



## Joseph Kushner Hebrew Academy Rae Kushner Yeshiva High School

### A Message From the **Middle School Principal**

Dear Middle School Families,

As we continue to examine our academic program for the year ahead, we have decided that the Middle School day will end in keeping with the Lower School dismissal at 3:35 each day, which is a change from our traditional 4:20 dismissal for our 7th and 8th graders. Dismissing students at this time will mitigate risks and give our students some much-needed relief from fully-masked days. Additionally, the uniform dismissal time will allow families to streamline their own pickup procedures at the end of the school day.

We feel this is the best decision both academically and socially for all of our Middle School students this year. Within our new framework, please note:

- We have preserved the rigor of the 7th and 8th-grade academic program and its traditional eight-period structure.
- For 5th and 6th grades, we will be adding an additional class period to the school day.
- Our 5th-grade program will be enhanced with redistributed academic time, which will allow for more teacher-led instruction in Judaic Studies and Ivrit, as well as the preservation of specials like art and music.
- For our 6th graders, we're excited to share that with our new schedule, our 6th-grade program will now feature a new Elements of Writing class (in addition to the existing 6th grade LA classes), through which all 6th graders will receive additional writing instruction.

We're looking forward to a terrific school year with you! Shabbat Shalom!

Warmly,  
Ariel Levenson  
Danielle Goldstein