



ANNUAL REPORT

2023-2024



jewish community
day school of rhode island



A Message from Head of School and Board President



Andrea Katzman



Shoshana Jacob

As we reflect on another year at JCDSRI, one of our school's five core values – **Achrayut** – responsibility – keeps coming to mind. **Achrayut** comes from the Hebrew root *Acher*, which means “other.” The concept of **Achrayut** requires us to take responsibility for our own actions and to respond to the needs of others. You, our donors, have embraced this value; no matter the challenges we face, you are beside us, sharing our burdens and sustaining us.

Since the printing of our last annual report, our school experienced two catastrophic floods, and each time we were able to quickly and ingeniously reconfigure our classroom spaces. This couldn't have been achieved without your generosity and encouragement. Within that same period, the attack in Israel on October 7th brought several families to our doorstep seeking respite for their young children. Once again, our community embraced the value of **Achrayut**; community partners, donors, parents, and faculty joined forces to cover tuition costs, find housing and furnishings, and give our guests opportunities to learn, rest, and heal. When they eventually returned to Israel, they did so with renewed spirits.

Your commitment to the value of **Achrayut** ensures that the challenges we face only serve to expand our gratitude, strengthen our mission, and multiply our accomplishments. Indeed, our educational program continues to be superb, our classrooms are full, and our graduates are eager to share their gifts with the wider community in meaningful and impactful ways.

This annual report reflects our shared responsibility for our children now – and for generations to come. May we continue to grow from strength to strength.

With gratitude,

Andrea Katzman
Head of School

Shoshana Jacob
President

Our Priorities

Dedication to Academic Excellence

A commitment to intellectual rigor shapes our curriculum and guides our students long after graduation. This year, our fifth graders received acceptances from every school to which they applied, allowing them each to choose the middle school that will best fit their learning style, academic goals, and interests.

Fostering a Life-long Love of Learning

Engaging learning spaces created by our passionate faculty inspire exploration and interaction. Students are encouraged to help construct their own learning experiences, are invited to take intellectual risks, and are pushed to reflect and build upon their discoveries.

Social Emotional Learning

Explicitly teaching our students how to recognize their own emotions and those of their classmates cultivates responsibility, insight, and empathy. Classroom expectations are co-created by teachers and students, strengthening communication, problem-solving, and critical-thinking skills.

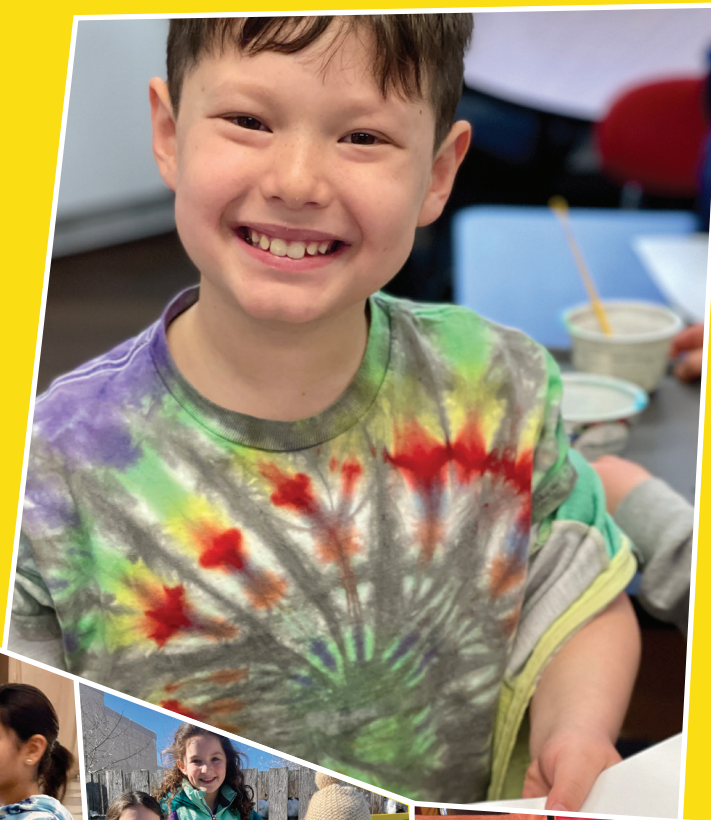
Creating Meaningful Connections to the Jewish People

JCDSRI students experience Jewish joy, deepen their Jewish identities, and serve their community. As the only pluralistic Jewish Day School in Rhode Island and Southeastern Massachusetts, our students learn to articulate their own thoughts and values while remaining curious about others' beliefs. Understanding, appreciating and celebrating diversity and difference while emphasizing that we are all part of a beloved community ensures that everyone feels welcomed, respected and safe.



Making Jewish Day School Education Accessible for All Children

As a mission-driven school, we are committed to a needs-blind admissions policy, giving all Jewish children access to our educational program regardless of a family's financial circumstances. As a result, the percentage of families receiving scholarships at JCDSRI is double that of other local and national independent schools.



Highlights of 2023-2024!

45th Anniversary Gala



Holiday Celebrations



Playground



Leadership Development: Board Retreat



Community Spaces: Mo'adon



New Classroom Spaces: Bet Am



Reading Buddies



Partnership with Save the Bay



Zimriyah & Special Visitors Day



2023-24 Administrative Team

Andrea Katzman, Head of School

Jill Davis, Principal

Harshita Lakhiani, Chief Financial Officer

Shayna Fel, Director of Admissions and Community Engagement

Alison Walter, Director of Development

Sgt. Anthony Bucci (Ret.), Director of Security

Meredith Friedman, Executive Assistant to the Head of School

Donna Baer, Administrative Assistant

Taly Contreras, Facilities Manager

Rhonda Mills, Director of Yahadut (Jewish Studies)

Bethany Weinstein, Social Worker

Ruth Horton, Early Childhood & Special Education Coordinator

Board of Trustees

We are grateful to our Board of Trustees, who served as steady stewards of the school, helping us move through this year securely, confidently, and with a dedication to creating a lasting legacy for generations to come.

Executive Committee 2023-24

Shoshana Jacob, President

Lesley Bogad, Vice President

Rabbi Navah Levine, Treasurer

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Mara Ostro, Past President

Karen Beraha, Presidential Appointee

Rabbi Elan Babchuck

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Susan Leach DeBlasio

Robyn Furman

Marisa Garber

Debra Herman

Kenny Hersh

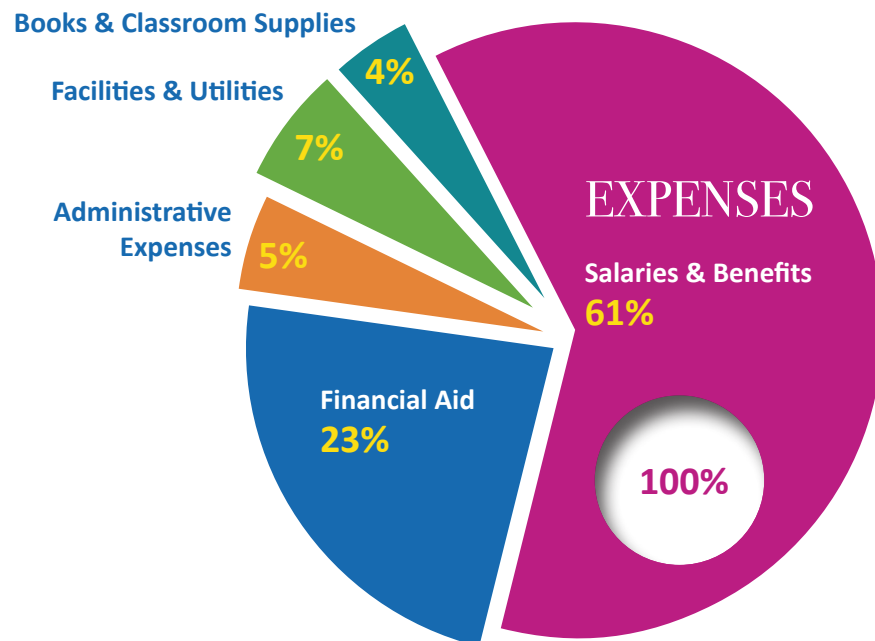
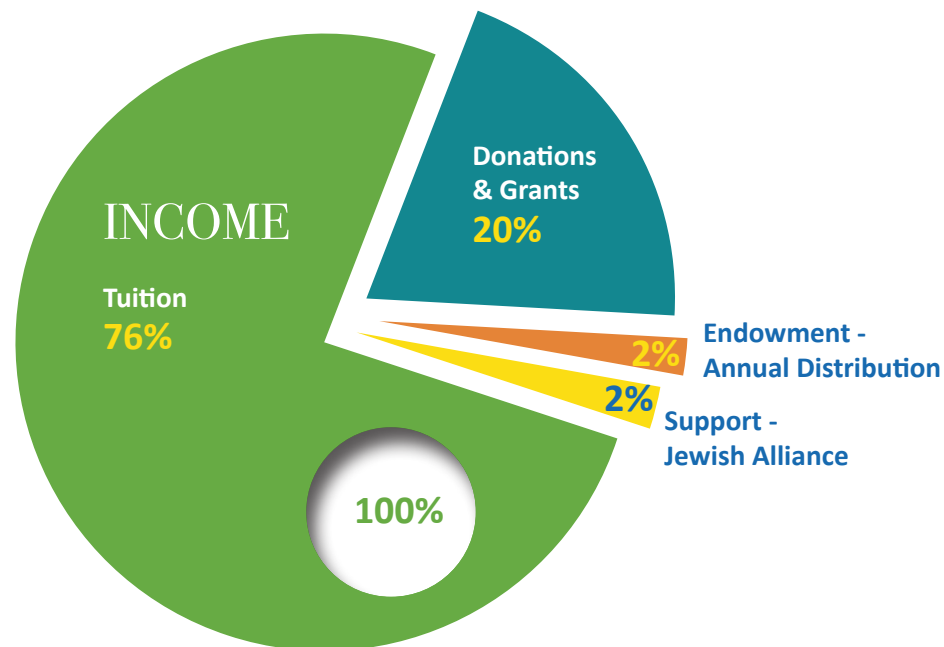
Judy Rosenstein

Jessica Schuster

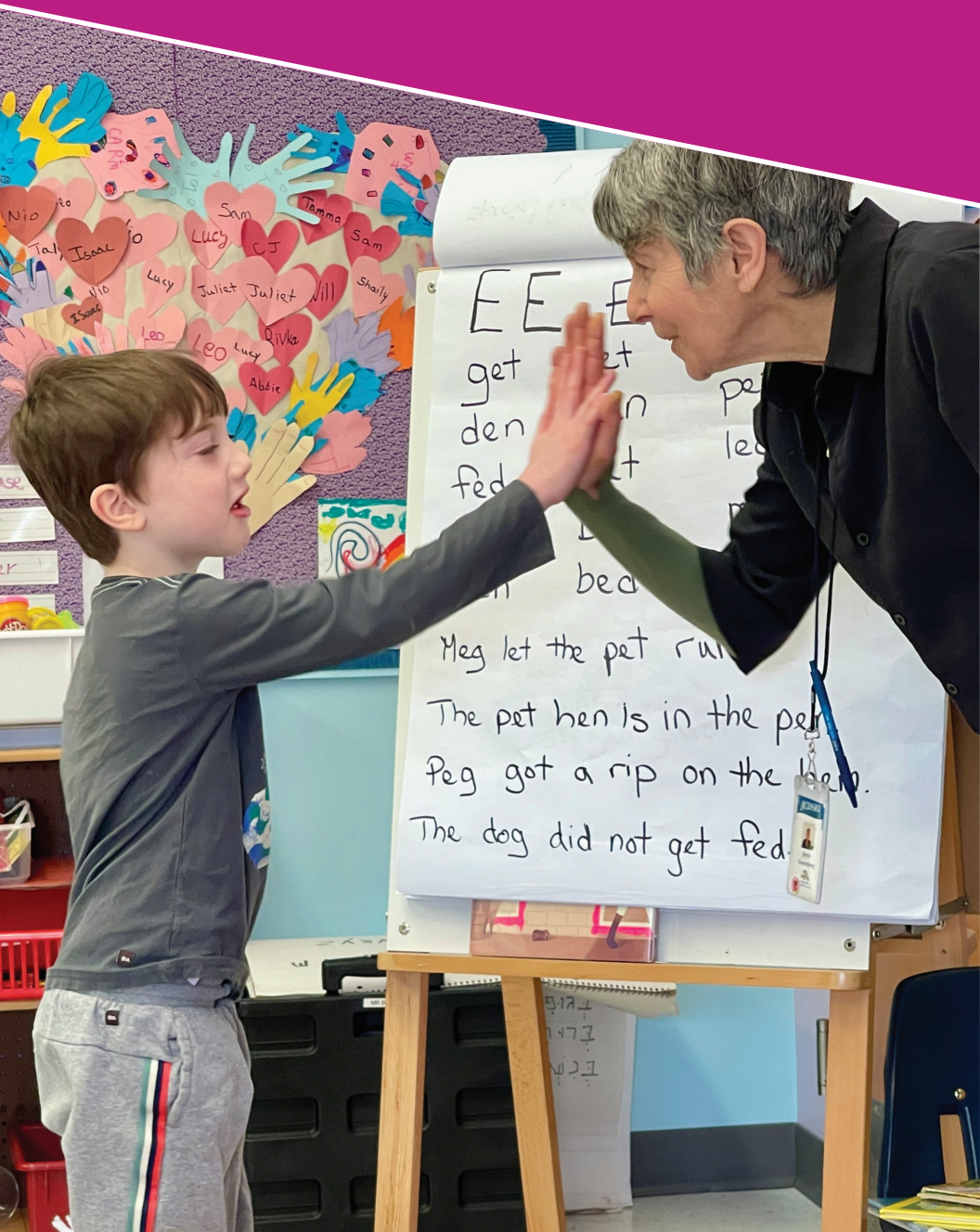
Rabbi Howard Voss-Altman



Our Year 2023-24



Donor Listing



We are pleased to present you with our Annual Report of Giving.

We are so grateful for the support of our Board, parents, grandparents, alumni families, friends, and community members who demonstrated their commitment to JCDSRI with their generous donations. This report reflects all of the gifts **received between April 1, 2023 and April 15, 2024**, including: our Annual Campaign, Gala and Annual Meeting, the General Campaign, the Immediate Israeli Family Assistance Fund, the Facilities Emergency Campaign and the Challenge Grant. These gifts helped sustain a meaningful experience for our students and families throughout the year!

ATID (Future) \$25,000 and up

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Anonymous Donor
Anonymous Donor
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PRACHIM (Flowers) \$18-\$179

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 Peter and Ellen Zane

Thank you to each and every one of our donors for making JCDSRI a priority in your Annual Giving this past year. We have made every attempt to ensure the accuracy of the lists published in this report. Please accept our sincerest apologies and notify us with any errors or omissions by contacting the Development Office at 401-751-2470 or email awalter@jcdsri.com.

Giving Opportunities at JCDSRI

Making a charitable gift is a personal decision. Understanding the differences between gifts will help you determine the impact you want to have. Annual, Endowment, and Yad B'Yad gifts support the mission of JCDSRI now and in the future.

Annual Fund Gifts have a direct and immediate impact on all aspects of JCDSRI. They will be used to meet immediate needs and pressing priorities. These funds give the flexibility to respond quickly to new opportunities and unexpected needs.

Endowment Gifts are a permanent self-sustaining source of funding. Each year, a portion of the value of the fund is paid out to support the school. Any earnings in excess of this distribution are used to build the fund's market value. Endowment funds can grow and provide support in perpetuity and can create a permanent legacy of support at JCDSRI.

Yad B'Yad (Hand in Hand) Fund provides grants and scholarships to our families who are dealing with unforeseen challenges. Your generous gift will ensure that support will continue to be available for the families that need it most.

Annual

- Every fiscal year
- Small gifts making large impacts
- Immediate needs
- Short-Term
- Staffing
- Expenses not covered by tuition
- Tuition Assistance
- Scholarships



Endowment

- Savings Account
- Needs to increase with growth of school
- Lasting security
- Investment
- Foundation for the future
- Stability during uncertain times
- Long-Term
- Legacy Giving
- Professional Development

Yad B'Yad

- Additional gifts to your Annual Campaign Commitment
- Helps current families with immediate needs



2023-24 Special Funds

- Israeli Emergency Assistance Fund
- Challenge Grant
- Facilities Emergency Fund



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85 Taft Avenue, Providence, RI 02906

