GOALS

· to provide a collaborative forum of schools throughout North America with an open exchange of practical ideas

· to provide professional development opportunities for schools without adding a financial burden

· to provide educators access to a diverse network of colleagues

· to receive feedback from school leaders in order to continue providing the best resources and services available

Over 250 school leaders, administrators, and teachers convened in Cedarhurst, NY, on July 16-18, to learn, to discuss and to grow. The energy was palpable and the diversity unprecedented. Converging from 33 states and provinces across the U.S., Canada and Mexico, leaders representing schools of various sizes and affiliations had an opportunity to learn from each other, as well as from top quality presenters. From Tulsa to Toronto, Birmingham to Boston, many schools grapple with similar issues. By utilizing collective wisdom and professional expertise, participants left the conference with innovative ideas, strategies, and initiatives to advance the objectives of their schools.
Summer Think Tank V was kicked off Monday morning July 16 with a workshop given by Larry Thompson, nationally recognized expert on creating a positive school environment. His presentation on “Responsibility Centered Discipline” was met with rave reviews by the participants. CoJDS acknowledged that this unique workshop would have a maximum impact if brought to a larger number of educators, including teaching staff. To that end, CoJDS facilitated workshop presentations by Mr. Thompson in Jewish day schools in Memphis, TN; Baltimore, MD; and Norfolk, VA; with two more scheduled in early 2019 in Vancouver, BC; and South Florida. See page 70 for more information on Mr. Thompson’s workshop.

HaRav Sholom Kamenetsky, Rosh Yeshiva of the Talmudical Yeshiva of Philadelphia, addressed the assembly on the topic of leadership. As the spiritual mentor for CoJDS, Rav Kamenetsky brought lessons from the Torah on the Jewish perspective of leadership and how to apply these lessons in the role of a school principal. Dr. David Pelcovitz, Straus Chair in Psychology and Jewish Education of the Azrieli Graduate School of Jewish Education and Administration at Yeshiva University, discussed what school leaders can do to avoid crisis and scandal in their schools and how to respond when difficult issues arise.

Rabbi Glenn Black, CEO of NCSY Canada, gave the crowd food for thought in proposing questions such as “can you write a sentence that defines your school?”, followed by “can someone else say that too?” Rabbi Avrohom S. Moller, Superintendent, Associated Talmud Torahs of Chicago, shared with school leaders a systemic measure of supervision and evaluation. He helped principals develop customized supervision programs that align with best practices which will help administrators effectively achieve their goals in a more sustainable way.

CoJDS is grateful that Dvir Kahana, Director General of the Ministry of Diaspora Affairs, traveled from Jerusalem to inspire conference participants with words of encouragement and provide a listening ear to the needs of schools in small communities. The ministry has set its sights on bolstering formal day school education in North America and recognizes the heroic efforts of educators battling the tide of assimilation. Mr. Kahana participated in the Wednesday Think Tank session to hear the most pressing needs of the schools directly from the 40 principals who traveled from small communities. Mr. Kahana expressed his feeling that “an educator working with children in small-town America is serving a greater role in fighting for the Jewish people than a general in the IDF.”
Gilles Gade, President and CEO of Cross River Bank, shared with the participants his experiences in the business world and the parallels that can be learned to benefit day schools. In only 10 years, Mr. Gade, who oversees over 180 employees, has grown the bank into the third largest same day ACH originator in the US. The same efficiencies that are used for success in the for profit world of finance, can and should be utilized by schools to thrive. Although the goals of day schools differ greatly from those of corporate financial institutions, the reality is that unless adjustments are made to make day schools more cost efficient and fiscally responsible, growth cannot be maintained.

Continuing on the business track section of the conference, sessions addressed guidance to fundraising in both theory and practice. Alan J. Steinberg, a real-estate owner and investor who has raised tens of millions of dollars for Jewish day school education, shared with conference participants his experiences and expertise.

Presenters at Think Tank V included: HaRav Sholom Kamenetsky, Dr. David Pelcovitz, Rabbi Glenn Black, Rabbi Avrohom Moller, Lynn Raviv, Tracie Glazer, Dr. Jeffrey Lichtman, Alan Steinberg, Miriam Gettinger, Lev Stark, Gilles Gade, Dvir Kahana, Becky Udman and Elana Fertig.

“THANK YOU TO THE CONSORTIUM FOR INTRODUCING OUR SCHOOL TO LARRY THOMPSON! MARGOLIN HEBREW ACADEMY ADOPTED RESPONSIBILITY CENTERED DISCIPLINE IN AUGUST AFTER LARRY’S FIRST VISIT. WE ARE STEADILY MAKING PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING RCD. TODAY, WE HOSTED LARRY FOR A SECOND VISIT (THIS TIME PAID FOR BY THE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT!) FOR OUR WINTER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY. HE CONDUCTED SESSIONS WITH EACH OF OUR DIVISIONS AND WITH THE ENTIRE FACULTY. WE LOVE WORKING WITH HIM.”

RABBI BENJY OWEN, HEAD OF SCHOOL
MARGOLIN HEBREW ACADEMY-FEINSTONE YESHIVA OF THE SOUTH
FEEDBACK FROM THINK TANK PARTICIPANTS

“I learned a lot from the other small schools present as well as from the larger schools who maybe did not know the struggle of the smaller community day schools.”

“There were some exceptional speakers! I very much enjoyed the conferences given by Larry Thompson, HaRav Kamenetsky, Dr. Pelcovitz, Miriam Gettinger, Rabbi Moeller, and Becky Udman.

Everything these speakers discussed were practical and applicable to many areas in the school environment. Thank you for organizing such a wonderful event with great networking opportunities.”

“The friendliness of the staff was astounding. The presentation was so real and down to earth. Rabbi Glass makes you feel so important and always wants to help in any way possible. Keep up the great work.”

“Thank you for organizing an inspiring, informative and well thought out conference! I am looking forward to attending the next one!”

“Can I give a 6th star??”

“It was great seeing the common ground across the country.”
Principal Think Tank V
July 16-18, 2018 | 395 Pearsall Ave., Cedarhurst, NY

MONDAY, JULY 16

7:30am
Shacharis available
BETH SHOLOM
390 BROADWAY
LAWRENCE, NY

8:30am
Arrivals - Registration
BETH SHOLOM
390 BROADWAY
LAWRENCE, NY

9:00am-3:30pm
Responsibility-Centered Discipline Certificate Program
Larry Thompson, M.Ed., Supportive Discipline Innovator
Creator of “Responsibility-Centered Discipline”
Create a Culture of Calm in Your School
Learn to guide your faculty to respond to disruptive and spiraling situations and inculcate a sense of behavioral responsibility amongst your student body.
The RCD method will:
• Enhance school climate
• Improve classroom management
• Reduce disruptive behaviors
• Increase core competencies

5:00pm-7:00pm
HaRav Shalom Kamenetsky, Rosh Yeshiva, Talmudical Yeshiva of Philadelphia
KEYNOTE ADDRESS: Dr. David Pelcovitz, Straus Chair in Psychology and Education, Azrieli Graduate School of Jewish Education and Administration
Avoiding and Responding to Crisis and Scandal
Dinner

7:00pm
NETWORKING AND COJDS HELPDESK
MEET WITH COJDS TEAM MEMBERS

Rabbi Hillel Adler
Small Community Schools Special Session
Temima Feldman
Principal Training Institute (PTI) General Studies Principal Council
Dr. Eli Shapiro
Professional Development Speakers Bureau Regional Conferences
Rabbi Tzvi Daum
Judaic Studies Standardized Achievement Test (JSAT)
Tamar Nusbaum
L’havin U’lehaskil
Hadassah Svei
Morah’s Place
Chana Noa Gelbfish and Suri Ganz
Foundations

Special L’havin U’lehaskil Training

MONDAY, JULY 16

10:00am-2:00pm
Special L’havin U’lehaskil Training

TRACK 1: INTRO TO L’HAVIN
Mrs. Rachel Schuh,
L’havin Morah and Trainer

• FORMAT OF WORKBOOKS
• PROGRAM OVERVIEW
• METHODOLOGY AND PHILOSOPHY
• SCOPE AND SEQUENCE
• REVIEW OF BASIC SKILLS AND HOW THEY ARE FOUNDATIONS FOR L’SHON HAKODESH

TRACK 2: ADVANCED L’HAVIN TRAINING AND NETWORKING
Mrs. Tamar Nusbaum,
CoJDS Lamdeini Curriculum Coordinator

• HANDS ON
• PACE: Plan and map out your year.
(Must bring your school calendar)
Plan your lesson - incorporate all elements of L’havin program in your daily lesson
SHARE TECHNIQUES AND STRATEGIES FOR:
– reinforcing and building skills
– developing critical thinking skills
– understanding Rashi
– building and empowering children to learn Chumash independently
We all agree that effective supervision and evaluation is a critical part of a school leader’s responsibility. It is also a very challenging task that requires a lot of time and administrative resources. The session will present a rubric on measuring the quality of supervision and evaluation and help school leaders focus on the strengths and weaknesses of their program. This presentation will help school leaders implement customized programs that align with best practices to achieve the goals of supervision and evaluation more effectively and in a more sustainable way.

**TUESDAY, JULY 17**

**9:00AM-9:45AM**

**Arrivals - Registration**

**Greetings**

Rabbi Heshy Glass, Ed. D

**11:00AM-12:15PM**

**TRACK 2: SMALL COMMUNITY**

**CLASSROOM A**

**Rabbi Avrohom S. Moller,**

Superintendent, Associated Talmud Torahs of Chicago

**Supervision and Evaluation in Our Schools**

We all agree that effective supervision and evaluation is a critical part of a school leader’s responsibility. It is also a very challenging task that requires a lot of time and administrative resources. This session will present a rubric on measuring the quality and the efficiency of a school’s supervision and evaluation and help school leaders focus on the strengths and weaknesses of their program. This presentation will help school leaders implement customized programs that align with best practices to achieve the goals of supervision and evaluation more effectively and in a more sustainable way.

**12:15PM-1:30PM**

**Lunch**

ISAT Informational Session for Principals: Transitioning from BJF to CoJDS

**3:15PM-4:30PM**

**TRACK 3: SMALL COMMUNITY**

**CLASSROOM B**

**Small Community School THINK TANK-Group Session**

**Common Dilemmas-Cooperative Solutions**

The small communities council will use the consultancy protocol developed by SRI (School Reform Initiative) to frame the dilemmas facing the schools in small communities. Participants will present a concrete dilemma after which the group will examine and suggest solutions. Breakout sessions will continue throughout the day and evening in order to complete the agenda for the Wednesday Think Tank session. These sessions will be used to prepare a list of the primary common challenges facing schools in small communities and serve as preparation for the action plans to be developed on Wednesday.

**3:25PM-5:00PM**

**TRACK 5: BUSINESS**

**CLASSROOM A**

**Richard Hagler,**

Executive Director, HALB

**Chairman Welcome**

**Rabbi Glenn Black,**

CEO of NCSY Canada and Torah High

“I’m Not a Fundraiser, I Just Raise Money”

How We See Ourselves, How Donors See Our Organization

How we see ourselves as organizational ambassadors often directly results in a donor’s willingness to invest in our cause. In this session, Rabbi Black will draw on his nearly three decades of experience in building relationships with supporters that ultimately turned a small outreach organization into a national entity that serves as the core fabric of communities across Canada and beyond.

**3:30PM-4:15PM**

**TRACK 3: BUSINESS**

**CLASSROOM B**

**Richard Hagler,**

Business Track Roundtable Discussion

**4:15PM-5:00PM**

**Break**

**3:30PM-4:15PM**

**TRACK 2: SMALL COMMUNITY**

**CLASSROOM B**

**Dr. Jeffrey Lichtman,**

International Director, Yachad

**Inclusion: Effective Strategies for the Round Child in the Square Classroom**

**3:30PM-4:15PM**

**Temima Feldman,**

General Studies Principal, Torah Academy for Girls, PTI

Meet your fellow PTI cohort members, review the course outline, plan for your year long project, and learn how to navigate the online platform.

**4:00PM-4:15PM**

**Temima Feldman,**

General Studies Principal, Torah Academy for Girls, PTI

**PTI Think Tank Session**

**4:15PM-5:00PM**

**Temima Feldman,**

General Studies Principal, Torah Academy for Girls, PTI

**PTI Think Tank Session**

**5:00PM-6:30PM**

**NETWORK: COJDS-Guest Password: cojds123**

**CoJDS WIFI**
# Principal Think Tank V

## July 16-18, 2018 | 395 Pearsall Ave., Cedarhurst, NY

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 18**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00AM</td>
<td><strong>Arrivals - Registration</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>9:15AM-12:30PM</td>
<td><strong>TRACK 1: EARLY CHILDHOOD</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>CLASSROOM A</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Becky Udman,</strong> Pre-School Director, Torah Day School of Dallas</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Impact your School Culture!</strong></td>
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<td>Connecting with each student is the prerequisite to all learning. The tools of</td>
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<td>Love and Logic and Conscious Discipline give a step by step to connection,</td>
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<td>self-regulation, and independence. Connecting with each staff member brings out</td>
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<td>the best in them and leads to a more productive and growth oriented staff.</td>
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<td>12:30PM-2:00PM</td>
<td><strong>Lunch and Panel Discussion</strong></td>
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<td><strong>led by:</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Batya Jacob</strong>, Director of The National Association of Jewish Schools Serving</td>
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<td>Special Children (a division of Yachad), will share her insights on children with</td>
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<td>particular disabilities and needs.</td>
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<td><strong>Randi Goldfarb, LCSW:</strong> A licensed clinical social worker, and preschool teacher,</td>
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<td>will share her expertise on challenging behaviors.</td>
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<td><strong>Chanie Wilschanski, MS. Ed:</strong> Owner of DiscoverED Consulting, will share tips</td>
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<td>on organizing yourself and your school.</td>
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<td><strong>Special informational session on Morah’s Place</strong> with Mrs. Hadassah Svei</td>
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<td>2:00PM-4:00PM</td>
<td><strong>TRACK 1: EARLY CHILDHOOD</strong></td>
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<td><strong>CLASSROOM A</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Elana Fertig,</strong> Early Childhood Director, Yeshiva of South Shore</td>
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<td><strong>Infusing Preschool Directors with Ruach (And Super Powers)</strong></td>
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<td>How to Keep Your School, Your Staff, and Yourself Energized, Excited and Inspired</td>
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<td>Tools and tips to help you juggle your role as Early Childhood Director, while</td>
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<td>taking care of everyone and keeping yourself inspired too. Ideas for organizing,</td>
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<td>delegating, public relations, creating change, and easy, inexpensive ideas to keep</td>
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<td>your school fun!</td>
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<td><strong>TRACK 2: SMALL COMMUNITY</strong></td>
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<td><strong>CLASSROOM B AND CONFERENCE ROOM A</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Small Community Think Tank</strong></td>
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<td><strong>THIS SESSION WILL BE JOINED BY:</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Dvir Kahana,</strong> Director General of the Ministry of Diaspora Affairs of the State</td>
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<td>of Israel</td>
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<td><strong>Rabbi Yechiel Benari,</strong> Pesilah Curriculum</td>
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<td><strong>Richard Hagler,</strong> Executive Director, HALB</td>
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<td><strong>Rachel Schuh,</strong> L’havin Morah and Trainer</td>
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<td>The group will collaborate to brainstorm cooperative solutions for the list of</td>
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<td>common dilemmas formed in the Tuesday session. Armed with the developed solutions,</td>
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<td>the group will then form committees, assign tasks and set schedules and goals for</td>
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<td>the 2018-19 school year.</td>
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<td>9:15AM-12:30PM</td>
<td><strong>Lunch</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Lunch</strong></td>
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51% of survey respondents reported that their expectations were exceeded at the 2018 CoJDS National Conference.

250+ day school educators and administrators participated from 33 states and provinces across the US and Canada.

97% would recommend a CoJDS conference to a colleague.

98% of survey respondents reported that the conference met or exceeded their expectations.
“An educator working with children in small-town America is serving a greater role in fighting for the Jewish people than a general in the IDF.”

DVIR KAHANA
DIRECTOR GENERAL
OF THE MINISTRY OF DIASPORA AFFAIRS

“It was an amazing chizuk being with so many people in similar situations. I thought the idea of breaking into groups to try and brainstorm ideas to address certain issues was amazing.”
“The same concepts and strategies that are used for success in the for-profit world of finance, can and should be utilized by schools to thrive.”

GILLES GADE
PRESIDENT AND CEO
CROSS RIVER BANK

“If you don’t ask, you don’t get”

ALAN J. STEINBERG
PRESIDENT, PARK ROW
EQUITY PARTNERS
“The extinction of day schools in small cities around our nation would be the extinction of opportunity for Jewish learning and growth for the Jewish children, adults, and leadership potential of tomorrow.”

TRACIE GLAZER
HEAD OF SCHOOL
HILLEL COMMUNITY DAY SCHOOL, ROCHESTER, NY

“The atmosphere was so warm and welcoming! This set the stage for learning, sharing, and camaraderie. Workshop presenters were top of the line, experts in subject matter and presentation skills. All in all, we felt valued and celebrated as educators!”
“What is one sentence that defines your school that no one else can say?”

RABBI GLENN BLACK
CEO, NCSY, CANADA

“Necessity often makes one innovative and fosters thinking outside of the box. Perhaps that is the power of small schools. You are forced to collaborate and make decisions that one might not normally make. Creativity grows naturally from this process and wonderful learning opportunities and experiences are often the result.”

DR. MELANIE WAYNIK
HEAD OF SCHOOL
EZRA ACADEMY
WOODRIDGE, CT
GOALS

· to provide professional development and to collaborate with schools on a local level

· to provide schools with limited budgets a chance for all their educators to join a conference

· to create a unified regional platform for local schools to work together and exchange ideas

For more information or to bring a CoJDS regional conference to your community please contact Dr. Eli Shapiro at eshapiro@cojds.org

2018 has been a banner year for the Consortium of Jewish Day Schools Regional Conferences Initiative. Hundreds of teachers and administrators from schools across North America have benefitted from the opportunity to connect, collaborate and contribute at these regional events.

January

The winter conference was hosted by the Orlando Jewish Day School. Participants from over 25 schools from South Florida and the across the United States joined sessions presented by leaders in their respective areas of education. Presenters included Dr. Jeffrey Lichtman, Amy Goldman, Batsheva Frankel, and Rabbi Baruch Noy. A special session for small community school leaders was facilitated by Miriam Gettinger of Hasten Hebrew Academy of Indianapolis, IN. A meeting of the general studies principals was facilitated by Temima Feldman of the Torah Academy for Girls in Far Rockaway, NY, and Director of the CoJDS Principal Training Institute (PTI).
Regional conference participants reported at an astounding rate of **97%** that CoJDS conferences met or exceeded their expectations.

CoJDS is committed to meeting the professional and educational needs of communities across the globe.
March

In an ongoing effort to connect Jewish educators with valuable professional development resources and with each other, CoJDS co-hosted a Jewish Day School meetup at the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS) annual conference in Atlanta, GA. Participants had the opportunity to discuss best practices and learn from each other in a relaxed social environment.

April

This year’s Annual West Coast Conference took place in Las Vegas, NV, and was titled “360 Degrees - Rethinking The Classroom From Every Angle”. Dr. Norman Goldwasser from Miami Beach, FL, led the keynote session with a discussion on using positive psychology to create a safe learning environment. This was followed by sessions from Shelly Kalb, Leah Kitainik, Rabbi Ahron Rosenthal, Brittney Friedman and Dr. Leslie Murdock. A special session for early childhood educators was run by nationally renowned “Love and Logic” speaker Becky Udman.
“THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO JOIN THE CONFERENCE IN LAS VEGAS. IT WAS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO NETWORK AND LEARN FROM PROFESSIONALS IN THE FIELD. I REALLY GAINED FROM THE SESSIONS IN A PRACTICAL WAY AND LOOK FORWARD TO IMPLEMENTING SOME IDEAS IN MY CLASSROOM.”

MIRIAM KALTER
MAAYAN TORAH DAY SCHOOL, PORTLAND, OR
October
The new school year brought renewed energy and collaboration in Rochester, NY. Participants from schools in Rochester and Buffalo, NY, as well as from Pennsylvania, Connecticut and Indiana, learned from Batsheva Frankel, Brittney Friedman, Rabbi Ahron Rosenthal and Lev Stark. The Rochester conference reinforced the important role that CoJDS plays in energizing and improving Jewish education in small but thriving communities.

November
CoJDS partnered with the Orthodox Union’s Yachad program to support Professional Development in Toronto, Canada. Taking place at Eitz Chaim’s Patricia Campus, the “Strategies for Success” conference featured Dr. Ross Greene and CoJDS speakers Rabbi Yehudah Fogel, Ashley Charnoff and Becky Udman. Topics included: Collaborative and Proactive Solutions: Understanding and Helping Students with Social, Emotional, and Behavioral Challenges; How to Develop Your Student’s Executive Functioning Skills; Differentiated Instruction in Action and more.
The presentation on staffing and team building was highly relevant, and the presenter was extremely knowledgeable. My favorite part was the opportunity to meet with General Studies directors from around the country, and even from Canada. Being able to share our experiences and swap ideas was invaluable.

**Miriam Swann, Principal**
Arie Crown Hebrew Academy, Chicago, IL

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I really had a wonderful time at the (Orlando) conference. I learned and grew in a variety of areas and feel that I am and will be a better Principal from the experience. Thanks so much for putting it together and keep up the great work!

**Rabbi Yosef Deutscher, Principal**
Yeshiva Tiferes Moshe, Kew Gardens, NY

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I want to once again thank you on behalf of myself and the members of my staff who joined me yesterday in Las Vegas. We were able to reflect on the conference during our trip back to Phoenix, and it is clear that each of us not only learned clear strategies for use in better chinuch, but were inspired as well.

**Rabbi Yisroel Weiner, Principal**
Phoenix Hebrew Academy

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The CoJDS Upstate New York Regional Conference was an enriching experience for our entire staff! As an administrator of an out-of-town day school, it is very important for me to be able to interact with and communicate with our parent body and the community at large. Lev Stark’s presentation about communication, PR, and events was very all-encompassing, and left me with several relevant ideas to help strengthen the relationship between our school and our community. I would definitely recommend that other schools and regions take advantage of the expertise the Consortium is able to provide. I wish them only continued success in raising the bar of Jewish education.

**Rabbi Dov Chastain, Assistant Principal**
Derech HaTorah, Rochester, NY

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Hillel School was fortunate to host a Consortium of Jewish Day Schools Upstate New York Regional Conference, in Rochester, NY on October 8, 2018. The conference served as deep and embedded professional development for the over 50 educators, administrators and staff who attended. Those who attended found it informative, educational, and inspiring.

As a Head of School, it was encouraging to watch and participate alongside representatives from different schools from small communities. We were blessed to take part in a function that the COJDS team formulated to offer individualized support system education, that was tailored to each of our institution’s distinctive characteristics and learning environments.

... I also offer my thanks to the staff of CoJDS for showing a deep commitment to Jewish children and schools in smaller communities. Your commitment was definitely evident in the way that you planned, prepared, and facilitated such an amazing event for our entire community of Jewish education professionals.

Sincerely,

**Tracie Glazer, Head of School**
Hillel Community Day School, Rochester, NY