

Principal Think Tank x

Differentiated Education: Meeting the Learning Needs of All Students

MONDAY, JULY 24-TUESDAY, JULY 25, 2023

YOUNG ISRAEL OF LAWRENCE CEDARHURST
 CEDARHURST, NY

MONDAY, JULY 24

7:00AM OR 8:00AM

SHACHARIS

8:30AM

ARRIVALS AND REGISTRATION
 BREAKFAST

9:30AM

OPENING REMARKS
Rabbi Heshy Glass, *National Chairman, CoJDS*

9:40AM

DIVREI BRACHA
HaRav Sholom Kamenetsky, *Rosh Yeshiva, Talmudical Yeshiva of Philadelphia, PA*

10:00AM

KEYNOTE ADDRESS: THE SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY OF SPECIAL EDUCATION
Richard Altabe, *Principal, Hebrew Academy of Long Beach, Woodmere, NY*

11:00AM

CONCURRENT SESSIONS I

**WORKSHOP: SPECIAL ED 101 –
 WHAT EVERY SCHOOL LEADER NEEDS TO
 KNOW ABOUT NEURODIVERSE LEARNERS**
Dr. Rebecca Eliason
Dr. Sara Seplowitz

**CASE STUDY: BUILDING LEVEL SUPPORTS:
 PROVIDING RESOURCES ON A BUDGET**
Josh Gold
Temima Feldman

12:15PM

LUNCH

1:30PM

CONCURRENT SESSIONS II

**CONVERSATION: WHERE THE SIDEWALK ENDS:
 ADDRESSING STUDENTS THAT AREN'T
 SUCCEEDING IN A
 MAINSTREAM CLASSROOM**
Rabbi Daniel Alter
Rabbi Dr. Yisrael Rothwachs

**WORKSHOP: NAVIGATING
 DIFFICULT CONVERSATIONS
 WITH PARENTS**
Rabbi Reuven Kamin
Dr. Yitzchak Goldberg

3:00PM

CONCURRENT SESSIONS III

**WORKSHOP: THE INTERPLAY BETWEEN
 LANGUAGE PROCESSING, ATTENTION
 DEFICITS, AND SOCIAL COGNITION**
Rabbi Reuven Kamin

**CASE STUDY: PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:
 TO WHAT END?**
Rabbi Shlomie Denburg
Rivkah Denburg

4:30PM

BUILDING YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH YOUR PARENTS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Jonathan Schick: Rabbi Isaac Entin | Rabbi Yaakov Sadigh

5:45PM

MINCHA

6:00PM

DINNER KEYNOTE
Maury Litwack, *Managing Director of the Orthodox Union & Founder, Teach Coalition*

Principal Think Tank x Differentiated Education: Meeting the Learning Needs of All Students

TUESDAY, JULY 25

7:00AM AND 8:00AM

SHACHARIS

8:30AM

ARRIVALS AND REGISTRATION
 BREAKFAST

9:00AM

OPENING REMARKS
Rabbi Heshy Glass, *National Chairman, CoJDS*

9:15AM

KEYNOTE ADDRESS: WHAT EVERY PRINCIPAL NEEDS TO KNOW ABOUT MEDICATION
Dr. Victor Fornari, *Director of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry, Long Island Jewish Medical Center*

10:30AM

CONCURRENT SESSIONS IV

**FROM GRAPPLING TO GIFTED –
 A SCHOOL LEADER’S GUIDE TO ADDRESSING
 DIFFERENTIATION IN GENERAL STUDIES**
Miriam Gettinger
Ahuvah Heyman

WORKSHOP:
**THE FUNCTION OF
 EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONING**
Ronit Pasternak

11:45AM

CONCURRENT SESSIONS V

**BUILDING COMMUNITY:
 THE ROLE SCHOOL LEADERS PLAY
 IN BUILDING AND SUSTAINING
 SCHOOLWIDE SEL**
Dr. Rebecca Eliason

POSTER SESSIONS:
*Learn about resources successfully advancing Jewish
 education*

11:45AM-12:00PM	Integrative Spot
12:05PM-12:20PM	Lomdei
12:25PM-12:40PM	Jewish Interactive
12:45PM- 1:00PM	Quizalize/L'havin Assessments

1:00PM

LUNCH

2:15PM

CONCURRENT SESSIONS VI

GENERAL STUDIES ROUNDTABLE
*Build a community of colleagues to
 collaborate on the needs of General
 Studies departments*



TECH FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION
*Learn about tools that support diverse learning.
 This session will survey digital platforms and tools that
 specifically support students with learning challenges*

GET YOUR GUIDE

SCHEDULE APPOINTMENTS WITH COJDS PERSONNEL FOR:
 JSAT, L'HAVIN U'LEHASKIL, APPOI, PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND JEDIT.
 EMAIL SBARON@COJDS.ORG

SPECIAL PROGRAMMING

**WILL BE AVAILABLE
 FOR SCHOOL LAY LEADERS**



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Differentiated Education: Meeting the Learning Needs of All Students

EDTECH

TUESDAY, JULY 25

7:00AM AND 8:00AM

SHACHARIS

8:30AM

ARRIVAL AND REGISTRATION

9:00AM

OPENING REMARKS
Rabbi Heshy Glass

9:15AM

INVENTORY TRACKING: WHY IT'S IMPORTANT AND HOW TO DO IT WELL
David Horowitz

This session will cover the basics of tagging and tracking items, creating lending policies, sample inventory systems, and lifecycle management of inventory.

10:30AM

TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT SYSTEMS
Rabbi Baruch Noy

Learn about various methods of providing technical support to staff and students, including: ticketing systems, automated emails, Helpdesk intranet, etc.

11:45AM

STAFF TRAINING:
CREATING INFRASTRUCTURE FOR ONBOARDING AND CONTINUED LEARNING
Tziri Lamm

This session will discuss strategies for onboarding new staff in terms of IT and EdTech in your school, as well as methods of successful continued learning for faculty.

1:00PM

LUNCH

2:15PM

TECH FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION:
LEARN ABOUT TOOLS THAT SUPPORT DIVERSE LEARNING
Rebecca Penina Simon

This session will survey digital platforms and tools that specifically support students with learning challenges and can be used in resource rooms or integrated classrooms. It will include Hebrew-friendly options.

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JULY 24 SESSION DETAILS

WHAT EVERY SCHOOL LEADER NEEDS TO KNOW ABOUT NEURODIVERSE LEARNERS

Dr. Rebecca Eliason | Dr. Sara Sepowitz

Wish you understood all of the Special Ed jargon? Want to learn how to use neuropsych data to maximize student growth and learn how to understand your neediest students, their diagnoses and how to maximize your school's resources to support them? In this interactive workshop, Dr. Sepowitz and Dr. Eliason will discuss how to create an admissions screening process that ensures students are set up for success. The discussion will include the key differences between an IEP and a 504 plan, focus on how to build a strong special education team within your school, as well as how to best harness district services.

BUILDING LEVEL SUPPORTS: PROVIDING RESOURCES ON A BUDGET

Josh Gold | Temima Feldman

Learn how to provide support and resources for varied learning needs that are both effective and fiscally responsible.

WHERE THE SIDEWALK ENDS:

ADDRESSING STUDENTS THAT AREN'T SUCCEEDING IN A MAINSTREAM CLASSROOM

Rabbi Daniel Alter | Rabbi Dr. Yisrael Rothwachs

Join a conversation on how to identify and address when a student needs accommodations that can only be provided in a more specialized and controlled environment.

NAVIGATING DIFFICULT CONVERSATIONS WITH PARENTS

Rabbi Reuven Kamin | Dr. Yitzchak Goldberg

In this session, we will explore the tools and strategies that educators can use to navigate difficult conversations, while also considering the emotional and ethical implications of such discussions. Participants will be encouraged to share their experiences and engage in group discussions to enhance their learning experience.

THE INTERPLAY BETWEEN LANGUAGE PROCESSING, ATTENTION DEFICITS, AND SOCIAL COGNITION

Rabbi Reuven Kamin

In this workshop we will take a deep dive into the neurodevelopmental constructs of language, attention and social cognition. We will explore the overlap between language processing and attention deficits, and its significant impacts on social cognition. Attendees will gain a greater understanding of students' potentially maladaptive behavior and its underlying causes and solutions. We will discuss relatable case studies, examples, interventions and practical takeaways with a holistic approach to create durable solutions for our students.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: TO WHAT END?

Rabbi Shlomie Denburg | Rivkah Denburg

Discover what one school is doing with their professional development funds and how it is making real change to bottom-line student success for all types of learners.

BUILDING YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH YOUR PARENTS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jonathan Schick: Rabbi Isaac Entin | Rabbi Yaakov Sadigh

A collaborative relationship between professionals and lay leaders is a key component of any organization's success. In this session, learn the importance of:

- *Regular communication*
- *Clear goals and expectations*
- *Objective performance evaluation standards*

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JULY 25 SESSION DETAILS

FROM GRAPPLING TO GIFTED – A SCHOOL LEADER'S GUIDE TO ADDRESSING DIFFERENTIATION IN GENERAL STUDIES

Miriam Gettinger
Ahuvah Heyman

Participants will be invited to address the pragmatics of effective grouping as well as ongoing assessment and adjustment of learning activities. Conversations will center around student interest as well as their learning profiles to differentiate content and process. Special focus on the twice exceptional demographic presenting in our classrooms.

THE FUNCTION OF EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONING

Ronit Pasternak

This workshop will highlight the science behind executive functioning delays focusing on diagnostics and implementation. We will discuss how social-emotional awareness ties into executive functioning, sharing various scenarios and offering tools for school leaders to better guide their teachers to help a struggling child.

BUILDING COMMUNITY: THE ROLE SCHOOL LEADERS PLAY IN BUILDING AND SUSTAINING SCHOOLWIDE SEL

Dr. Rebecca Eliason

This presentation will provide administrators with practical tools and strategies to create impactful social-emotional learning programming. Participants will learn about evidence-based approaches and how to overcome common implementation challenges to support struggling students and enhance community.



INVENTORY TRACKING: WHY IT'S IMPORTANT AND HOW TO DO IT WELL

David Horowitz, *IT Director, Yeshiva Har Torah*

This session will cover the basics of tagging and tracking items, creating lending policies, sample inventory systems, and lifecycle management of inventory.

TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT SYSTEMS

Rabbi Baruch Noy, *Director, JEDIT*

Learn about various methods of providing technical support to staff and students, including: ticketing systems, automated emails, Helpdesk intranet, etc.

STAFF TRAINING: CREATING INFRASTRUCTURE FOR ONBOARDING AND CONTINUED LEARNING

Tziri Lamm, *Director of General Studies, Barkai Yeshivah High School; EdTech Director, Barkai Yeshivah*

This session will discuss strategies for onboarding new staff in terms of IT and EdTech in your school, as well as methods of successful continued learning for faculty.

TECH FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION: LEARN ABOUT TOOLS THAT SUPPORT DIVERSE LEARNING

Rebecca Penina Simon, *Director of Educational Technology, Magen David Yeshivah*

This session will survey digital platforms and tools that specifically support students with learning challenges and can be used in resource rooms or integrated classrooms. It will include Hebrew-friendly options.

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PRESENTER BIOS

RICHARD ALTABE



Mr. Richard Altabe, principal of the lower division of the Hebrew Academy of Long Beach (HALB), has 35 years experience as principal in various *yeshivot*. He has been called upon as a consultant for various *yeshivot* and day schools throughout the United States and Mexico City. At HALB, he developed and founded an after school program in partnership with the Lawrence, LI, School District 15 for special education students who attend public school. In addition, he has developed an inclusionary collaborative teaching program that recently was awarded funding through UJA Federation of New York as part of its Day School Incentive Program.

Mr. Altabe currently serves as president of the Jewish Community Council of the Rockaway Peninsula and as the vice president of CAHAL. Mr. Altabe was recently named to the Blue Ribbon Commission of the New York State Education Department that is working to revise current graduation standards for all students in the state of New York.

RABBI DANIEL ALTER



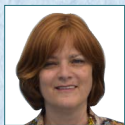
Rabbi Daniel Alter is the head of school at the Moriah School in Englewood, NJ. Previously, he was the head of school of the Denver Academy of Torah (DAT), a modern Orthodox K-12 school, and the *Rosh Kehillah* of the DAT Community.

RABBI SHLOIME DENBURG



Rabbi Shloime Denburg serves as the director of Lubavitch Hebrew Academy in Margate, FL. Over the 12 years that he has been with the school, his laser focus on bringing in every dollar possible has made him a sought after advocate for schools all throughout Florida. He was responsible for bringing multiple government programs to Lubavitch Hebrew Academy.

RIVKAH DENBURG



Mrs. Rivka Denburg has led Lubavitch Hebrew Academy in Margate, FL, since its inception almost four decades ago. Mrs. Denburg continues to advocate for and participate in ongoing professional development. Her passion for excellence in education and differentiation to meet the needs of each individual student are at the core of her practice and her vision for her schools' continued growth.

DR. REBECCA ELIASON



Dr. Rebecca Eliason, Psy.D. MS, is a licensed clinical psychologist with extensive experience in school and clinical settings. Known for her creative approach and leadership, Dr. Eliason has successfully turned around a number of struggling programs, shifting culture, enrollment, student outcomes, and financial sustainability. Dr. Eliason served as head of school and previously as the director of psychological services at Barnstable Academy. Dr. Eliason consults with schools and families to create innovative counseling, academic, and executive functioning programming to support school development and optimal student growth.

RABBI ISAAC ENTIN



Rabbi Isaac Entin is the *menahel* of the Caskey Torah Academy of Greater Philadelphia, PA. Rabbi Entin served as the founding principal of Torah Day School of Virginia and as principal of Phoenix Hebrew Academy for nine years.

As an administrator, Rabbi Entin pioneered innovative programs on a variety of topics from *derech erez* to inquiry-based science, producing students who are both well-rounded and high academic achievers. He has also lobbied for special needs services on both the local and state level as part of his commitment to see every Jewish child succeed in a day school.

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PRESENTER BIOS

TEMIMA FELDMAN



Mrs. Temima Feldman has over 25 years of experience in school leadership and administration. She currently serves as associate principal at Hebrew Academy of the Five Towns and Rockaway (HAFTR) in Lawrence, NY, with an enrollment that exceeds 1,200 students. Mrs. Feldman has held numerous school leadership and consultancy positions in a diverse range of *yeshivot* and day schools across the United States. Her areas of expertise include: differentiated instruction, curriculum development, classroom management, literacy development, behavior modification, instructional supervision, Myers Briggs and school home engagement. Additionally, Mrs. Feldman is the associate director of The Digital Citizenship Project, which teaches digital responsibility in the age of technology.

DR. VICTOR FORNARI



Dr. Victor M. Fornari, M.D., M.S. is the Vice Chair, Child & Adolescent Psychiatry and the director of the Division of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry at Long Island Jewish Medical Center, including the Zucker Hillside Hospital & the Cohen Children's Medical Center. He is also Professor of Psychiatry & Pediatrics at the Donald & Barbara Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell.

In 2010, Dr. Fornari participated in the development of CAP PC, Child & Adolescent Psychiatry for Primary Care, (Project TEACH) funded by the New York State Office of Mental Health to facilitate and collaborate with primary care providers in the care of youth with mild to moderate mental health concerns. In 2017, Project TEACH was the recipient of the American Psychiatric Association's Psychiatric Services Achievement Bronze Award for Innovation.

Dr. Fornari was the president of American Association of Directors of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry from 2018-2020.

MIRIAM GETTINGER



Mrs. Miriam Gettinger has been a principal for the past 30 years, currently at the Hasten Hebrew Academy of Indianapolis and previously at the South Bend Hebrew Day School as well as at the helm of Bais Yaakov High School of Indiana. A graduate of Beth Jacob Teachers Institute of Jerusalem as well as Touro College, she has taught *limudei kodesh* to all ages from elementary to adult for over 40 years. In addition, she has written for the *Mercaz* Teacher Training Journal "Classnotes" and *Torah Umesorah's* "Hamechanech" magazine and edited their reprinting of "How to Teach and Enjoy the Primary Grades" by Mr. Avi Shulman. She is the daughter of Rabbi Berel Wein and a noted educational consultant and national speaker.

JOSH GOLD



A sought-after speaker and professional development facilitator, Joshua Gold currently serves as the principal of Hebrew Academy of the Five Towns and Rockaway (HAFTR) in Lawrence, NY. Prior to moving into the Jewish day school world, Mr. Gold worked in the New York City Department of Education as a teacher, department chair, new teacher mentor, and assistant principal. Mr. Gold has developed specialization in the areas of the psychology of leading adult development, developing social emotional learning curricula, and instructional leadership at large.

DR. YIZCHAK GOLDBERG



Dr. Yitzchak Goldberg is currently the principal of General Studies at Yeshivat Darche Eres Boys High School where he is known for creating a genuinely positive school environment with a balanced approach of accountability and warmth. Dr. Goldberg is also the clinical director of the Diamond Summer Program, an intensive behavior modification program for children diagnosed with ADHD and/or oppositional defiant disorder. Dr. Goldberg has extensive educational leadership and experience in psychology, curriculum development, teacher development, special education, and social emotional development. Dr. Goldberg provides psychological and educational consultation to schools around the country and provides parents with research-based approaches in order to help educate their children.

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PRESENTER BIOS

AHUVAH HEYMAN



Ahuvah Heyman has spent the last 24 years helping to grow Bnos Yisroel of Baltimore from 90 pre-school students to 540 students in preschool, elementary, middle school and high school divisions as “one school” in one building. With a masters in Educational Leadership and a passion for maximizing the potential of each staff member, Mrs. Heyman sees challenges as opportunities and empowers her staff to consistently do things better.

DAVID HOROWITZ



David Horowitz has been working in educational technology for more than 20 years in both the public school system as well as Jewish day schools. He is now going into his 10th year as the Director of Technology at Yeshiva Har Torah.

REUVEN KAMIN



Rabbi Reuven Kamin currently serves as the director of Student Achievement and Services at Rabbi Shaul J. Kassin Yeshivat Darche Eres Boys High School. Rabbi Kamin presents at international conferences, and conducts principal, teacher, and parent training along with consultations for schools and therapy practices across the United States and Canada. Rabbi Kamin’s private practice focuses on working with principals, teachers and parents on behavioral and academic/curriculum management issues. Rabbi Kamin has been the director of Yachad’s Camp Chaverim, a camp for individuals with special needs and developmental disabilities, for close to 30 years.

TZIRI LAMM



Tziri Lamm is a veteran educator with over 15 years of teaching experience. She is the director of General Studies at Barkai Yeshivah High School. She also oversees the educational technology for grades 3-9 in Barkai. Tziri is passionate about empowering teachers to upgrade their teaching and learning experiences with well-integrated technology tools. Recently, she was awarded the Robert M. Sherman Young Pioneers Award from the Jewish Education Project. This is her second time presenting at the JEDIT Conference.

MAURY LITWACK



As Orthodox Union Managing Director, Maury is responsible for overseeing all institutional advancement, marketing and communications, and political advocacy functions of the OU. These responsibilities include overseeing an international fundraising campaign of \$40 million dollars annually, a marketing and communications operation for over 20 departments, and a national advocacy operation that advocates for over \$350 million dollars in annual aid to community institutions.

Prior to joining the Orthodox Union, Litwack served on the intergovernmental affairs staff for Miami-Dade County, the sixth largest county in the nation. He also served as a legislative advisor in the United States Congress, specializing in foreign affairs and education policy. As a volunteer, Maury has chaired the Development Committees of two schools and one synagogue with collective budgets of \$22 million dollars and in 2020 was named Alumnus of the Year for the Hebrew Academy of Cleveland.

RABBI BARUCH NOY



Rabbi Baruch Noy is the director of JEDIT. In this role, he guides and consults Jewish day schools and Yeshivos around the world in the area of educational technology. He is currently a high school principal, has taught Judaics and general studies for 11 years in the classroom, and served for many years as IT and EdTech director at HAFTR, a school of more than 1400 students. Rabbi Noy is a Certified Educational Technology Leader, a Google Certified Trainer, and currently pursuing his Doctorate in Education.

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PRESENTER BIOS

RONIT PASTERNAK, MS OTR/L



Ronit Pasternak is a pediatric occupational therapist who works in several schools in the Far Rockaway and Five Towns area and as an evaluator for the Lawrence public schools. She also provides programmatic occupational therapy to students prior to entering first grade. Ronit has given various workshops across the tri-state area and beyond. Her blend of educational and therapeutic expertise make her a unique lecturer who combines classroom knowledge with techniques to help students with various weaknesses.

RABBI DR. YISRAEL ROTHWACHS



Rabbi Dr. Yisrael Rothwachs is the dean of SINAI Schools which operates eight schools for children with a wide range of learning and developmental disabilities as well as other special needs. He oversees all of SINAI's schools and programs, develops and maintains SINAI's mission, and directs the vision of the institution.

RABBI YAAKOV SADIGH



Working in the field of Jewish education for the past 26 years in numerous capacities including teaching and administration, Rabbi Yaakov Sadigh serves as the head of school at Katz Hillel Day School in Boca Raton, FL. Rabbi Sadigh is invited to lecture and present workshops on a broad range of educational topics including intentional leadership, building a collaborative school culture, and improving student behavior. Intrigued by Disney's proven business model, Rabbi Sadigh studied with facilitators from the Disney Institute in both Anaheim and Orlando. He has successfully incorporated Disney's best practices into an action plan, helping educators create a magical experience for faculty, students, and parents.

JONATHAN (YONI) SCHICK

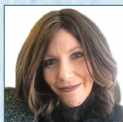


Jonathan is the president of GOAL Consulting Group and is a nationally known speaker who has served as founding head of two successful schools and consulted for hundreds of schools and nonprofits. Jonathan's clients include Jewish and independent day schools throughout the country, as well as the American Red Cross, Beth Medrash Govoha, the United Way, St. Marks School and the University of North Texas. He is the author of *The Nonprofit Secret: Six Principles of Successful Board/CEO Partnerships*.

DR. SARA SEPLOWITZ

Dr. Sara Sepowitz is a psychologist in private practice providing evaluations, educational consulting and behavioral support to students with unique learning needs. She presents workshops to novice and veteran audiences alike, infusing passion with evidence based content and a commitment to an interactive learning experience. Dr. Sepowitz is the principal at IVDU of the Five Towns where she established a robust academic option for special education in the community. Her past clinical work includes creating and coordinating a mentoring program for middle school students, creating social skills curricula, conducting evaluations for individuals with developmental disabilities, and supporting families with autism through behavioral and educational consultation.

REBECCA PENINA SIMON



Rebecca Penina Simon is a director of Educational Technology at Magen David Yeshivah High School and an EdTech consultant for IVDU Schools. With over 20 years of education experience, including ten years as an EdTech director, she brings extensive knowledge and expertise to her role. Additionally, as a mother of a child with ASD, she is trained in the Son Rise Program for Autism and the Orton Gillingham Multisensory approach to literacy.