Director of Jewish Life and Hebrew

Amos and Celia Heilicher Minneapolis Jewish Day School

Mission

HMJDS, accredited by the Independent Schools Association of the Central States (ISACS), provides a positive environment focused on delivering a strong academic foundation in Jewish and General Studies. The school reflects and teaches respect for the diversity of Jewish life, challenging our students to exemplify the values of Judaism and demonstrate academic excellence. HMJDS is currently engaging its stakeholders in a process of strategic planning and reflection.

Our vision is built on a strong synergy between students and faculty. Our educators inspire our students to find their passion and reach their highest potential, creating successful learners and leaders committed to the Jewish community, Israel, and the global community.

About Us

HMJDS is located in St. Louis Park, Minnesota, in the western suburbs of Minneapolis. The school has its own wing on a larger campus shared with the Sabes Jewish Community Center.

Job Description

We are seeking a full time Director of Jewish Life and Hebrew who will report directly to the Head of School, and work with the administrative team, in partnership with the Academic Principal. The position will be responsible for the Hebrew and Judaic curriculum at the school. This includes responsibility and opportunity to implement cross-curricular content and help integrate Jewish teachings and practice into the day-to-day life of the school. We are looking for someone who can cultivate a truly shared and inclusive Jewish environment, while maintaining high standards of excellence from students, teachers, staff members, and being responsive to our families needs and home practices.

Responsibilities:

- Supports, supervises, and evaluates staff responsible for teaching Limudei Kodesh, T’filah, and Hebrew;

- Provides a Jewish lens in matters of curriculum, larger developmental academic projects, class trips, school wide events, and day-to-day school life while being a resource to all teachers as they create and plan lessons;

- Represents the school in the larger community, including assisting with admissions and recruiting;
- Collaborates and consults with congregational rabbis—to establish and maintain Judaic practice standards for the school, to support their congregants, and to create and encourage opportunities to bring their spiritual and academic strengths to the school, and;
- Can work as a liaison to parents and the the community as a representative of the school’s Judaic Studies and Hebrew curriculum.

**Required Qualifications:**
- Deep knowledge of Judaic rituals and practices;
- Background in curriculum development and pedagogy;
- Experience in a K-8 day school or supplemental religious school setting;
- Strong and inspiring speaker that can bring *ruah* and to students and families;
- Openness to understanding different liturgies and practices across denominations, with sensitivity to the pluralism that exists in Judaism;
- Comfort level in connecting with families about their Jewish experiences;
- Models Jewish values and practices in the school and larger community, and;
- An advocate for Israel, with an ability to incorporate Israel's culture and history throughout the curriculum.

**Desired abilities:**
- Deep knowledge of *Tanakh*, Rabbinic texts, Jewish history, and liturgy;
- Strong Hebrew speaking skills;
- Comfortable reading Torah and leading *T'filah* in different types of minyanim, and;
- Familiarity or experience with the Standards and Benchmark Project of JTS, Understanding By Design concepts and practices, and the Tal Am curriculum.

**How To Apply**
- Please send cover letter and resume to Diane Greenberger, HMJDS Executive Assistant, at dgreenberger@hmjds.org