



אב תש"פ July 2020

עמו"ש, Dear Middle School Parents,

No this is not a dream. This is reality! We are going to start the *Yeshiva*..... on time..... in person!!!

B"H, we have been given the green light to begin our school year, with everyone in person! We have had great *Syatta Dishmayah* to come to this point, and will require additional abundance of *Tefillos* and *Syatta Dishmayah* for our plans to come to fruition in a safe and a successful way!

The administration has been toiling to come up with the best practices that are both safe and sustainable for our students and staff. With our procedures in place we look forward to an outstanding year of growth for our *talmidim*. If there is anything we have learned over the past few months, it is that we all need and crave positive structure!

Our school day will remain with the same hours, however, the day will be divided differently in order to create the safest environment possible.

Details of our procedures and safe guards will be forthcoming in the next few weeks.

Although we realize that the pandemic is not over, none the less, our approach, which is approved by our own medical advisory team and the American Academy of Pediatrics, will go a long way to protecting our children, our staff and our families. We *daven* for continue *Rachmai Shamayim* as we begin this new school year.

This school year, we will constantly be monitoring the local and communal conditions. There might be times when we need to alter our approach and even possibly our schedules, however, we are committed to provide the most excellent *chinuch* possible! We feel privileged to be working with you in partnership in the *chinuch* of your son. May we merit with *Hashem's* help, our children continue to grow into healthy and outstanding *Bnai Torah*!!

Meanwhile, we are busy this summer dedicating ourselves to preparing for the תש"פ – תשפ"א | 2020–2021 school year. We *daven* that this upcoming year will be filled with *Hatzlacha U'Bracha* and be one of abundant growth, *Geshmak* and contentment!

It is a great *zechus* to be able to work with you in the *chinuch* of your sons. Our goal is to have each and every *talmid* progress at his level and achieve maximum growth! May we merit the *Siyatta Dishmaya* to see בנינו ובנותינו עוסקים בתורה ובמצות!!

In the Middle School, we have three core values: **כבוד, אחריות, נכונות** **Respect, Responsibility and Readiness.** These core values guide every facet of our day; from classroom to lunchroom, cafeteria to hallways, and *Bais Medrash* to recess. While each area has specific expectations, we are constantly trying to raise our level of refinement and *mentchlichkeit* in all of our endeavors here in the Yeshiva. We teach our expectations in order that our Talmidim will know what to do, how to do it and why we do it. This approach has proven to be quite valuable and has helped to create a wonderful tone in our daily Yeshiva life.

**This year these principles take on a new level of intensity due to the Covid pandemic.** Our responsibility to others, our respect for regulation and changes, and our readiness to adapt, will be crucial in our fight against this *magefa*. We *daven* for much *Siyatta Dishmaya*.

### **SCHEDULE for the FIRST DAY of SCHOOL – PLEASE READ CAREFULLY**

We are extremely excited about reopening the Yeshiva campus to our *talmidim*. As you can imagine there are many details that are being put in place in order to assure the best possible protection from Covid-19.

This school year will start out as none other. We have to re-orient our *talmidim* to *Yeshiva* and their schedule after a hiatus of 6 months! There will be variances in the schedule which will need to be gone over and practiced. All these considerations have led us to the conclusion that we need to spend one full day separately with each grade going over the rhythm and schedule of our school day. We want the start to be proper, which in turn will improve our chances of a successful year, *B'Siyatta Dishmaya!!!*

**We have decided to have a separate orientation day for each of our Middle School grades.**

- The 6<sup>th</sup> graders will have their day on Tuesday September 1<sup>st</sup>.
- The 7<sup>th</sup> graders on Wednesday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- The 8<sup>th</sup> grade on Thursday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Each of those days, **only** the designated grade will be coming to Yeshiva. It will be a full day, from 9 until 5:15. We will be spending the day orienting the *bachurim* to what the school day will look like to begin the year. We will be detailing the daily routines and expectations.

**On Friday September 4<sup>th</sup> through Monday September 7<sup>th</sup>** the *talmidim* will only be having *Limudei Kodesh*.

On Tuesday September 8<sup>th</sup>, the entire Middle School will resume its regular schedule.

- **We will not be announcing *Shiurim* and Secular Classes until each grade's opening assembly, *B'Ezras Hashem*.**
- On orientation day *davening* should take place before the boys arrive at school.
- *Talmidim* should report to the old gym on orientation day at 9:00 AM.
- School will be dismissed at 5:15 p.m.
- The first day of *Minyan* will be Friday, September 4<sup>th</sup>.

### **MINYAN:**

We will be having two locations for Minyan. **In order to plan properly we need any 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders who will NOT be joining us for *Shacharis* to please let us know ASAP.**

### **CARPOOL ARRIVAL TIME**

Please make every effort to arrive by **7:40 a.m.** and **be in the Bais Medrash/Davening area** by 7:45 a.m. It is the student's responsibility to be on time. When *talmidim* arrive late it is disturbing to the entire *minyan*. *Minyan* is to provide the proper atmosphere and decorum for *Tefillah*. It is truly a joy and privilege to be part of our *Minyan*. We have the expectation that the *talmidim* will come on time and participate in our *Minyan*. If this poses a problem, we may have to ask the parent to bring the child later on for the beginning of *Shiur*.

### **BUS SERVICE**

There will be no MTA bus service at this time.

### **LUNCH**

Boys may either bring their own lunch, or sign up for the hot lunch program. You will receive a letter concerning this year's hot lunch program in a separate mailing. Procedures will be put in place based on the advice of our medical team and administration. You will receive information in the mail about the breakfast program as well.

## **MINYAN / BEGINNING OF SHIUR**

The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders are expected to be at our minyan unless a special arrangement has been made. Bar Mitzvah boys are expected to have a davening jacket for *davening*. Shiurim will begin everyday at 9:00 a.m., except on Monday and Thursday, when they will begin at 9:15 a.m.

The 6<sup>th</sup> graders will be having *Shacharis* every day at 9:00 a.m. until the beginning of winter, when they assume the regular Middle School schedule for *Shacharis* and Shiur. The exact date for the switchover will be announced. **Until that date 6th graders should not arrive at school before 8:50 a.m.**

## **DISMISSAL**

Daily dismissal Monday through Thursday is at 5:15 p.m. On Fridays dismissal is at 2:10 p.m., and Sundays at 12:00 PM.

## **PLANNER**

**ALL 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> GRADE STUDENTS WILL BE REQUIRED TO PURCHASE A PLANNER AT THE COST OF \$12.50 EACH.**

**THEY HAVE PROVEN EXTREMELY VALUABLE TO THE TALMID, REBBI, TEACHER AND PARENT.**

**Please see the planner letter attached with payment information.**

## **CELL PHONES and ELECTRONICS IN SCHOOL**

We strive to have a school atmosphere free from as many disturbances and distractions as possible.

Therefore, there are no cell phones allowed in school. **Any cell phone found in school will be confiscated.**

***Absolutely NO personal electronic equipment is allowed in school. This includes, Laptops/NetBooks, CD Players, MP3/MP4 Players, iPods, P.S.P., Electronic Games, Cameras or anything that takes pictures etc. All Electronic items will be confiscated by the administration.***

***In addition skateboards and hover boards are not permitted on school premises.***

Every student can expect a safe and friendly environment in our Yeshiva.

Talmidim cannot bring anything to Yeshiva that can be a threat or a perceived threat. This includes but is not limited to, pocket knives, cap guns and incendiary devices of any type, for example lighters, poppers, sparklers etc.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL DRESS CODE

Students must wear collared shirts with buttons and no large logos. They must wear **black** or **dark blue** pants with no large pockets, extra pockets, loops, oversized pant legs, or any other unusual features. **Jeans, tight pants, sports pants and tiros** are not allowed. Sneakers are permitted. **Crocs, sandals and other open-backed shoes are not permitted.** Hair is expected to be neat and trim (modern fads are not acceptable). **Haircuts must be cut to equal proportions (we do not allow hair to be long on the top and then short of the sides).**

If a student is in violation of the dress code, he may not be able to attend *Shiur* or classes until suitable attire is brought from home for the *talmid* to wear, or his hair is cut properly. Additionally, a *talmid* who has dirty or muddy clothing will not be allowed to attend class until clean clothing is provided for him.



## LOCKS AND LOCKERS

In our effort to keep students from congregating and being in close proximity of each other, we will **NOT** be having lockers at the start of the school year.

## MEDICAL PERMISSION

**You should have received via email the medical packet from the school nurse regarding medical permission slips and vaccination information**

**We are not permitted to give medication without these forms being signed by the parent and doctor.**  
*Please note that Baltimore County will not allow any medication (even over-the-counter medications) to be dispensed without written permission from a doctor.*

**IMPORTANT DATES:** Please mark your calendars for these upcoming important dates:

<b>Tuesday, September 15</b>	Parent Orientation at 7:00 p.m. 4:15 pm Student dismissal
<b>Sunday, September 13</b>	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Bar Mitzvah Meeting 8:00-9:15 p.m.
<b>Sunday, February 14</b>	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Bar Mitzvah Dinner 6:30 PM
<b>Tuesday, June 15</b>	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Dessert Reception 7:30 PM

## GEMAROS

- All *Gemaros* should be purchased before the beginning of school.
- We will **not** be selling *Gemaros* in school. All *Gemaros* purchased should include *Rif*.

- Please purchase at least the standard 8½ x 11 inch page size *Gemaros*.
- Rebbeim will let your child know any specific supplies they will need for their class.

6<sup>th</sup> Grade – Maseches Baba Metziah – your Baba Metziah from 5<sup>th</sup> grade will be fine!

7<sup>th</sup> Grade – Maseches Baba Kamma

8<sup>th</sup> Grade – Maseches Sukkah

Please review this letter and let us know if we can support you in any way.

We are looking forward to a very meaningful year in which we will see our children continue to blossom as *B'Nei Torah*. We *daven* that this year will be one of great success for our *talmidim*; one that we all will see much *Yiddishe Nachas* from all of our children.

Sincerely,

Rabbi Yaakov Schwartz  
*Menahel*

Rabbi Yakov Majeski  
*General Studies Principal*

Enclosed you will find the following items:

1. School calendar
2. School supply list
3. Communication information
4. Planner sheet