



# Derech HaTorah of Rochester

The Path of Respect and Excellence

3"02

August 14, 2020

כ"ז מנחם אב, תש"פ

## A Busy Summer!

It has been a very busy summer, so far. We've hired six new teachers and a secretary... and we can't wait to introduce them to our wonderful, friendly students. While, Baruch Hashem, the pandemic hasn't hit Rochester hard, we have been hard at work preparing to open with numerous precautions in place. The bottom line is we are committed to doing everything necessary to ensure that DHR is ready for another great school year, with health, safety, learning—and fun—as our priorities!

## Welcome to our New Teachers!

- ~ Ms. Aimee Hunt, kindergarten and first grade general studies
- ~ Mrs. Kathy Clarke, third grade general studies
- ~ Mrs. Becca Swanton, 4/5 grade girls general studies
- ~ Mr. Cole Anderson, middle school science
- ~ Rabbi Dovid Ribakow, 4/5 boys general studies and second grade Judaic Studies
- ~ Mrs. Ayelet Ribakow, 4/5 girls Judaic studies

## Big Reminders

- Please take a moment to review these important DHR reminders to ensure a successful start to the new school year:
- ~ Supply Lists - School supply lists are available on our website, ([www.derechhatorah.org](http://www.derechhatorah.org)) - under the downloads tab.
  - ~ Summer Homework - Recommended summer homework is available on our website ([www.derechhatorah.org](http://www.derechhatorah.org)) under the downloads tab. Please remind students that they will earn DHR dollars that can be used at our back-to-school DHR store!
  - ~ Student Fees - Please send the completed, mandatory Student Fee form, along with payment, to the DHR office by August 19th. Thank you!
  - ~ Immunizations/Physical Exams - NYSED requires an annual physical exam for new entrants and students entering grades K, 1, 3, 5 and 7. Please have your doctor fax over the completed forms as soon as possible to DHR at (585) 486-1089. As per state law, there are no religious exemptions.
  - ~ District Registration & Busing - Please make sure that your children are fully registered within their school district and that you have submitted all required transportation/busing documentation. This information was due to the districts on April 1st.
  - ~ Tuition Contracts - Tuition contracts will be mailed out this week. Please sign and return with post dated checked to the DHR office by August 26th, 2020. Unfortunately, we will not permit students to start school without signed contracts, post dated checks and student fees submitted to the office.

\* Mrs. Elisheva Berenstein has, once again, graciously volunteered to host and run the DHR Uniform Gemach. If you need uniforms for your children, call Mrs. Berenstein to "shop" at the gemach.

## Mazel Tov to...

- ~ Yaakov Baruch Noble (DHR Class of 2010) on his engagement to Elisheva Winiarz.
- ~ David & Dasi Wettenstein upon the birth of their daughter, Emma.
- ~ Drs. Aviel and Zemirah Eidelman on the birth of their son Eliyahu Dov Meir.
- ~ Shmuel (DHR Class of 2009) and Miriam Noble on the birth of their daughter Talia Chana.
- ~ Sruli Mochkin (DHR Class of 2011) upon his engagement to Faigy Schapiro.

## Reopening Details...

As we have communicated in parent emails throughout the summer, it's a priority for DHR to fully reopen, despite the continuing Covid-19 outbreaks around the world. We feel that it is critical for our children's chinuch to bring them back to a real school environment with both the academic and social/emotional supports that we provide at DHR. However, due to the pandemic, it is not an obligation that we take lightly.

Our School Reopening Plan details how we will reopen DHR to align with the regulations developed by NYS in collaboration with the CDC, and local and national health experts.

Of course, as with every plan during this pandemic, this document is fluid and could change as necessary based on guidance from NY state, the CDC and the Monroe County Health Department. However, as of now, we are prepared to open fully, with the following key precautions:

1. Students in classrooms will either practice social distancing or have barriers. They will not be required to wear masks in their classrooms, but will have to wear masks on buses.
2. There will be three lunch periods and separate recesses and P.E. classes to allow students to eat, exercise and play in cohorts, with social distancing.
3. All parents will receive a daily, early morning text inquiring whether their children have a fever, symptoms or have been exposed to anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19. Parents will be required to respond each day before their children arrive at school. All staff will be required to do the same.
4. Students will be required to wear masks in the office, in busy areas outside their classrooms and on school buses.
5. Our water fountains are being reconfigured into water bottle filling stations. Please make sure to send your child with a refillable water bottle every day.
6. We will have hand-sanitizer stations, signage throughout the building, training for faculty and students, and frequent disinfecting of surfaces and areas.

If you are reluctant to tackle DHR's 19 page Reopening tome (emailed to parents and available on our website under "downloads"), we have attached a condensed, two page version of the plan.

We are committed to making this year fabulous, and with siyata d'sh-maya, we will have a healthy, happy and productive year!

## School Uniforms

[www.frenchtoast.com](http://www.frenchtoast.com)

Search for our school and find uniforms for this school year\* and beyond. If you would like, you can add a DHR logo.

## Condolences...

...to the entire Kilimnick family, including Rebbetzin Nechie, Drs. Yosef & Suzie Kilimnick, Shifron & Laurie Kilimnick, Tziporah & Avi Hornstein, Rabbi Dovid Kilimnick, and Rabbi Avi & Esti Kilimnick upon the passing of Rabbi Shaya Kilimnick, Rabbi of Congregation Beth Sholom for 44 years.

...to the family and many friends of Mrs. Miriam Berger, a very special person who loved books, jokes and children.

...to the family of Ms. Linda Levitan, artist, writer and editor of Deaf Life for 33 years.

המקום ירחם אתכם בתוך שאר אבלי ציון וירושלים.

