



Dear Religious School Parents,

In our large, diverse community, we know you have many options for religious education. We suspect many of you chose Beth David because of our warm, welcoming, and downright *heimish* (a.k.a. warm) community. That is why we are so excited to be distributing this letter to you!

In 2022, to ensure the financial health and vibrancy of the Synagogue for generations to come, the Board of Trustees launched the “Campaign for Beth David.” Among that campaign’s goals was to strengthen our roots by creating amenities for increased outdoor activities. We are pleased to report that, through our work with talented landscape professionals and consultation with some of your own children, we are far along in planning for a reimagined outdoor space that could be used for all generations – be it preschoolers, religious-age children, or parent-age or senior adults. We hope this outdoor space will both contribute to, and enhance, the special culture that is Beth David. We also hope it will be a tangible symbol to prospective religious school parents and congregants about our values and culture – a true *community* of seekers, learners and doers – that distinguishes us from other congregations and helps set the foundation of our congregation for generations to come.

But we need your help!

Parent Social and Brunch and Learn

First and foremost, we want to ensure that you have an opportunity to see what’s in store. What better way to illustrate our next step in strengthening our community than a community social? So, on **Sunday, April 14, at 9:45 am, we will be hosting a Religious School Parents Social and “Brunch and Learn” where you will get a first-hand look at what we hope to implement beginning this summer – presented by our design/build team from Apiary Studio. PLEASE JOIN US!**

Fundraising

We are off to a great start from a monetary perspective. Through a small group of seed donors, we have already raised \$53,000 toward this project. In addition, the Board of Trustees has allocated an initial \$25,000 from the Campaign for Beth David toward this project and has agreed to release matching funds from the Campaign for the next \$25,000 we raise. That would leave us about half-way to our goal.

We thought it appropriate to start the next step of fundraising efforts with religious school families, as we truly believe this outdoor space will be a gift to future generations, starting with our current religious school students. This outdoor space, we believe, will bring to life the phrase L'Dor V'dor!

Our immediate goal is to raise an additional \$25,000 to release the matching funds allocated by the Board. If we could raise that, plus an additional \$5,000, prior to Rabbi Kalisch's 10-year anniversary celebration, we will obtain a full-page ad in the virtual tribute and raffle out to any donors the four tickets that come with that. Additional opportunities to donate (including the mechanics for doing so), as well as sponsorships of specific sections of the outdoor space, will be discussed at the Parent's Social. All donations, no matter the size, will help us meet our goal, and will be recognized in a permanent display in the new outdoor section.

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As a nonprofit, a letter like this, by necessity, has a fundraising component. But we hope it also conveys our genuine excitement in this development for our congregation. We look forward to seeing many of you on April 14. If you have any questions beforehand, please feel free to contact Eric at the email or phone number below, and he will loop the rest of us in. Also, while not a requirement, if you could please let Eric know if you will be able to attend the Social, that will help in determining food requirements.

Sincerely,

Jane Horwitz

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