between and among families, the synagogue, the community and the State of Israel, creating a path to a happy and meaningful Jewish life.



## OUR VISION

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Our students take pride in being Jewish through an education focused on age-appropriate, experiential learning that enhances each student's appreciation for lifelong learning and living as Jews. As an important part of our synagogue community, students gain an understanding of the way Conservative Judaism is practiced at Adat Shalom Synagogue. They have a strong sense of Jewish values, ethics, Torah, traditions, Israel, and tikkun olam (social action) and have the opportunity to lead as well as participate in tefillot (communal prayer). Their understanding of Judaism gives them a sense of who they are and an appreciation of their role in the larger Jewish community that will last a lifetime.





# OUR LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

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Our school is warm and nurturing. Students feel safe and free to express themselves. Our learning environment is one of mutual honor and respect. Dedicated, creative and enthusiastic teachers guide our students using different learning modalities while meeting the needs of each student. They create a student-centered, active learning environment that extends beyond the classroom into the lives of our students and their families.



# OUR FAMILIES

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Our families are part of a diverse, engaged and motivated community. They are connected to each other, to Adat Shalom Synagogue, and to the larger Jewish community. By offering meaningful experiences, celebrating holidays and Shabbat, our school provides students and their extended families with opportunities for ongoing spiritual growth.

# OUR CONGREGATION

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The Rabbis, Hazzan and other professionals have an active and visible role in the school. Having developed meaningful connections with our clergy and staff, our students and families feel valued in the greater congregation and are motivated to be involved in all aspects of Adat Shalom Synagogue.





