



# HIGHLIGHTS

JUNE 2019  
SIVAN 5779



## MENAHEL'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

Moving in to our new yeshiva property has set the tone for all these highlights, wonderful accomplishments, and fun filled activities of our students. One student told me, "Now I feel like I have a place that is mine." Another said, "I learn better because it is so nice." Chazal teach us in Maseches Berachos (daf 6b) that it is a special Mitzva to have a Makom Kavua, a set seat in Shul. In order to properly prepare for a true connection with Hashem, we must feel secure and not "on the move."

Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs, a motivational theory in psychology used frequently in education, puts Safety and Security as the second most important human need. By supporting the new campus, our community has created a beautiful Makom Kavua, one that feels safe and secure, to allow these young men a place to learn, daven and grow close to Hashem. Recent nationwide events have deemed it necessary to ramp up our security and we are working on improving our safety measures both inside and outside of the building.

We pray that our new building and campus will be a Kiddush Hashem and a pathway to even greater learning,

**RABBI GAVRIEL GOETZ**

Head of School

## RAISING THE BAR

We welcome our new Curriculum Consultant Mr. Art Lebowitz. Mr. Lebowitz is a well-recognized school leader in Phoenix. He is a former Principal, Assistant Superintendent, and Interim Superintendent in the Phoenix Union High School District (PUHSD). His expertise made a big impact on our General Studies curriculum. We look forward to his involvement in the coming year as well.



# TORAH STUDIES

## GEMARA IYUN/BEKIUS

All grades learned Maseches Bava Kamma in depth. In Bekius, classes were tested on either the entire Maseches Megilla, Maseches Sukkah, or Maseches Makos.

## HALACHA

In Halacha class, each grade studied the laws of Shabbos as part of the Hilchos Shabbos Curriculum. The 10th graders learned the laws of Muktzah with Rabbi Daniel Gewirtz. 11th and 12th graders covered the laws of Kiddush and Havdalla with Rabbi Shragi Yankelewitz, and the 9th graders did an overview of the 39

Melachos with Rabbi Yonah Wohlgernter. Rabbi Yossie Semel's 9th grade studied the Laws of Krias Shema, Tefilah and Talmud Torah.

## TEFILLA

Immediately after Shacharis each morning, students learned Biur Tefilla with Rabbi Gavriel Goetz and gained a better understanding of davening.

## MUSSAR

In Rabbi Ariel Shoshan's weekly Mussar chaburah, 10th and 11th studied Nesivos Shalom by the late Slonimer Rebbe zt"l. Rabbi Shragi Yankelewitz's 10th graders studied the topic of Emunah.

## NAVI

Rabbi Leibel Blotner's 10th graders learned Sefer Shmuel. Rabbi Yakov Bronsteyn's 12th graders completed Sefer Melachim. Rabbi Semel's 9th graders completed Sefer Yehoshua and part of Shoftim.

## HEBREW LANGUAGE

In Rabbi Gavriel Goetz's Hebrew Language class, the students focused on learning Hebrew grammar and wrote Divrei Torah for Pesach in Hebrew.

## MISHMOR

Each Thursday night bachurim stay to enjoy a parsha class with Rabbi Yankelewitz followed by Rabbi Wohlgernter's signature cholent.

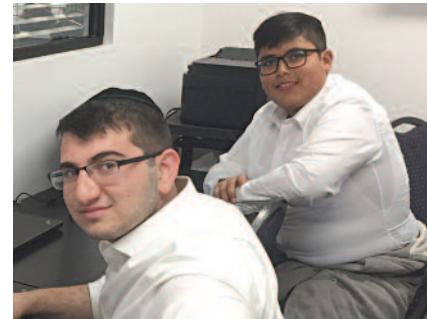


▲ SKI TRIP FOR EXEMPLARY SHACHARIS ATTENDANCE

# GENERAL STUDIES

## BIOLOGY

Mr. Skylar Schutsky's 9th grade completed a unit on heredity and focused on how DNA is able to pass along genetic information via meiosis.



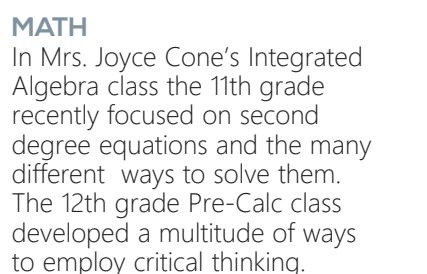
## CHEMISTRY

10th and 11th grades learned about stoichiometry, how to balance equations, and how to predict how much product would form based on chemical equations.



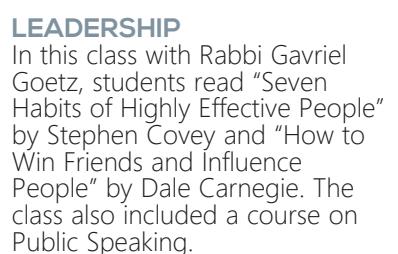
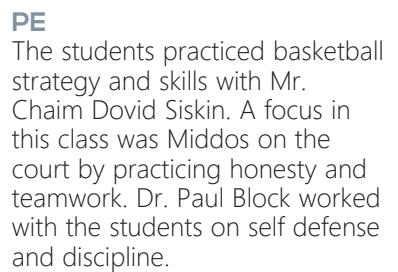
## HISTORY

Ms. Jami Watters's 9th grade covered the Middle Ages, the Renaissance and the Scientific Revolution. The 10th grade explored Westward Expansion, the Texas Revolution and the Mexican American War.



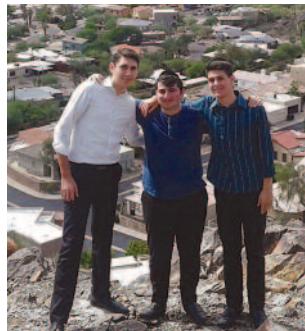
## ENGLISH LITERATURE

A highlight in Mr. Scott Weeks' English Literature class was a comprehensive American literature period timeline project. Students researched a specific time period and presented a PowerPoint to the class. 11th and 12th grades studied works of Shakespeare.



# SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

YHSA students enjoy a wide variety of special activities. Some activities are offered in recognition of various achievements, others are team building opportunities, and other activities are a bonding experience between students and teachers. It is always a pleasure to see the smiling faces of students as they enjoy time outside of the classroom. The following photos are from Venture Scout Overnight Program, Jackpot Ranch retreat, skiing, escape room, hiking, boating and Chanukah mesiba/party.



## LEADERSHIP FORUM

The Leadership Forum is an opportunity for students to interact with and be inspired by community leaders, guest speakers, and activists in both Torah and communal causes. Guest lecturers included:

**Rabbi Asher Eisenberger**, Rav in Detroit  
**Rabbi Aharon Feldman**, Rosh Yeshiva of Ner Yisroel  
**Rabbi Chaim Eluzur Friedman**, Tenka Rav in Boro Park  
**Mr. Marty Haberer**, President and CEO of the Jewish Federation of Phoenix  
**Rabbi Doniel Levy**, Torah Anytime Lecturer  
**Rabbi Mordechai Nissel**, Author and Lecturer  
**Mr. Ira Perlmutter**, CEO of Mall of America  
**Dr. Glen Sanders**, Distinguished Fellow, Honeywell  
**Rabbi Berel Wein**, Author and Lecturer  
**Rabbi Gavriel Zinner**, Author of "Nitei Gavriel"

▼ RABBI BEREL WEIN LED A Q & A SESSION WITH THE STUDENTS



## ALUMNI UPDATE



◀ MOSHE FABBI, ALUMNUS OF 2014, CELEBRATED HIS WEDDING TO CHAYA GOLDSHMIDT. AT THE WEDDING MOSHE MADE A SIYUM ON MASECHES MEGILLA, A MASECHTA HE FIRST COMPLETED AT YHSA!

ALUMNUS AZRIEL SCHLANGER RETURNED FROM ISRAEL FOR PESACH BREAK AND SPENT A WEEK AT YESHIVA MENTORING AND LEARNING WITH STUDENTS



▲ ALUMNI PUTTING UP A MEZUZA IN THE NEW BUILDING



## INAUGURATING YHSA'S NEW CAMPUS

The transition to the new Yeshiva High School building in December of this year attests to the dynamic effect a good environment has on learning. The beautiful roomy Beis Medrash echos with the sounds of Torah learning as the bochurim prepare for shiur or review at night seder. Brightly lit white and grey classrooms overlooking landscaped grounds enable students to focus calmly and productively on their tasks. The new state-of-the-art computer lab is a haven for computer programming and research. Positive outlets such as ping pong, pool table, piano, soccer field, a full-sized basketball court with professional grade hoops and lighting, and spacious campus have allowed the students to enjoy the learning environment.

In honor of the Chanukas Habayis and Grand Opening, many distinguished visitors came to Phoenix for a community Shabbos of Inspiration including Harav Aharon Feldman, shlita, Rosh Yeshivah of Yeshivas Ner Yisroel in Baltimore; Harav Chaim Eluzur Friedman, shlita, Tenka Rav. Four students spoke at the Chanukas Habayis and shared their personal perspective on the new building.

**“We have a merit/zechus to learn in a big and spacious Beis Medrash!”**

- JOSH KIKIROV,  
SOPHOMORE

**“Being able to walk into the beis medrash and simply enjoy learning is an amazing feeling.”**

- RORY MEYERSON,  
SENIOR

**“The new building is a good environment that gives us the opportunity to be who we really are.”**

- AKIVA SCHNITZER,  
FRESHMAN



SAVE THE DATE!



## BIKEATHON

SUNDAY,  
**FEBRUARY 16, 2020**

Four students this year challenged themselves to ride in the 70 mile expert ride from Yeshiva to Mountain View Park. Please join us in 2020!

## IN THE COMMUNITY



▲ FEDERATION PHONE-A-THON



▲ LEARNING & BASKETBALL WITH PHA 8TH GRADERS