



Syracuse Hebrew Day School

STUDENT HANDBOOK 2009-10

Assemblies are held every Friday in the auditorium. We sing, present and see informative and entertaining programs. It is a time to enjoy yourself and practice your best behavior. A Color Guard of 5th and 6th Graders introduces the Students of the Week and leads the Pledge of Allegiance and *Hatikva* at assembly.

Bus safety is important. The rules for proper behavior on the bus are:

1. Be on time at your bus stop.
2. Wait quietly and carefully
3. Stay seated on the bus.
4. Do as the driver tells you.
5. Be polite and well-behaved.
6. When crossing the road to and from the bus, walk 10 steps ahead of the bus, wait until the driver tells you to cross, walk (don't run) across the road quickly while checking for cars.



Clubs offer learning and fun during recess or lunch. We have different clubs for different grades such as our Choruses, Media Production Unit, Mitzvah Detective Agency, Science Club, Art Club, our newspaper *iTon* and Chess Club. Students in grades 3 - 6 may also take instrumental music lessons through the Band Bus.



Dress and appearance are very important in showing your attitude toward school. You should look neat and well-groomed every day. On Fridays, we dress up to welcome Shabbat. Boys wear collared shirts and good slacks. 6th Grade boys should wear dress shirts and ties. Girls should wear nice dresses or slacks and tops.

When the weather is warm, finger-tip length shorts may be worn if the forecast is for 75 degrees. High heels, backless shoes and open toed sandals are not allowed for safety reasons. We recommend that girls wear shorts under skirts for recess. On P.E. days, all students must wear sneakers and they are required for playing in the gym at recess as well. Hats, tank tops and shirts with impolite sayings are not allowed in school.

Excellence in schoolwork and school citizenship is rewarded in many ways. Report cards are issued four times a year and an Awards Assembly is held in June. We are always proud of our students' accomplishments!



Fire drills are held ten times a year. The following rules **MUST** be followed:

1. NO TALKING AT ALL!
2. WALK!
3. DO EXACTLY AS YOUR TEACHER SAYS!

Gym is where Physical Education classes are held twice a week. You must wear your Day School t-shirt and sneakers to school on PE days.

Homework is very important. You should:

1. Use your assignment book and homework folder.
2. Write down your assignments.
3. Do homework by yourself.
4. Work in a quiet, comfortable, well-lit place.
5. Tell your teacher if you have trouble with your assignment.

In-school selling or trading of items such as baseball cards, candy or other things is NOT permitted.



JCC facilities are for use by our school, but we must respect their property and care for it well. This applies especially to the bathrooms. Our school belongs to all of us. If we work together, we can make it a good place where people are happy to come and learn.

Kippot must be worn by boys in the school. If you forget yours, you may buy one for \$1.00 in the office.

Lunch - In order to make lunch a pleasant experience for all, we have some lunchroom rules:



1. Remain seated when eating.
2. Keep your area clean.
3. Use appropriate verbal/nonverbal language.
4. Sing *Birkat haMazon* respectfully.

Music classes are lots of fun. We make a lot of music at SHDS: Chai Chorus is open to students in Grades 1 - 6 and Chai Lights Chorus consists of 18 select singers who perform regularly. Members of Chai Chorus and Chai Lights Chorus need to have a bright blue Chorus shirt; Chai Lights Chorus members also need black skirts/skort/pants, tights/socks and shoes. Chai Lites Chorus sings at Menorah Park each month; it is open to experienced 5th and 6th grade Chai Lights Chorus members.



Neatness counts! Please work hard to keep your desk clean, your hands off the walls and put all trash in the proper receptacle (including the recycling bins).

Office staff are friendly people, but they are also very busy. Students must use their best manners when in the office. The office telephone is only for use in emergencies.

Passes are to be used whenever you leave a classroom. If you come to school late, you must come to the office first for a pass. You also need a pass from your teacher to come to the office.



Quiet in the halls, the library and the lunchroom is a way to show respect for the rights of others to study, learn and eat in a pleasant manner. Please use "whisper voices" in school.

Respect for others is one of the most important qualities a student can demonstrate. Each of our students is unique and special. We come from different religious, financial, ethnic and racial backgrounds. We have different abilities, beliefs, opinions and goals. We must recognize and respect these differences and treat everyone with **COURTESY** and **RESPECT**. You also need to call adults by their title (Dr., Ms., Mrs., Mr.) and last name.



Student Council is the official voice of the Student Body. Two representatives from grades 2 - 6 and a president, vice president, treasurer and secretary plan special activities. On Student Council, you learn to take responsibility and acquire leadership skills.

Tzedakah is a foundation of Judaism. You are encouraged to contribute to tzedakah in your class each week and to participate in schoolwide tzedakah projects.

Uncovered books must be **COVERED** to protect them from wear and tear by the end of the first full week of school.



Vitamins and minerals are essential to good nutrition and good performance in school. Please bring a healthful snack to school each day, eat a good breakfast each morning and avoid excess sweets as a general rule. Remember: no meat or shellfish may be brought to school.

Worship, in the form of daily prayers, is one of the things that makes the Day School special and Jewish. You should always pray with meaning, intention and respect.

eXAMS are nobody's favorite part of school, but when you have a test, you should prepare for it by setting up a study schedule several days in advance and getting a good night's sleep the night before.



You may NOT bring the following items to school: gameboys, iPods, headphones, other electronics, toys, cards. These are great items, but they need to stay safely in your home.

Z is the last letter of the alphabet - but for the last word in school supplies, check our School Store, which is open before school begins in the fall. It has everything you need to be a good student and have a great school year.



Constitution

of the Syracuse Hebrew Day School Student Council

Article I: Name:

This body shall be known as the Syracuse Hebrew Day School Student Council.

Article II: Purpose:

The purpose of this body shall be to represent the views of the student body, to provide service and activities for the school and community and to provide leadership training and experience for the students. The Student Council has the right to express student opinion and to function as the governing body of the students.

Article III: Veto:

The Syracuse Hebrew Day School Principal is hereby given the power to veto any Student Council decision that s/he feels is not in the interest of the school and community.

Article IV: Membership:

The Student Council shall consist of:

President

Vice President

Secretary

Treasurer

2 Representatives from each classroom, grades 2-6

Monthly non-voting Observers from grade 1

Article V: Elections:

Student Council officers and members shall be elected in November of each school year and remain in office until the next election, with the exception of graduating 6th grade students whose terms end at graduation. Student Council officers are elected by a majority of votes cast by students in Grades 2-6. Class Representatives are elected by vote of their classmates.

Article VI: Eligibility:

Candidates for Student Council officers must submit a signed permission form from their General and Judaic Studies teachers indicating that they have a B average and are in good academic standing.

All candidates for office must have been enrolled at the Syracuse Hebrew Day School for at least one year prior to their candidacy. No student may serve as class representative for two years in a row.

The Student Council President must be a member of the 6th grade.
The Vice President must be a member of the 5th or 6th grade.
Secretary and Treasurer must be members of the 4th, 5th or 6th grades.

Article VII: Meetings

The Student Council will meet a minimum of once a month and may call additional meetings as deemed necessary by the majority of the Council.

Article VIII: Duties of Members

The duties of Student Council members are outlined in Appendix A.

Article IX: Ratification

This constitution has been ratified by a 2/3 vote of grades 4, 5 and 6.

Article X: Amendments

Amendments to this document require a 2/3 vote of grades 4, 5 and 6.

Article XI: Removal from Office

Any member of the Student Council may be removed from office for failure to maintain a B average. By 2/3 vote of the Student Council, members may be removed from office for failing to perform the duties of their office.

By-Laws

Article I: The number of voting members needed to constitute a quorum is one over half.

Article II: Standing and special committees of the council will be established by a majority vote of the council.

Article III: The rules for conducting Student Council elections are outlined in Article V of the Constitution.

Article IV: Ballots will be tallied by a minimum of two non-candidates and one adult. In the case of a tie, a run off election will be held within two weeks.

Article V: Any vacated school-wide office with the exception of President may be filled by appointment. Approval of appointments requires a majority vote of the Student Council. If the office of President becomes vacant, the Vice President shall assume the office of President. In the case of class representatives, a special class election will be held.

Article VI: Amendments to this document require a 2/3 vote of the Student Council.

Article VII: The Student Council shall conduct its business according to Roberts Rules of Order.

APPENDIX A: DUTIES OF STUDENT COUNCIL OFFICERS:

President:

- Prepares agendas for meetings
- Presides over Student Council meetings
- Gives tasks to committees and individuals
- Represents Student Council in the community
- Makes sure works gets done on time

Vice President:

- Acts on behalf of the President when the President is not available
- Keeps a record of the work of each committee
- Works with class representatives
- Attends committee meetings when ever possible
- Keeps the President informed about the progress of each committee

Secretary

- Keeps a record of who is at meetings and what happens
- Makes a calendar of meetings and events
- Send reminders to members about the meetings
- Distributes minutes of meetings to principal and teachers

Treasurer

- Keeps a record of all income and expenses
- Is responsible for developing the budget
- Gives clear and simple reports at each meeting

Class Representatives

- Attend and participate in all Student Council meetings
- Ask for the ideas and opinions of others in their room
- Report to the class about what is discussed at meetings
- Works to get others involved in Student Council activities