

The Hebrew Academy of Long Beach

Student and Parent Handbook 2011-2012 / 5772



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL OFFICE

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Long Beach, N.Y. 11561
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Info-Line: 516-733-0040
Web-site: www.halb.org



EXECUTIVE OFFICE

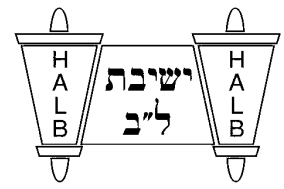
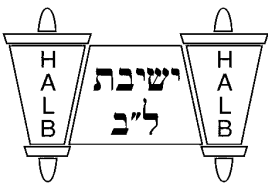
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LEV CHANA EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

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Lev Chana Early Childhood Center

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INFO LINE: 516-733-0040

www.halb.org

USING THIS HANDBOOK

Each year we take the opportunity to re-establish ongoing communications with each of you. This *Parent-Student Handbook* is a formal way of informing the school community about HALB and its daily operations as it affects you, the parents, and students. We review and revise the handbook annually. We hope that the information included in this booklet will answer any questions you may have regarding basic understandings, community rules and expectations, and ongoing routines. Please keep this handbook handy and refer to it regularly.

As we strive to develop the “life lessons” to help our children continue our values, and as we all teach by example, let us work together to meet the community guidelines and expectations set out in this Handbook.

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EMAIL SYSTEM:

**Please remember to visit our website,
and sign up for your child(ren)’s specific grade emails
and/or update your email address.**

Summer 2011

קיץ לקראת שנת תשע"ב

Dear Parents,

The Hebrew Academy of Long Beach, Yeshivat Lev, strives to inculcate in its students a total commitment to religious Judaism as embodied by the Torah and understood through oral tradition. We seek to inspire a love for the Jewish people, Eretz Yisrael and the State of Israel. Below, you will find a page entitled: "The Vision of Yeshivat Lev," that summarizes these key ideas. Please read this carefully and feel free to send me feedback throughout the year.

One of the most powerful factors that fosters a deep commitment to shmirat hamitzvot and practice of midot tovot is excellent role models. Here at HALB we provide wonderful role models; our Administrators, Rebbeim, Morot, and teachers—are committed to the highest level of excellence in mitzvot/midot, and our students want to connect to these role models. In fact, one of the most outstanding features of Yeshivat Lev is the Rabbi/Talmid, Morah/Talmida, Teacher/Student relationship; it is this that makes HALB stand out!

Let us work together to achieve HALB's Mission:

"Yeshivat Lev/HALB guides and supports our students to embrace a life of committed, Halachic Orthodoxy."

Please keep this Handbook in a convenient place and refer to it regularly. It is meant to be a guidebook for our home-school partnership. We welcome your feedback and suggestions for future versions.

I wish the entire HALB family a wonderful, exciting year of learning and growth.

הצלחה רבה for a wonderful new year!

Sincerely,

Rabbi Dovid Plotkin
Principal

HALB's Vision

ישיבת לב

Relationships Reign

יחסים חמים בין מורים לתלמידים

Outstanding Observance of
Torah & *Mitzvot*

שמירת התורה ומצוות בהקפדה

Yisrael (Eretz) &
Yisrael (Medina)

ישראל הארץ וישראל המדינה

Midot & Mentchlichkeit

בעלי מדות טובות

Integrated Intelligence between
Limudei Kodesh & General Studies

תורה ומדע

Discipline/ Disciple

למוד לקח במשמעת

Appreciation to America

ברכת הודיה לארצות הברית

עמודי הלב Amudei HaLev

Yeshivat Lev has as its primary goal the education of the whole child. Promoting academic growth, while important, is not enough. Through our teaching and modeling we must create for our children a blueprint for success that integrates academics with character, values, and deeper beliefs. Towards this effort we have created the **Amudei HaLev**, three pillars upon which membership in our community depends. We ask that our students, parents, and faculty join in fulfilling this goal.

Over the course of the school year we will use the Amudei HaLev as the foundation for our actions, conversations, relationships, and learning. The principles of **Respect, Responsibility, and Trustworthiness** will be integrated into the fabric of our school. It is our belief that these “pillars” will form the foundation for building and creating the community and citizenship that we enjoy at our Yeshiva.

The definition of the words **Respect, Responsibility and Trustworthiness** will not be vague or conceptual; rather we will concretize their meanings into language that all our children will understand, and into behaviors that are visible to all.

1. **Respectful behavior** will be viewed as kindness to others, appropriate use of manners and language, consideration of the feelings of others, and developing the skill to manage anger and disagreement in peaceful ways.
2. **Responsibility** will be understood as exhibiting self-control, thinking before acting, being held accountable for our choices, helping others who are being hurt or left out, and working together to prevent bullying.
3. **Trustworthiness** will be evaluated in terms of honesty, courage to say and do the right thing, loyalty as a friend, and concern for the best interest of those around us.

Framing these ideas into terms that students, families, and the school community can see and touch, is the first step in helping our children understand these very important components of a healthy school and community culture. We must all recognize however, that words are not enough. Real understanding and belief in these concepts is significantly dependent on acceptance and implementation by all members of the HALB community. Actions speak louder than words, and concepts like trustworthiness, respect, and responsibility must be part of our daily life at both home and school.

Please join with us in making these “pillars” of Amudei HaLev a way of life, and more than words on a page in a handbook. Together we can create a community where citizenship and membership are important, and will become a part of us as we move forward in our lives. Being part of HALB means more than attendance and grades; we hope it will represent a system of beliefs and behaviors that we can depend on both today, and in the future.

THE SCHOOL-HOME PARTNERSHIP

The ability to communicate openly and effectively is the cornerstone of all good relationships. This is especially true in terms of school-family partnership. The amount of information transmitted amongst school, family, student, government agencies and a host of other sources is extensive. Therefore, it is important that the school establish guidelines for developing an effective and reliable communication system. In order to support effective communication we offer the following guidelines.

Family to School

Please keep us informed: Everything that happens in your home affects your children. Therefore, it is essential that we be made aware of any unusual events, which are taking place in the family. This includes the happy and the sad – births or marriages of siblings, special *Smachot*, illnesses at home, anticipated trips by parents, deaths in the family, family dynamics, etc. Properly informed teachers will be able to help your child with greater understanding. **Please notify the administration and teachers by e-mail or telephone of any significant event.** *Please be assured that all information of this type will be kept strictly confidential.*

Contacting a teacher – At Parent Orientation, the teacher will inform parents of the best means of contact (e.g.—e-mail, voice mail, a specific phone number). If you ever have trouble reaching your child’s teacher, please contact the school office or an administrator.

We encourage parents to remain in regular contact with their child’s teachers. The e-mail address for each faculty member is their first initial followed by their last name (no spaces or dashes) @HALB.org. (e.g. dplotkin@halb.org).

Calling home: Students will only be permitted to call home with the approval of a teacher or administrator, and by using the regular school phone system. **Cell phones may never be used during the school day**, including lunch and recess.

School to Family

HALB Horizons is an annual publication published by the Executive Office. It provides a glimpse into each of our four schools, and highlights unique and special programs. It gives us updates on our HALB families’ happenings.

E-mail sign-up. In order to receive pertinent information regarding grade level, class and school information, parents are requested and encouraged to sign up at www.halb.org. On the HALB elementary school page, please scroll down and click on the envelope (sign up for e-mail), and follow the directions. You will have the opportunity to choose which e-mails you would like to receive. **Please be certain that you sign up for the general e-mail list and also specify your child(ren)’s specific grade and gender.**

M’OmeK HaLev is our weekly newsletter, which is e-mailed to the entire HALB family every Friday throughout the school year. Special programs and events are highlighted; interesting articles and pictures keep you abreast of the activities at HALB.

School Closings due to inclement weather will be publicized as follows:

- **Info-Line** – The HALB Info-Line is accessed by dialing (516) 733-0040.
- **E-mail**—An e-mail will be sent to all parents (please be certain that you have signed up to receive HALB e-mails).

VISITING HALB

The relationship between HALB teachers and parents is of the utmost importance to us all. If you would like to schedule a visit, please do so in advance with your child's teacher. Unplanned visits upset the routine of the school day.

We ask that parents please adhere to the HALB visitation procedure outlined.

- Teachers will inform Security of expected visitors on the day of the visit.
- All visitors to HALB must check in at the Security desk.
- Security will direct visitor(s) to proper location.
- Visitors without appointments will be directed to the office

THE HALACHIC CONNECTION BETWEEN SCHOOL AND HOME

We have found that of the many factors that contribute to a student's growing commitment to a life governed by halacha and proper midot, maintaining a close connection between school and home is critical. Therefore, we seek to work in partnership with you—the parents—so that together we will meet our goals.

Tefilla

Tefilla is an observance that is taught and practiced in school in an effort to instill within students a life-long commitment to daily davening. We expect that all our students will *daven* the required *tefillot* daily. In addition, coming on time to *tefilla* shows the appropriate dedication to, and respect for, prayer and develops proper life-long habits. Students should not *daven* individually at home. Under special circumstances, if your child has davened at home, please send a note indicating that he/she has done so.

Tzni'ut and Appropriate Dress

A Way of Life: *Tzni'ut* has been erroneously and narrowly understood to deal only with a modest mode of dress. In reality, however, *tzni'ut*, or modesty, is a way of life, an attitude and a sensitivity, which should govern our relationship to G-d and to one another, and which should guide us within the *halachic* system to develop our own personal set of values and priorities.

One of the major goals of HALB, of course, is to help foster a life of *tzni'ut*. This is accomplished first by encouraging students to adopt specific patterns of behavior. More importantly, we try to help students develop the intuition that will allow them to discern on their own the entire realm of *tzni'ut* which cannot, and should not, be defined merely by a list of rules and regulations.

One aspect of *tzni'ut*, which is governed by *halacha*, is the requirement to dress in accordance with the *Torah* concept of decency and modesty. To facilitate proper dress in the school context, we have established the **HALB Uniform policy**, which governs appropriate dress for all students in school. *Halachic* guidelines for appropriate clothing should guide choices of clothing on weekends and during school vacations.

All adults who visit our Yeshiva are expected to dress in accordance with standards befitting a Yeshiva atmosphere. We teach the children about *tzni'ut* and as adults, must set an example for them to follow. We request that women do not enter our building in slacks, shorts, or immodest tops in adherence to our Yeshiva's policy. Men are expected to wear *kipot*. We appreciate your cooperation in ensuring consistency in the examples we set for our children and ourselves

HALB BOYS UNIFORM POLICY- 5772

The HALB uniform is an important part of our school policy. Our children's appearance reflects their role as *Tinokot Shel Bait Raban and Bnei & Bnot Torah* and influences their education.

Uniforms are mandatory for all boys in grades 1-8.

Boys Grades 1-5

- * **White or navy blue** oxford shirts, turtlenecks and collared polo-style shirts are permitted. Layers worn under shirts must be **solid white or navy blue** crewneck.
- * HALB sweatshirts as well as **solid navy blue or solid white sweatshirts** may be worn. Only the HALB logo is permitted.
- * Boys in grades 1-5 must wear **navy** pants. No sweatpants, jeans, zip-off, ripped or cargo pants are allowed.
- * Shoes/sneakers are the only acceptable footwear. Socks must be worn. **For safety concerns**, backless shoes (*Naot*), **Crocs**, **Heelys**, sandals and slippers are not permitted.
- * Boys must wear Tzizit.

Boys Grades 6-8

- * **White, navy blue, gray or black** oxford shirts, turtlenecks and collared polo-style shirts are permitted. Layers worn under shirts must be **solid white, navy blue, gray or black** crewneck.
- * HALB sweatshirts as well as **solid white, navy blue, gray or black** sweatshirts may be worn. Only the HALB logo is permitted.
- * Boys in grades 6-8 may wear **navy, gray or black** pants. No sweatpants, jeans, zip-off, ripped or cargo pants are allowed.
- * Shoes/sneakers are the only acceptable footwear. Socks must be worn. **For safety concerns**, backless shoes (*Naot*), **Crocs**, **Heelys**, sandals and slippers are not permitted.
- *Boys must wear Tzizit.

As your child grows, please check that his clothing fits.

The Yeshiva will be strictly enforcing the uniform policy.

***Students who come dressed inappropriately will be required to change.**

Parents will be contacted.

***Second-time offenders will not be allowed into class.**

***All students must wear sneakers at gym.**

The Flynn & O'Hara Uniform Company may be reached at (800) 441-4122.

HALB GIRLS UNIFORM POLICY- 5772

The HALB uniform is an important part of our school policy. Our children's appearance reflects their role as *Tinokot Shel Bait Raban and Bnei & Bnot Torah* and influences their education.

Uniforms are mandatory for all girls in grades 1-8.

Girls Grades 1-5

* **White or navy blue** oxford shirts, turtlenecks and collared polo-style shirts are permitted. Layers worn under shirts must be solid **white or navy blue** crewneck. No sleeveless or cap sleeves are allowed.

* HALB sweatshirts as well as **solid navy blue or solid white sweatshirts** may be worn. Only the HALB logo is permitted.

* Girls in grades 1-5 must wear the "**uniform box pleat**" **navy blue** skirt/jumper. Skirt length must be below the knee when seated.

* Shoes/sneakers are the only acceptable footwear. Socks must be worn. **For safety concerns**, platform shoes, backless shoes (*Naot*), **Crocs**, **Heelys**, sandals and slippers are not permitted.

Girls Grades 6-8

* **White, navy blue, gray or black** collared, buttoned polo-style shirts are permitted. Layers worn under shirts must be solid **white, navy blue, gray or black** crewneck. Tank tops or "A" shirts are not permitted. No sleeveless or cap sleeves are allowed. "Sleeve length should be no more than one inch above the elbow."

* HALB sweatshirts as well as **solid white, navy blue, gray or black** sweatshirts may be worn. Only the HALB logo is permitted.

* Girls in grades 6-8 may wear **solid navy blue, gray or black skirts**. Skirt length must be below the knee when seated.

* Shoes/sneakers are the only acceptable footwear. Socks must be worn. **For safety concerns**, platform shoes, backless shoes (*Naot*), **Crocs**, **Heelys**, sandals and slippers are not permitted.

As your child grows, please check that her clothing fits. **Remember, fashion goes hand-in-hand with *Tzni'ut!***

The Yeshiva will be strictly enforcing the uniform policy.

***Students who come dressed inappropriately will be required to change.**

Parents will be contacted.

***Second-time offenders will not be allowed into class.**

***All students must wear sneakers at gym.**

The Flynn & O'Hara Uniform Company may be reached at (800) 441-4122.

THE SCHOOL DAY

<p>Long Beach Campus: Grades 1-5 Mon.-Th. 8:10-3:55, Fri. 8:10-1:00 Grades 6-8 Mon.-Th. 8:10-5:00, Fri. 8:10-1:00 Sunday School for boys grades 4-8 takes place 9:00-11:45 from after <i>Sukkot</i> until <i>Pesach</i>.</p>	<p>Lev Chana Early Childhood : 3 & 4 year olds: Mon.-Th. 9:00-3:00, Fri. 9:00-12:30 Kindergarten Mon.-Th. 9:00-3:45, Fri. 9:00-12:30</p>
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ARRIVAL

Children in grades 1-5 assemble daily, weather permitting, in the playground. They are escorted by their teachers to their respective classrooms. In inclement weather, all children proceed directly to their classrooms. *Tefilah* begins at 8:10. In the Junior High School, boys proceed directly to the *Beit Medrash* and girls to their classrooms.

- Weather permitting, children will be met in the large playground by their teachers, and escorted to their classrooms. Parents who are driving their children should also be prepared to drop them off at the playground.
- Note that there are numerous days, during the year, when no district transportation is provided (i.e. Sundays, national holidays). Please do your utmost to have your child arrive on time, so that we can maintain a proper start to the school day. On those days, please be prompt for dismissal as well.
- Please do your best to be on time. Valuable classroom time is lost by tardiness. In the event of lateness, please bring the student to the main office to sign in and then be admitted to class.
- Staff will be available for any child who experiences difficulty in separating, and we would appreciate that parents do not accompany their children into the classroom or school building. This tends to be disruptive, and difficult for some of the child's classmates.

Dismissal – HALB is proud of its organized, safe dismissal procedures. In the event that a student must be dismissed before regular dismissal time, a parent or designated representative **must come to the school office and sign out the student**. It is unsafe and against school policy to allow an unescorted student of any age to leave the building at any time. As per **school district regulations**, students who are usually dismissed at 5:00 p.m. (grades 6-8), may not go on the 4:00 p.m. bus. **Students in grades 1-5 may not stay after the 4 p.m. dismissal, and go on the 5:00 bus.**

Changes in your child's dismissal- Please make any arrangements for after-school activities with your child prior to school hours. A note must be sent in the morning if there are any changes in your child's dismissal.

TRANSPORTATION

Time on the school bus is an extension of the school day. *Derech Eretz* and the safety of the students on the bus are of the utmost importance.

We ask the parents to speak with each child and remind him/her to follow these guidelines:

- **Wait quietly without disturbing a neighbor or damaging any property.**
- **Respect the authority of the bus driver.**
- **Enter and leave the bus properly.**
- **Remain seated until the bus reaches your stop**
- **Keep hands, head and arms inside the bus.**

Pupils disobeying the safety rules will receive a written *Bus Misconduct Report* from the bus driver and may be barred from receiving transportation by the respective school districts. Students may also receive negative consequences from the school.

No student will be permitted on any bus other than his/her assigned bus. Please be advised that the districts do not allow transportation for after-school activities. It is the responsibility of each parent to arrange for appropriate carpool transportation in a timely fashion. The telephone numbers of the bus services are as follows:

Rivlab	(718) 318-1440	Dist. #14	(516) 569-5364
Dist #15	(516) 239-1100	Long Beach	(516) 897-2132
Oceanside	(516) 766-6740		

All bus issues should be referred to Rabbi Feder.

FOOD

Kashrut- In order to maintain Kashrut standards in *Yeshivat Lev*, **children are not permitted to bring any homemade foods for distribution in school.** All food brought to school must be strictly Kosher. It must be manufactured under *Rabbinic* supervision and endorsed by a bona fide *Hechsher* or a local *Vaad Hakashrut*. All food must be presented in the original wrapping. If you are in doubt about a product, please call Rabbi Zimberg.

Lunch- HALB offers a hot lunch program, which is arranged by the Women's League. Mondays and Tuesdays are meat. Wednesday is pizza and Thursday is dairy. (Those students not participating in the hot lunch program should bring meat or pareve on meat days, and dairy or pareve on dairy days.)

Snacks- All students are strongly encouraged to bring in healthy snacks, such as fruits and vegetables.

Nuts and seeds- (i.e. peanuts, almonds, walnuts, sesame, flax, sunflower, soy, etc.) Because of an increased number of students allergic to nuts – even to the smell of nuts, **no nut products** may be brought onto school premises. This includes many candies and baked goods. If you are in doubt as to whether something is a nut product, please call our school nurse at extension 109.

EXPECTATIONS FOR STUDENT WORK

Homework/Missed Assignments

- **Homework:** is intended to reinforce the material being taught during the school day, and is expected to be a mechanism for teaching our students to function independently and reinforce understanding. **When done exclusively by the students**, homework can serve as an important learning tool. If your child encounters repeated difficulties preparing his/her homework without significant parent involvement, please discuss this matter with the teacher. Each child should record his/her assignments in a homework book or *yoman* (or *planner*-depending on grade). Please check it daily. **Regardless of busy schedules, students must make homework a priority.** If a student is away on vacation, assignments are also expected to be completed by the student's return and submitted to the teacher.
- **Missed work/Buddy system:** Children at all grade levels will be responsible for classwork and homework missed due to absence. A homework buddy system will be established for keeping up with assignments and information. Please work with your children in utilizing the buddy system. Under extenuating circumstances, you may call the office before 10:00 a.m. to request homework.
- **Amount of homework:** Teachers will be assigning homework based on the following guidelines. Please bear in mind that *these are only guidelines*, and that the actual amount of homework on a particular night may be somewhat more or less than that which is mentioned here.

Grade	Approximate Amount of Time
Grade 1	30 minutes
Grades 2-3	45 minutes
Grades 4-5	1 hour
Grades 6-8	20 minutes per subject

These times reflect the total homework of both *Limudei Kodesh* and General Studies. Teachers will consult with their grade level partners and Associate Principal to ensure the proper scheduling of major projects, tests and reports. You may find a large calendar helpful to keep track of such assignments. To maximize success, long-term assignments, reports and projects should be noted on this calendar, and paced out appropriately.

- **Supplies & Books:** Please make certain that all children come to school with the supplies described in the list you received over the summer (the list is available through a link on the HALB website in the elementary school section), and that all student possessions are properly labeled.

CODE OF BEHAVIOR

There is an ethical, legal, moral and religious code of behavior incumbent upon each and every student who attends HALB, whether he or she is on or off campus, whether it be during school hours or beyond. HALB has the discretionary right to require the withdrawal of any student at any time for behavior contrary to the philosophy of our school.

Code of Conduct All students are entitled to attend school in an environment where discovery and learning are promoted, and where they are not subject to the disruption of their educational experience. It is the policy of the School to maintain a learning environment that is safe and supportive. Members of the school community are expected to treat each other with respect. Incidents of misconduct represent a lack of respect for the school environment and such incidents may adversely affect the education of other students. Students in a *Torah* environment are required to guide themselves in a manner that is above reproach. Behavior which is harmful to oneself and others, or which weakens the educational tone in the school, is unacceptable. By training students to avoid even minor incidents of misconduct, we hope to preclude the possibility of more extreme misbehavior. Furthermore, it is essential that students understand that all actions have repercussions.

Harassment Harassment consists of verbal or physical conduct, including conduct based upon a student's race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, religion (or creed), or disability, that is so severe, pervasive, or objectively offensive that it adversely affects a student's ability to participate in or benefit from the school's educational programs or activities, or otherwise creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment. Harassment may include: racial or ethnic name calling or slurs; intimidating actions or threats; offensive or threatening phone calls, notes, or e-mails; harmful pranks; or undue pressure to engage in behavior with which the other person does not feel comfortable.

Sexual harassment consists of unwelcome and unsolicited sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, sexually motivated physical conduct, or other verbal or physical conduct or communication of a sexual nature that is so severe, pervasive, or objectively offensive that it adversely affects a student's ability to participate in or benefit from the school's educational programs or activities, or otherwise creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment.

Bullying Bullying includes inappropriate conduct that adversely affects a student's ability to participate in or benefit from the school's educational programs or activities based on efforts to intimidate, coerce, engender fear, or control a student.

Retaliation It is a separate and distinct violation of the school's policy for any student to retaliate against any person who reports alleged wrongful conduct, including harassment or bullying, or against any person who testifies, assists, or participates in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing relating to such conduct. Retaliation includes, but is not limited to, any form of intimidation, reprisal, or harassment and may be redressed by the procedures described below.

Grievance Procedures Any student who believes that she has been subjected to violence, harassment, bullying, or other behavior that adversely affects her participation in or opportunity to benefit from the school's programs and activities should report the alleged misconduct immediately to the Principal, Assistant Principal, or Faculty Designee, so that appropriate disciplinary action may be taken. Even in the absence of a victim's complaint, the School, upon learning of, or having reason to believe that such conduct has occurred, will promptly begin an investigation and take appropriate action, as deemed appropriate by the school administration.

The investigation may consist of personal interviews with the complainant, the individual(s) against whom the complaint is made, and others who may have knowledge of the alleged incident(s) or circumstances giving rise to the complaint. The investigation may also consist of any other methods and documents deemed pertinent by the investigator.

The School may take immediate steps, at its discretion, to protect the complainant, pupils, teachers, administrators, or other school personnel pending completion of an investigation of alleged harassment or violence.

The investigation will be completed as soon as practicable. The investigating official shall make a written report to the Principals' Council upon completion of the investigation. The report shall include a determination of whether the allegations have been substantiated as factual and whether they appear to be violations of this policy. The results of the investigation will be reported in writing to the complainant and other parties in accordance with state and federal laws regarding data or records privacy, and consistent with the privacy rights of the alleged harasser. Upon receipt of a report that a violation has occurred, the Principals' Council will take prompt, appropriate formal or informal action to address, and where appropriate, remediate the violation.

Sanctions An overwhelming majority of our students complete their schooling without any disciplinary consequences and contribute positively to maintaining an environment of mutual respect, caring, and *Torah* growth. The School's policy regarding Discipline and Sanctions provides guidelines related to disciplinary consequences that stem from a violation of school rules. All disciplinary measures described in this section may be imposed, subject to the discretion of school officials, as described.

Administrative Guidance Conference Students may have to attend an Administrative Conference for minor infractions such as school property abuse, littering, violation of the school's dress code policy, leaving things in the hallway, eating in the classroom, and any other minor infraction, as determined by the Principal or Assistant Principal. All school teachers and administrators have the discretion to request that the student attend an administrative guidance conference. Accumulation of a number of conferences may result in further disciplinary action.

Suspension Students may face suspension for: abusive or disrespectful behavior directed at a staff member; willful disregard of any school rule; fighting with or threatening another student; using inappropriate language; bringing inappropriate items (including weapons) to school or to school sponsored activities; leaving campus without permission of the Principal or Assistant Principals; destruction or theft of school, student, or faculty property; possession or distribution of pornography or obscene material including viewing or distributing pornography using school computers; harassment or bullying; or the accumulation of three or more Administrative Conferences. The school Principal and Assistant Principals have the discretion to suspend a student. If a student is suspended, parents will be notified and required to attend an administrative conference with the student and the Principal or Assistant Principals. Suspensions may be noted on the student's permanent record.

Expulsion Students may face expulsion for: possession, distribution, or use of illegal substances, including illegal drugs, cigarettes, or alcohol; possession of a weapon that could result in harm to another individual; or accumulation of three suspensions. Prior to any expulsion of a student, parents will be notified of the charges made against a student that may lead to this sanction, and they (along with the student) will have the opportunity to appear before the Principals' Council, which will consider the charges and recommendations for expulsion. They will have the opportunity to present evidence to be considered by the Principals' Council, prior to any recommendation by the Principals' Council. The decision of the Principals' Council is final and will not be subject to any appeal or grievance procedure. Pending a final decision by the principals' Council, the student may be suspended. Expulsions will be noted on the student's permanent record.

BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS

The objectives of our Yeshiva's discipline plan are:

- To maintain a positive atmosphere throughout the school
- To insure uninterrupted learning
- To teach *derech eretz* and *midot tovot*

Students are expected to:

- A) Follow school rules
- B) Cooperate with adults and fellow students
- C) Follow directions given by an adult
- D) Behave responsibly and considerately at all times

Listed below are categories of behaviors which are *unacceptable*:

- 1) **Disrespect**- Use of any inappropriate speech, action, or attitude towards a school leader or any adult or student (e.g. foul language; ridicule, insults or other negative remarks towards other students.)
- 2) **Damaging School Property/Property of Others** (e.g. writing on walls, lockers, desks, bathrooms, books; mishandling chairs, doors, lockers; slamming into walls; using others' property without permission; going into other students' lockers.)
- 3) **Preventing Learning** (e.g. disrupting a lesson or class, not letting the teacher continue, distracting students .)
- 4) **Wandering** (e.g. visiting parts of the building away from class without permission or supervision; cutting class; leaving the school building without permission; lateness to school, davening, and class.)
- 5) **Threatening Safety/Diminishing School Atmosphere**
 - a. **Threatening Safety**(e.g. fighting, throwing objects, bullying, creating a dangerous atmosphere or situation, possessing dangerous or illegal objects.)
ANY STUDENT INVOLVED IN FIGHTING IS SUBJECT TO BEING SENT HOME.
 - b. **Diminishing School Atmosphere** (e.g. not following the dress code; using cell phones, ipods, and other electronics without permission. If a student possesses these electronic objects, the school is not responsible if they are lost or missing. It is advisable that these objects remain at home)
 - c. **Cheating:** Students who cheat on an exam or plagiarize will be dealt with seriously, and may be subject to suspension and/or expulsion.

All adults are responsible for behaviors of all children. If an adult observes a student engaged in the *unacceptable* behavior, the adult will have the student fill out a discipline note or will send the student to the office to fill out a discipline note.

An administrator will follow up on the note and determine what, if any, intervention should occur. Some examples of interventions are daily/weekly behavior charts; note/call home; silent lunch; after school detention; partial or full-day suspension.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Policy for Devices in School

During school hours games and phones currently allow unsupervised access to the Internet. As such, they can be used to watch movies, YouTube and other sites, and may also be used as cameras and hidden recording devices. This presents a real ethical danger to our children and may distract them from focusing in class, and often interferes with other forms of social interaction during lunch and recess. Students are prohibited from photographing or videotaping other HALB students, faculty members or administrators on school property, or at school activities, without their prior explicit permission. Students found to be in violation of this policy could be subject to discipline up to and including expulsion.

Due to the expensive and fragile nature of these items it is advisable that these objects remain at home.

- **Cell phones** and electronic games may **never** be taken out or used in school for any purpose, including text messaging. Students may **call from the office** with permission from the teacher or an administrator.
- **Electronic games and devices** may only be used on the bus.
- **If a device is confiscated**, it will be given to an administrator. For repeated violations, the device must be signed out and retrieved by a parent. Our Yeshiva does not assume responsibility for lost, stolen, or misplaced electronics.

Any HALB student who wishes to bring a laptop to be used in school must receive written permission from the administration.

EMAIL SYSTEM

**Please remember to visit our website
HALB.ORG
and sign us for your child(ren)'s specific grade
emails
and/or update your email address.**

INTERNET USE & SAFETY

As the Internet is such a pervasive element in our lives and the use of it presents many challenges, it is imperative for us as parents to have a clear understanding of ways to keep our children safe. At HALB we have embraced technology and harnessed it for the educational benefits it can offer our students. We have also given guidance regarding appropriate use. These instruments are all tools. And like any tool, they can be used for great benefit or can be misused and abused. We strongly urge every home with a computer to adopt specific guidelines for its use. Here are our suggestions:

- Internet use must be supervised.
- Set aside a time to sit with your children and discuss what accounts they have and how they can properly best benefit from this new technology.
- The computer should be located in a common room
- Time and length of use should be clearly defined
- It should NOT be available after normal bedtimes
- A filtering program should be installed (e.g.: Spector Soft, Net Nanny, and/or e-Blaster)
- The language and topics used by your children must be compatible with your family's values.
- Chat room & video chats must be EXCLUDED or adult supervised – DANGER areas!
- Any *Facebook* and *Twitter* accounts MUST be accessible to parents – and be CHECKED.

Social Networking Sites

HALB is aware that Internet social networking sites, such as *Facebook* and *MySpace*, have become a part of some students' social lives and are used to keep in touch with and make new friends. Please ask your child if he or she has an account on any of these sites. If your child has an account and you do not want him/her to have one, you may consider canceling the account. Students participating in such social networking sites, however, should be made aware of some of the potential dangers and risks associated with their on-line activities.

Initially, postings made to social networking sites are not private or confidential and could potentially be viewed by a large number of unintended individuals. Accordingly, students are discouraged from posting identifying information on-line, such as social security numbers, telephone numbers and home addresses that could potentially give rise to identity theft or subject the student to unwanted harassment

Students should also assume that postings made to social networking sites will be viewed by other students, parents, faculty, administrators, alumni, law enforcement officials, college recruiters, Israel schools, summer programs and potential employers. Students should also assume that postings made to social networking sites are there forever. While steps can be taken to remove information and/or postings, it takes time and does not preclude information from being cached, copied, forwarded or posted on another site.

Students should be aware that their on-line actions could have serious civil and criminal consequences. Inappropriate, pornographic, threatening and false information and/or images posted on social networking sites could potentially give rise to civil liability and damages not only for students, but for their parents as well.

HALB does not actively monitor a student's on-line social networking page but if information or images come to HALB's attention that may be in violation of HALB's policies or code of conduct, it may engage in further investigation including accessing a student's on-line social networking page. Information and images posted to a social networking site may be used by HALB to enforce HALB's policies or code of conduct. A student's on-line activities should not in any way violate any of HALB's policies or code of conduct.

TESTING AND EVALUATIONS

HALB is dedicated to the progress and development of each student, and follows each one very closely. All aspects of our testing program are designed to give the administration important information to help us guide your child through his/her school years. A variety of screening tools are utilized, as outlined below:

New York State Exams

These tests will be administered as follows: Grades 4 and 8 English Language Arts (ELA) – May; Grade 4 Math – May; Grade 4 Science – Beginning of June.

Achievement Tests

Grades 1-3, 5-7 – Stanford Achievement Test

Grade 8 – Board of Jewish Education high school placement test, administered this year on Sunday, November 20, 2011.

Grade 8 – New York State Regents for Integrated Algebra is administered in June.

Missed Tests

Please note: In grades 4-8, all tests missed due to absence that takes place at times other than those designated in the HALB calendar, will be administered within 48 hours of the student's return. Of course, prolonged absence due to serious medical conditions will be handled on an individual basis.

Marking Periods and Parent-Teacher Conferences

The 2011-12/5772 academic year is divided into three marking periods. Report cards are distributed to parents after each trimester. This year, we will continue with our highly successful on-line reservation system. This system will enable you to register for conference time slots over the Internet from the comfort of your home. If parents wish to confer with a teacher or principal about a specific problem, a special conference may be arranged. Please call the school office to schedule an appointment.

Promotions and Graduation

Upon successfully completing a grade, the principal will promote the student to the next grade level. To maintain the integrity of the academic program, students not meeting the requirements of HALB will be required to master all academic proficiencies over the summer. HALB conducts a formal commencement exercise after 8th grade, at which time the student graduates from the elementary school and receives a diploma. HALB will not issue an academic diploma until all academic requirements are fulfilled. It is our goal that 100% of our elementary school children attend a yeshiva high school appropriate to their individual needs. Acceptance to the HALB High Schools will be based upon a student's academic and behavioral records, as well as an interview with the respective high school principal.

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

In coordination with the Long Beach Public Schools, HALB has developed a comprehensive multidisciplinary team for meeting the individual needs of all its students and families. This team of experts meets weekly to:

- 1) Examine the needs of individual students in terms of assessment, diagnosis, and eligibility of services.
- 2) Consult with classroom teachers and families in the development of behavioral interventions and/or counseling needs.
- 3) Implement individual, group and class level interventions for issues such as bullying behavior, social skill development, divorce and bereavement, medical crisis, and/or other issues as they occur.
- 4) Adapt and modify curriculum on the basis of individual student's plans.
- 5) Assist in the development of school-wide initiatives in areas of concern.
- 6) Coordinate school-based programs with private therapists and agencies.
- 7) Create programs that deal with the academic, social, emotional and physical well-being of all students specific to their developmental needs.

This complicated set of interventions is constantly evolving and requires the expertise of a wide-ranging group of well-trained professionals. Our current staff includes:

- Director of Pupil Services and Director of Student Support Services
- Psychologist and interns
- Social Workers
- Speech and Language Therapists
- School Nurses
- Certified Special Education resource room teachers
- Occupational and Physical Therapists
- Teacher for the gifted
- Hebrew resource teachers
- HALB resource specialists

Families wishing to access the student support services should contact Dr. Fred Zelinger or Mrs. Debbie Eisenberg to make an appointment.

CLASS PLACEMENT

HALB has an annual class placement process which integrates information received from teachers, parents and administrators. Parents are requested to provide information regarding their children's current friendship patterns as well as any special information that might influence the placement process. We request that parents provide us with four names of classmates that they would like to see their child placed with. We will do our utmost to assure at least one of the names provided will be in the child's class, as long as the requirement of four choices is met. In addition all academic, social and emotional needs are reviewed. This information, in concert with randomization of student placement, determines the class for the school year.

EXTRA AND CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

HALB prides itself on its programs and activities. The programs range from Scholars to Poets, from *Yom HaAtzmaut* to *Shabbatonim*, and from Homework Club to Sports Club. In addition, grades 4-8 participate in the Celebrate Israel Parade, and grades 6-8 boys have *Mishmar*.

Please check your e-mails for events and activities, as well as *chesed* opportunities.

Assemblies – Given the large number of siblings of performing students, in order to minimize disruption of learning, we respectfully request that no child be removed from class to view assemblies without administrative permission. Permission will be granted only for major milestone events, e.g. Tefillin breakfast, Siddur and Chumash plays.

Trips—We very much appreciate it when parents volunteer to escort class trips; this is part of our home-school partnership. **However, we remind parents that no food may be distributed by parents attending school trips.** We will be certain that there are ample snacks and food. Thank you.

Athletic Teams -- HALB is proud to offer a strong program of inter-Yeshiva sports (basketball and field hockey). We participate in the 7th & 8th grade boys Hockey, 6th grade, 7th grade and 8th grade boys Basketball, and 7th & 8th grade girls Basketball. **Please note that school policy permits each student to only be on one team each year.**

HALB's Honor Society – HALB is proud to belong to the National Junior Honor Society with its own chapter, *Chachmei Lev*. Seniors who have demonstrated a high level of academic achievement, coupled with *midot tovot*, service, leadership, and citizenship may be eligible for membership in this Honor Society. The time to focus on this is at the beginning of Grade 7.

The following are the eligibility requirements for the honor society:

*Academics—In Grades 7 and 8, a cumulative average of 90% or above.

*Character/ Behavior—Students must demonstrate excellent character and behavior as judged by report cards and the school-wide discipline/ *nachat* tracker.

* *Chesed* / Community Service—Seniors must complete at least 15 hours of approved *chesed* / community service.

*Faculty Approval—8th grade faculty and administration must recommend the student based upon a survey which includes criteria of academics, leadership, service, citizenship, and character.

We encourage students to participate in this exciting endeavor.

HEALTH OFFICE REGULATIONS

According to New York State Law, all school-age children must have documented proof of adequate immunization against diphtheria, tetanus, pertusis polio, measles, mumps, rubella and hepatitis B. Tdap booster shot and varicella vaccine are required by 6th grade or when your child turns 11 years old. All 1st, 3rd, 5th, 6th and 7th graders as well as new entries to HALB are required to bring in updated physicals. We are not permitted to allow any student who does not meet these requirements into school.

Pupils returning to school **after** a communicable disease must present a doctor's certificate stating that the child is in good health and able to return to school as required by the Nassau County Board of Health. Each incident of lice must be reported to the Health Office.

Upon receipt, please complete and return the Emergency Information Card (one per family). Please include cell #s, beeper #s, and e-mail. This is a vital source of information for the school to help your child in the event of an emergency. Someone must always be available to be reached by phone in event of illness at school or in the event of an emergency. If you will not be available, please give the health office an alternate telephone number of someone who will be accessible, and able to pick up your child, if necessary.

If a pupil is required to take a prescribed medication including Tylenol, aspirin, antihistamine,...) during regular school hours, please comply with the following regulations:

1. Download the "PRN Medication" form from our website
2. Written orders from a physician should detail the name of the drug, dosage, time to be given and diagnosis or reason the medication is to be given along with the medicine labeled with the child's name.
3. Written permission by a parent requesting the school to comply with the physician's order
4. The student must bring in his/her *own* labeled medication (Tylenol, Motrin, etc.). We are no longer allowed to administer stock medication.

Lice Screening: There are formal screenings before school and after every major school break for all students.

You can now find the "Asthma Action Plan" forms (to be filled out for students with asthma), "PRN Medication forms" (to be filled out and sent with any medication that will be kept in school), and yearly physical forms on our website.

Sports

Students wishing to try out for any sports team, will be required to submit their updated physicals prior to tryouts. In addition, forms submitted from your family doctor will be reviewed and "signed off" for completeness by a physician assigned by the Long Beach Schools.

If your child feels ill in the morning, please do not send him/her to school without checking with your doctor.

Pursuant to New York State Social Services Law, teachers and other school officials who have reasonable cause to suspect child abuse or maltreatment are required to report suspected incidents to the statewide central register established for this purpose.

BAR MITZVAH GUIDELINES

The Bar Mitzvah is a very significant life event. It is a critical “coming-of-age” ceremony, which celebrates the culmination of many years of preparation, and, at the same time, marks the beginning of a new stage of life. It is most important, then, that the celebration of the Bar Mitzvah be in keeping with the Torah values that our children have spent so much time learning. Therefore, please bear in mind that there is an expectation on the part of HALB families that all aspects of the *halacha* will be strictly adhered to at *smachot* (celebrations).

HALB is very proud of the beautiful *רוח* and *שמה של מצוה* that our *talmidim* exhibit at Bar Mitzvahs. We are very fortunate that our *Rebbeim*, in partnership with you, the parents, set an outstanding example. Every year, the administration conducts a **mandatory** Bar Mitzvah meeting with the parents of 6th grade boys. At that meeting, guidelines will be presented and discussed to help and support you as you plan for your *simcha*.

1. Preparing for your Bar Mitzvah

There are various things a Bar Mitzvah can do to celebrate his special day. He can *lain* the whole *Parsha*, part of the *Parsha*, until *Shaini* for Monday and Thursday, *Haftorah*, *Musaf*, *Siyum*, etc.. or none of the above. The primary focus is for the Bar Mitzvah boy to do something that will be meaningful, memorable, and allow him to enjoy the experience and not be overwhelmed by stress and anxiety. It certainly should not be a competition amongst boys and families - who can do more and who can do it better.

Knowing your child’s strengths and what he can and should do for the Bar Mitzvah is vital. Encourage him to do what is appropriate for him and let him enjoy the Bar Mitzvah preparation and Bar Mitzvah itself. Please feel free to discuss the possibilities with your son’s *Rebbeim*, Rabbi Zimberg or Rabbi Plotkin.

2. Tefillin Breakfast – Laining at School

The day a boy starts putting on *Tefillin* is special. At HALB, the day is commemorated with a breakfast. To reserve the date please contact Rabbi Feder (jfeder@halb.org or call 516-432-8285 x 120). After your date is reserved please contact Benjy Schreier at *Seasons* and tell him the date and that you are calling regarding a HALB *Tefillin* Breakfast. It is recommended that you arrive the latest 8a.m. if you wish to take photographs. Please contact Rabbi Feder (jfeder@halb.org or call 516-432-8285 x 120).

3. Reserving a Date:

- **Shabbat & Event:** Please contact Rabbi Plotkin at 516-432-8285 ext. 104 or dplotkin@halb.org. Please give the *parsha* being *layned* (boys) and the year, date and time of the *simcha*. Please include all events associated with the Bar Mitzvah.

- **Conflicts in scheduling**

Conflicts for Shabbat morning (boys) are inevitable and it may not always be possible to avoid them. Please do not schedule the non-Shabbat part of your event at the same time as another student of the same gender from your child’s grade. If another *simcha* of a child (of the same gender) in your child’s grade is already in the calendar, we will not accept a reservation for that time.

*How adults work out conflicts in a Torah/ *Mentschlichkeit* fashion can serve as a powerful outstanding life-long lesson for our children.

- **School Attendance**

It is the expectation that all students are in school on time the day following the Bar Mitzvah. We know that Bar Mitzvah’s go into the evening, and the children come home tired. However, please note that there are numerous Bar Mitzvahs during the year, and your child is expected to be in school on time. Please also note that for weekend Bar Mitzvahs, whether it is a fellow student or a friend from camp, etc., that there is an expectation on the part of the Yeshiva that the boys attend Sunday school.

- **Weekday/School day Parties**

If your Bar Mitzvah party will be taking place on a weekday evening, please be mindful of the fact that it is a regular school day, and it is disruptive to have the classmates leaving early, prior to the 5:00 dismissal time.

4. **Inviting**

It is the expectation that all boys in the grade be invited to the Bar Mitzvah. We understand that this cannot always be done. Please consider how painful it is when the vast majority of a class is invited and only a few students are left out.

- For Bar Mitzvahs please only invite boys and for Bat Mitzvahs only invite girls. Please discuss with Rabbi Plotkin any possible exceptions to this rule (family friends).

5. **Halachic Standards**

Please insure that proper *halachic* standards apply to the entire *simcha*, including dress, entertainment and activities. Please understand that if a *simcha* does not follow what we feel are proper halachic standards, we have asked that our *Rebbeim* not attend. Please note the following:

- There is an expectation on the part of the Yeshiva and the families in our Yeshiva community that there be no “mixed dancing”.

6. **Torah & Chesed**

Of course, *divrei Torah* should be central to any Bar Mitzvah. We strongly recommend that *maasei chesed* also be included as part of the celebration.

7. **Participation:**

Please remind your child of the importance of responding to Bar Mitzvah invitations in a timely fashion and of attending their classmates’ *simchas*. In order to help each Bar Mitzvah child enjoy and appreciate their special day, please encourage your child to participate in the dancing, and to show proper decorum during speeches. We are teaching and reinforcing these important behaviors at the Yeshiva.

Weekend Bar Mitzvahs—If you are making a weekend Bar Mitzvah we recommend that you consider hiring an appropriate number of “counselors” (e.g. college students to supervise).

8. **Questions**

Please ask us any questions regarding your *simcha*. Our goal is to help make your *simcha* more meaningful and successful. Rabbi Plotkin can be reached at dplotkin@halb.org or 516-432-8285 ext. 104.

BAT MITZVAH GUIDELINES

The Bat Mitzvah is a very significant life event. It is a critical “coming-of-age” ceremony, which celebrates the culmination of many years of preparation, and, at the same time, marks the beginning of a new stage of life. It is most important, then, that the celebration of the Bat Mitzvah be in keeping with the Torah values that our children have spent so much time learning. Therefore, please bear in mind that there is an expectation on the part of HALB families that all aspects of the *halacha* will be strictly adhered to at *smachot* (celebrations).

HALB is very proud of the beautiful *תורה* and *מצוות* של *שמחה* that our *talmidot* exhibit at Bat Mitzvahs. We are very fortunate that our *Morot*, in partnership with you, the parents, set an outstanding example. Every year, the administration conducts a **mandatory** Bat Mitzvah meeting with the parents of 5th grade girls. At that meeting, guidelines will be presented and discussed to help and support you as you plan for your *simcha*.

1. Reserving a Date:

- **Event:** Please contact Rabbi Plotkin at 516-432-8285 ext. 104 or dplotkin@halb.org. Please give the year, date and time of the *simcha*. Please include all events associated with the Bat Mitzvah.
- **Conflicts in scheduling**
Please do not schedule your event at the same time as another student of the same gender from your child's grade. If another *simcha* of a child (of the same gender) in your child's grade is already in the calendar, we will not accept a reservation for that time.
*How adults work out conflicts in a Torah/ *Menschlichkeit* fashion can serve as a powerful outstanding life-long lesson for our children.
- **School Attendance**
It is the expectation that all students are in school on time the day following the Bat Mitzvah. We know that Bat Mitzvah's go into the evening, and the children come home tired. However, please note that there are numerous Bat Mitzvahs during the year, and your child is expected to be in school on time.
- **Weekday/School day Parties**
If your Bat Mitzvah party will be taking place on a weekday evening, please be mindful of the fact that it is a regular school day, and it is disruptive to have the classmates leaving early, prior to the 5:00 dismissal time.

2. Inviting

It is the expectation that all girls in the grade be invited to the Bat Mitzvah. We understand that this cannot always be done. Please consider how painful it is when the vast majority of a class is invited and only a few students are left out.

- For Bat Mitzvahs please only invite girls and for Bar Mitzvahs only invite boys.
Please discuss with Rabbi Plotkin any possible exceptions to this rule (family friends).

3. Halachic Standards

Please insure that proper *halachic* standards apply to the entire *simcha*, including dress, entertainment and activities. Please understand that if a *simcha* does not follow what we feel are proper halachic standards, we have asked that our administrators and *Morot* not attend. Please note the following:

- There is an expectation on the part of the Yeshiva and the families in our Yeshiva community that there be no "mixed dancing".

4. Torah & Chesed

Of course, *divrei Torah* should be central to any Bat Mitzvah. We strongly recommend that *maasei chesed* also be included as part of the celebration.

5. Participation:

Please remind your child of the importance of responding to Bat Mitzvah invitations in a timely fashion and of attending their classmates' *simchas*. In order to help each Bat Mitzvah child enjoy and appreciate their special day, please encourage your child to participate in the dancing, and to show proper decorum during speeches. We are teaching and reinforcing these important behaviors at the Yeshiva.

Weekend Bat Mitzvahs—If you are making a weekend Bat Mitzvah we recommend that you consider hiring an appropriate number of "counselors" (e.g. college students to supervise).

6. Questions

Please ask us any questions regarding your *simcha*. Our goal is to help make your *simcha* more meaningful and successful. Rabbi Plotkin can be reached at dplotkin@halb.org or 516-432-8285 ext. 104.

OTHER TYPES OF CELEBRATIONS

Graduation Celebrations – HALB prides itself on a meaningful and formal graduation exercise. Please maintain the standard of the Yeshiva by consulting with the administration before scheduling any post-graduation parties or festivities.

Birthday Parties—Invitations & Whom to Invite—Each of us would be happy to go to a little extra trouble to avoid hurting a child’s feelings.

- When a child has a party, the invitations are mailed, not distributed in school. This is intended to avoid hurting the feelings of those children who are not invited.

In order to prevent slighting a child, we ask you to select from one of the following *guidelines* when inviting fellow students:

- Invite all the children in the grade or class
- Invite a small number of friends (3-6) from the grade or class.

Birthday Celebrations at School

Lev Chana—Birthday parties may only take place in school at *Lev Chana* Early Childhood Center.

Long Beach—With the increase in childhood diabetes, obesity and other ailments, we are very concerned about the amount of junk food that our students are consuming. Likewise, we have noticed how many hours during the year that in-school birthday celebrations may take. We ask that you **please try not to send in donuts or other treats to school to celebrate your child’s birthday**. We encourage parents and students at Long Beach to observe your child’s birthday by donating a library book to our classroom libraries. Please contact Rabbi Jeremy Feder at jfeder@halb.org for further information. The book could be read in the classroom in honor of the child’s birthday.

WOMEN’S LEAGUE

The Women’s League plays a major role at HALB, both in its service to the school and in fundraising. The many enrichment programs provided create a warm environment in which the children thrive and learn. Women’s League meets with the administration regularly to discuss innovative projects and mutual concerns. This collaborative effort reflects the strong partnership between parents and the administration in the educational process at HALB.

The money raised through Women’s League fundraising projects helps to defray the costs of significant school programs (some of which include Chanukah gift campaign for the teachers, Tu B’shvat bags, Bar and Bat Mitzvah breakfasts and Lag Ba’omer barbecues). In recent years, Women’s League has purchased computers, library books and classroom listening libraries. Recent contributions included remodeling the serving area in the Long Beach kitchen and Smart Boards for the Long Beach campus.

All parents are invited to join Women’s League. Your involvement and participation in the Women’s League is most welcome.

LOST AND FOUND

To prevent loss of clothing and other items, **please label all clothing**. Any lost items are brought to a box outside the lunchroom; please regularly check this box and retrieve any lost items. Property unclaimed may be donated to a *tzedaka*. If objects are lost on the bus, please call the bus company directly (see “Transportation” on page 9).

INSURANCE

The school carries insurance to cover accidents. In case of accident, the business office will provide, upon request, insurance forms to be completed by parent, physician, and school nurse for filing with our insurance carrier.

Hebrew Academy of Long Beach

Philosophy of Childhood

The administration, faculty, and parent body of HALB are committed to ensuring that:

- ❖ Each child develops positive self-esteem and respect for himself/herself and others, based on the precept that each individual is created in the image of G-d.
- ❖ The child grows spiritually, developing a love of Torah and a commitment to the observance of *Halacha* (Jewish law), learning to live among other cultures using Torah as his/her guide.
- ❖ The whole child develops physically and emotionally, religiously and morally, personally and socially, as well as intellectually and academically.
- ❖ The child develops a sense of security and belonging through his/her connection to family, school, and community.
- ❖ The child sees himself/herself as a valued and contributing member of society with a purposeful and meaningful future.
- ❖ The child develops a love of learning in an environment that nurtures curiosity, creativity, and originality in order to maximize his/her strengths as an individual.
- ❖ The child grows academically through an educational program that is comprehensive, purposeful, and standards-based.
- ❖ The child learns to recognize boundaries, make appropriate choices, and accept responsibility for his/her actions.
- ❖ The child learns to associate progress and achievement with consistent effort and diligence.

The child develops a love for the Jewish People and the State of Israel, and learns to appreciate the democratic ideals and freedoms of the United States of America.

EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

HALB *Lev Chana Early Childhood Center* is located on a beautiful campus at 291 Meadowview Avenue in Hewlett Bay Park. For information, or to contact the Early Childhood Center, please call Betty Shusterman, Director of Early Childhood, at 516-374-7195, ext 120. Although *Lev Chana* is proud to be a part of the larger HALB family, it also publishes an independent handbook, which it mails to every preschool family before the beginning of the school year. If you are a preschool parent, please keep both handbooks in a convenient location and use them as a reference to guide you and your child smoothly and successfully through the school year.

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HALB CALENDAR 2011-2012/5772

September	1	Thursday	Lice Check 2:00-6:00 (at SKA)
	5	Monday	Labor Day
	6	Tuesday	Lice Check 2:00-5:00 (at SKA) Gr. 1 Orientation – Evening Gr. 6 Orientation – Evening
	7	Wednesday	Lice Check 8:30-1:00 (at SKA) 4 year Preschool Orientation
	8	Thursday	First Day of School, All Divisions 4 & 5 Year Old First Day of School 3 Year Old Orientation
	9	Friday	Lev Chana – Regular Sessions
	12	Monday	Lev Chana – Meet Your Teachers
	14	Wednesday	LB – Meet Your Teachers
	24	Sat Night	Slichot at DRS; Boys Gr. 5-8
	*28-30	Wed.-Fri.	Rosh Hashanah – No Sessions
October	2	Sunday	Tzom Gedalia
	*7-8	Fri.-Sat.	Yom Kippur – No Sessions
	10	Monday	Columbus Day – No District Transportation – 4:00 Dismissal Grades 1-8
	*12-23	Wed.-Sun.	Sukkot – No Sessions
	24	Monday	Sessions Resume
	27	Thurs.	Mishmar begins
	30	Sunday	Sunday School begins – grades 4-8
November	6	Sunday	Grade 2 Boys Chumash Play
	7,9	Mon., Wed.	SKA Interviews for 8 th Graders
	8	Tuesday	Open School Day Grades 1-5
	*11	Friday	Veteran’s Day/Faculty In-Service Day-No Sessions
	14,16	Mon., Wed.	DRS Interviews for 8 th Graders
	14,16	Mon., Wed.	P/T Conferences-L.B.;4:00 dismissal Gr. 1-8
	16, 17	Wed, Thurs.	Kindergarten – Inter-Generational Day
	19	Sat. Night	Melave Malka
	20	Sunday	No Sunday School; BJE Exam for Gr. 8 Students
	*24-27	Thurs.-Sun.	Thanksgiving Recess- No Sessions
	29	Tuesday	Pre-School Parent/Teacher Conferences
December	4	Sunday	Grade 2 Girls Chumash Play
	18	Sunday	Annual Kickoff Breakfast for School Dinner
	21-22	Wed., Thurs.	Pre-School Chanukah Workshop
	23	Friday	Gr. 3 Girls Chanukah Play
	*25-26	Sun., Mon.	Chanukah Recess – No Sessions
	27-28	Tues., Wed.	Pre-School Chanukah Workshop

* No Sessions

January 2012	*1,2	Sun., Mon.	No Sessions
	5	Thursday	Asara B'Tevet, 1:00 dismissal Gr. 6-8
	8	Sunday	Siddur Play- Gr. 1 Girls
	15	Sunday	Siddur Play – Gr. 1 Boys
	16	Monday	Martin Luther King Day-No district transportation 4:00 Dismissal Grades 1-8
	*19-29	Thurs.-Sun	Winter Recess – No Sessions
	30	Monday	Sessions Resume
February	5	Sunday	Grade 5 Sukkah Fair
	8	Wednesday	P/T Conferences-L.B. 1:00 dismissal Gr. 1-8
	8	Wednesday	Scholastic Book Fair
	14	Tuesday	Internet Awareness – Gr. 3 & 6
	*19-20	Sun.-Mon.	Presidents' Day- No Sessions
	22	Wednesday	Women's League Supperette
	26	Sunday	Bar Mitzvah Breakfast
March	2	Friday	Grade 3 Girls – Purim Play
	3	Sat. Night	School Dinner
	4	Sunday	No Sessions
	6	Tuesday	Purim Carnival
	7	Ta'anit Esther	L.B. – 1:00 Dismissal Gr. 1-8
	*8,9	Thurs., Fri.	Purim, Shushan Purim – No Sessions
	11	Sunday	Regular Sunday School
	13	Tuesday	Lev Chana – P/T Conference
	18	Sunday	Last Day of Sunday School Gr. 4 Boys- Mishna Siyum
	*23	Friday	LB In-Service Day – No Sessions
	25	Sunday	Bat Mitzvah Breakfast
April	*5-15	Thurs. – Sun.	Pesach Recess- No Sessions
	16	Monday	Sessions Resume
	19	Thursday	Yom HaShoah
	25	Wednesday	Yom HaZikaron LB Dismissal 4:00; Evening Program
	26	Thursday	Yom Ha'Atzma'ut
May	1	Tuesday	Bar Mitzvah Meeting
	8	Tuesday	Bat Mitzvah Meeting
	10	Thursday	Lag Ba'Omer
	15	Tuesday	Uniform Measuring –L.B. & Lev Chana
	20	Sunday	Yom Yerushalayim
	*25,28	Fri. – Mon.	Shavuot – No Sessions
	*28	Monday	Memorial Day – No Sessions
	30-31	Wed.-Thurs.	Grade 8 Washington Trip
June	3	Sunday	Celebrate Israel Parade
	5	Tuesday	Great 8 Honor Society Induction Ceremony
	6	Wednesday	Grade 4 Girls – M'dor L'dor
	11-13	Mon. – Wed.	Nursery End of Year Celebration
	13	Wednesday	8 th Grade Graduation
	14,18	Thurs., Mon.	Kindergarten Graduations
	19	Tuesday	Last Day of School; 1:00 p.m. dismissal Gr. 1-7
* No Sessions			

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