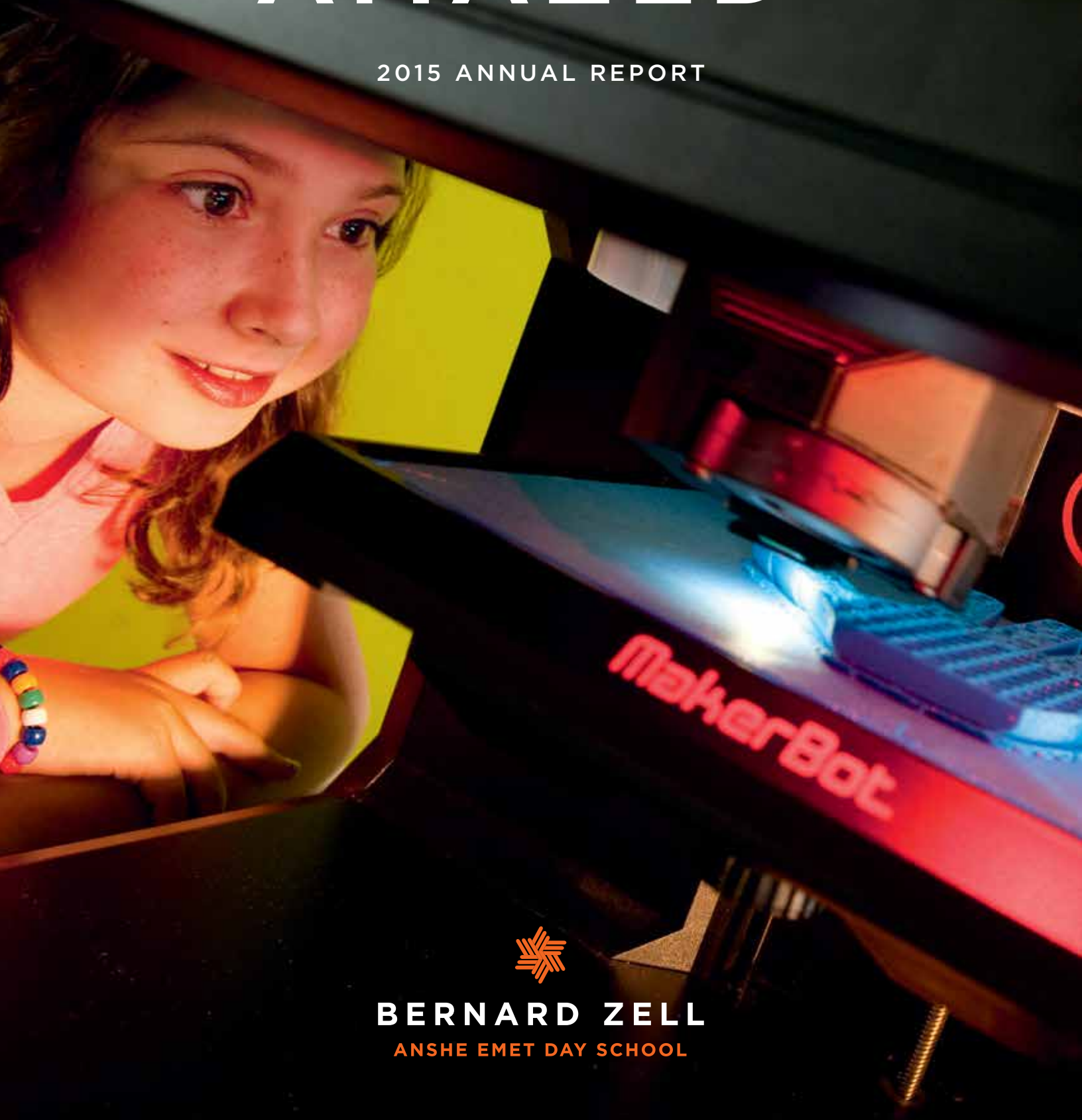


BERNARD ZELL AMAZED

2015 ANNUAL REPORT



BERNARD ZELL
ANSHE EMET DAY SCHOOL

OUR MISSION

To teach them diligently - ושונתם לבניך

Taken from the Torah, these words emphasize the importance that teaching and learning have had for generations. Today, they capture the essence of Bernard Zell as a place where academic purpose, collaborative learning and a deep commitment to humanity develop engaged, confident learners and compassionate leaders for a stronger, more vibrant community and world.

“ Bernard Zell didn't just teach me math, science, Hebrew, Jewish studies, writing, and reading. Outstanding teachers taught me how to be a good person, a caring leader and someone who will make this world a more compassionate place. ”

- Ella Simon, Class of 2016

FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL AND BOARD CHAIR

Life is amazing.

That's something we understand at Bernard Zell. Each day, as we cultivate young minds, we also take care to cultivate wonder. Wonder at how centuries-old traditions help bring us all closer to current events. At the light that goes on when students solve a vexing science problem. At the exhilaration they feel when they engage in spirited debate. To us, education is not something contained within a school day, but instead a catalyst for a lifelong love of learning.

We're consistently amazed by the intelligent, imaginative work of our educators and staff, and the 2014-2015 school year was no exception. We added to our growing number of teachers whose drive to become the best educators possible earned them National Board Certification. We participated in our Day of Service, where teachers, students and staff joined for local acts of kindness toward a greater goal: to make the world a better place.

This annual report is a reflection of our past year, one that was led with inspiration by Alyson Horwitz, Ed. D., our former Head of School. We offer her immense gratitude for her years of service and vision. The report also offers a glimpse into our fall 2015 school year.

We are incredibly grateful to the Zell Family Foundation. Thanks to their extraordinary generosity in 2015, a Bernard Zell education will be possible for more students for years to come. Read more about this major gift on page 7.

The entire Bernard Zell community is also owed our profound thanks. Our 2014-2015 Annual Campaign and other fundraising events generated a record \$1.5 million, covering more than 10% of our operating budget. Your ongoing support has already made it possible to add new faculty and programs, so we can continue to build on an exceptional foundation of academics and Jewish heritage.

It was a remarkable year, and we should be amazed. But there is one distinction everyone in the Bernard Zell family understands: while we are amazed, we are never surprised. Because we expect ourselves and each other to succeed. And so we do.

We know that only by encouraging students to ask the hard questions will we find the most genuine answers. That Jewish culture, values, language and spirit are at once an unbreakable bond with our past and a blueprint for how we live now. Our school's longstanding union of tradition and progressiveness, close community and global consciousness creates a conversation about life and learning that never ends.

The results are in these pages. In our classrooms. And throughout the Bernard Zell community.

So go ahead. Be amazed.



Noah S. Hartman

Noah S. Hartman
Head of School



Andy Lucas

Andy Lucas
Chair, Board
of Trustees



BE INSPIRED



Creative, responsive learning supported by the city's lowest student-teacher ratio

6 to 1

STUDENTS

TEACHER



A DAY OF SERVICE WITH LESSONS FOR A LIFETIME

The lessons taught at Bernard Zell include those that prepare students for a lifetime: “Treat ourselves and others with respect.” “Build community.” And always, “Make the world a better place.” Students and staff brought those lessons to life on our second annual Bernard Zell Day of Service. It’s an event created in 2014 in memory of Dr. Alyson Horwitz’s late husband, Judd Horwitz; one where we honor his passion and dedication to those less fortunate with acts of loving kindness of our own.

In fall 2015, we were honored to partner with the Jewish United Fund of Metropolitan Chicago’s Tikkun Olam Volunteer (TOV) Network. On this Day of Service, our students learned and taught about respecting older adults, the social impact of hunger, poverty and homelessness, and caring for animals. In each grade, the larger lesson was expressed through activity. Sixth-grade students made cookies and packed sandwiches for Temple Sholom and the Night Ministry. Senior Kindergarten students, who had just studied the rainforest, made blankets for orphaned sloths. These meaningful, tangible experiences inspire all of us to be agents of local and global social change. Because in order to change the world, you must first understand it.

INQUISITIVE, IMPASSIONED LEARNERS: NOT JUST STUDENTS, BUT FACULTY, TOO

National Board Certification is a distinctive honor that teachers earn through rigorous study and extraordinary dedication to their teaching performance. In 2015, Middle School Humanities teachers Barbara Applebaum and Rachel Jury joined a growing cadre of Bernard Zell faculty who have achieved National Board Certification.

“I am now even more aware of how I respond to my students and guide them through the learning process.”

– Barbara Applebaum
Middle School Humanities Teacher

During the certification process, teachers must demonstrate best practices that exemplify their expertise and professional merit. “I knew it would challenge me to refine my practice as an educator,” Ms. Jury says. “Internalizing the National Board’s Core Propositions really made me aware of the small moments in my classroom on which I can focus to make me an even better educator.”

“Reflecting upon and analyzing my own practice took me from being a teacher to being an educator,” Ms. Applebaum says. “It made me define my philosophy of teaching. I am now even more aware of how I respond to my students and how I guide them through the learning process.”

JEWISH STUDIES MELTS TRADITION AND INNOVATION WITH HELP FROM LEGACY HERITAGE TEACHER INSTITUTE

Our teachers weave the threads of Jewish tradition into courses that are challenging and exhilarating. Helping make that connection is Legacy Heritage Teacher Institute.

Middle School Jewish Studies teacher Leehe Matalon was in the first teacher leadership cohort of Legacy Heritage Teacher Institute at The Hebrew University of Jerusalem. She used this experience to develop two seventh-grade courses: “Jewish life in the Golden Age of Spain,” exploring a world in which Jews and Muslims lived side by side, and “American Jewish Roots,” a study of the community’s development in the U.S.

Batel Lieberman, who teaches seventh- and eighth-grade Jewish Studies, is using what she learned to guide the seventh grade’s yearlong preparation for the school’s Yom Ha’atzmaut celebration. In weekly B’Tzavtah meetings, students are exploring Israeli history and culture to help shape Israel Independence Day events.

Meanwhile, teachers Olenka Bodnarskyj, Hagit Lewis and Sarah Palmer joined forces at the inaugural Legacy Heritage Teacher Institute for the Arts, a program with the goal of integrating arts into Jewish education. Mentored by world-renowned artist David

Moss, they are working with sixth- and fourth-graders on creative work that captures the spirit of our school community.

2015 ORLOFF AWARD RECIPIENTS HELP STUDENTS LIVE HISTORY

The Mark Orloff Professional Development Award, named for a Bernard Zell father who took a creative, inspiring approach to work and life, gives teachers the opportunity to pursue an educational goal. The 2014-2015 Orloff Award winners, Joy Lubin, Jenna Koehler and Lauren VanderPluym, joined Freedom Lifted to tour the epicenters of the 1960s Civil Rights movement, meeting Freedom Riders and walking in the footsteps of those who made history. Along the way, they acquired nonfiction texts, videos and firsthand accounts to enhance the sixth-grade Nonfiction Civil Rights Unit in Reading and Writing Workshop. Photos and descriptions of exhibits they visited will help students create their own Civil Rights museum.

The educators also witnessed history: the removal of the Confederate flag from the Alabama State Capitol, which occurred as the Supreme Court made its momentous decision on marriage equality. This became part of a lesson about issues that are still part of American society, and informed a presentation that sixth-graders made to the school covering the classic Civil Rights era up to modern movements such as Black Lives Matter and LGBT equality.



Creativity, teamwork, problem-solving and tenacity: all part of a day's innovative learning for our school.

BE INGENIOUS

FOR SEVENTH-GRADE BIOLOGY STUDENTS, THE FUTURE IS NOW

It's not every day that you can design a robot in biology class. But it does happen in the spring. That's when seventh-grade students take part in a course created by Middle School Science Instructional Leader Beth Sanzenbacher, Science teacher Jeremy Siegel and Dr. Taher Saif, University of Illinois Gutzwiller Professor of Mechanical Science and Engineering.

The course is based on work that Dr. Saif and his team have done to develop nano-biobots. These tiny machines, created in hopes of finding new ways to target drug delivery or fight cancer within the body, combine biological and manmade materials and are able to move through the body's fluids on their own.

Bernard Zell seventh-graders now learn about the parts of the cell, meet with Dr. Saif, and then design nano-biobots that can locate malaria in the body. This nano-biobot challenge debuted in spring 2015, and will no doubt be an anticipated part of biology class in 2016.

SIXTH-GRADERS FIND A WORLD WITHIN THE WALLS

Who knew that the study of ecosystems could be as close as the nearest wall? Well, our sixth-graders do, thanks to the Science Department's ongoing partnership with the University of Illinois at Chicago and the popular computer simulation "WallCology." Here's how it works: the WallCology simulation runs continuously on multiple computers attached to the walls of our science lab, M'Kom Drisha. These screens act as portals known as "WallScopes," giving students a window into an imaginary space inhabited by a complex ecosystem of virtual fauna. Students collaborate to observe phenomena and create field guides or solutions to the ecosystem's health problems. Not only does this virtual exploration give students expertise in ecology and biodiversity, it has a real-world benefit: they also do field work at the Indiana Dunes National Lake Shore, where they work to solve problems in our own local ecosystem.



DESIGN THINKING BRINGS 'REAL WORLD' PROBLEM-SOLVING TO FIFTH GRADE

Humanities teacher Barbara Applebaum always wanted her classrooms to reflect the "real world." Thanks to a Breaker Workshop from the Independent Schools Association of the Central States (ISACS), now they do.

The workshop taught Ms. Applebaum Design Thinking, which she describes as "a way to bridge critical thinking, innovation and creativity." Now the method is part of fifth grade. Students applied Design Thinking to help make life better for other students, faculty or staff. Some talked to the maintenance staff, then set out to make storage areas more efficient. Others talked to teachers who needed a simple way to organize homework. Students then brainstormed solutions and created prototypes with everything from cardboard and tape to Google websites.

A virtual exploration in ecology and biodiversity has a real-world benefit, as students work to solve problems in our own local ecosystem.

A leadership panel including Head of School Noah S. Hartman then chose a winning design. In the 2016-2017 year, at least one classroom will incorporate dry-erase desks, an environmentally friendly way for teachers to encourage collaboration.



MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS STILL UP FOR THE (MAKER) CHALLENGE

At the second annual Motorola Mobility Foundation Chicago Maker Challenge, Bernard Zell students continued to shine. The technology competition challenges middle and high school students citywide to solve a community problem or make the world more accessible to people with disabilities. Two Bernard Zell teams were victors among 120 entrants after presenting ideas to a panel of judges, Motorola executives, Congressman Danny Davis, and a room of 200 people.

Allison Dunn, Eli Lichstein, Helena Mackoff and Charlie Cohen, then in fifth grade, took Grand Prize in the Middle School Accessibility category with "The Mind's Eye," a computer that makes it simpler for blind children to learn Braille. As Ariel Cheung wrote at DNAinfo.com, "The Mind's Eye laptop would have a screen with holes where Braille letters would rise as a voice describes the letter." Among other prizes, the group won a 3D printer for the school.

Hannah Revels and Adina Kalman, then seventh-graders, won for a second year in a row. Their "Phone That Charges When You Move" scored runner-up in the Middle School Community Solutions category.

And as Cheung wrote, there is another upside: "Charlie and Allison said they are considering careers in science and technology, and they gained a better appreciation for people's ability to maneuver past impairments."

RECORD HIGHS: WE ACHIEVE THEM TOGETHER

We talk about justice and honesty. Responsibility and commitment. Friendship and family. And at Bernard Zell, we live it. The interconnections between students, staff, families, alumni and supporters harness an energy that takes us all further than we could ever imagine. Simply put, we sustain each other.

In 2015, we received an overwhelmingly generous philanthropic commitment from the Zell Family Foundation. This gift will allow us to further what has long been part of our mission and a strategic priority of our board: offering tuition assistance to students with demonstrated financial need and supporting additional investment in both educational and strategic initiatives. Read more about this gift on the facing page.

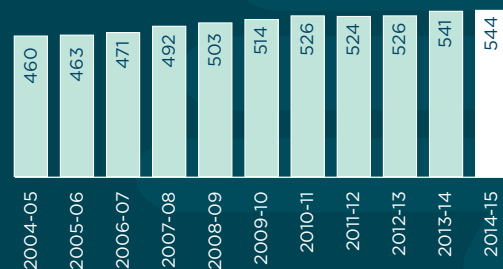


In 2015, your support opened doors to more students than ever before.

STUDENT ENROLLMENT

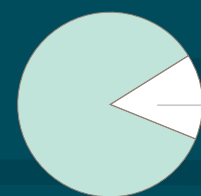
544

We welcomed 69 new students in the 2014-2015 school year—for a record enrollment of 544 students.



Student enrollment reached 544, an all-time high, with growth at every grade level.

TUITION ASSISTANCE



15% OF STUDENTS RECEIVED
TUITION ASSISTANCE

In 2014-2015, 15% of our students, 81 in total, received tuition assistance—a 19% increase over the previous year.

“We are so grateful, because without this assistance we would never be able to be here. It’s been such an amazing experience—not only for our daughter, but for our whole family!”

– Bernard Zell Parent

THE POWER OF THE PROMISE

Major Gift From the Zell Family Foundation Ensures a Vibrant Future

Bernard Zell Anshe Emet Day School was named in memory of Sam Zell’s father. Now the Zell Family Foundation has ensured that the legacy of Bernard Zell and the strong and vibrant future of our school will thrive for generations to come. The Zell Family Foundation has pledged \$1 million annually to our school, concluding with the planned addition of a \$25 million bequest.

Sam Zell, the Chairman of Equity Group Investments, and Helen Zell, Executive Director of the Zell Family Foundation and a proponent of early childhood education, are committed to supporting outstanding education shaped by Jewish values. The school has used the gift to establish the Zell Family Fund for Jewish Education, dedicated to offering tuition assistance to students with demonstrated financial need and to supporting additional investment in educational and strategic initiatives.

“We hope that this gift will inspire parents, grandparents, alumni and friends to continue to support this school that prepares our children as leaders in the Jewish community.”

– Helen Zell
Executive Director, Zell Family Foundation

“We and the Zell Family Foundation have long supported Bernard Zell Anshe Emet Day School, for two reasons,” Mr. Zell says. “The first is our

longstanding commitment to excellence in Jewish education, which this school exemplifies day in and day out. The second is our sincere belief that with our support the school will continue to provide the best foundation for Jewish children to become critical thinkers and compassionate leaders with strong identities as Jewish Americans.”

We are tremendously grateful to the Zell family for its friendship and leadership. This extraordinary gift will impact generations of Jewish families and the larger community by giving more children, regardless of economic circumstance, a powerful foundation for both academic success and an engaged Jewish life.

The school was dedicated to the memory of Bernard Zell in 1988. Bernard Zell and his wife, Rochelle, immigrated to the United States from Poland during World War II. They traveled via Japan after having been saved by Chiune Sugihara, the Vice-Consul for the Empire of Japan in Lithuania also known as “the Japanese Schindler,” who went against government orders to sign exit visas for them in 1940. Rochelle and Bernard Zell ultimately raised their children in the Chicago area and became very active in the Jewish community. Rochelle Zell served on the board of Bernard Zell Anshe Emet Day School for many years.

“We hope that this gift will inspire parents, grandparents, alumni and friends to continue to support this school that prepares our children as leaders in the Jewish community,” Mrs. Zell says.

“We remain proud,” Mr. Zell concludes, “to have this outstanding school bear my father’s name.”

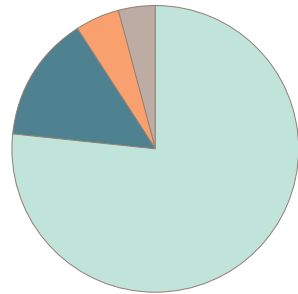


FINANCIAL UPDATE

2014-2015

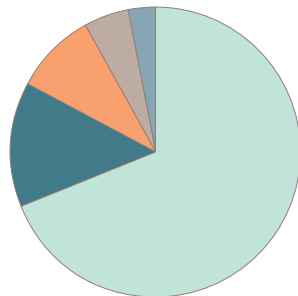
Audited for the year ending June 30, 2015

REVENUES



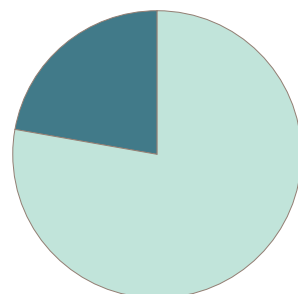
- Tuition **76%**
- Fees **14%**
- Other Revenues **5%**
- Investment Revenue **4%**

OPERATING EXPENSES



- Instructional Program **69%**
- Management & General **14%**
- Facilities Operations **9%**
- Food Service **5%**
- Depreciation **3%**

SUPPORT



- Annual Giving **78%**
- Fundraising Events **22%**
- Unrestricted Contributions and Grants **0%**

We were once again humbled by the generosity of our community during the 2014-2015 year, when Annual Campaign and fundraising events generated a record \$1.5 million, covering more than 10% of our operating budget. Excluding non-recurring expenses, our operating budget was approximately \$14.7 million. After incorporating support received from fundraising activities, grants and investment gains, net revenue exceeded recurring expenses by approximately \$260,000. The Bernard Zell Board of Trustees, Finance Committee and administration continue to focus on effective and efficient financial management, supporting our mission while minimizing increases in tuition.

REVENUES

Program Revenues	
Tuition (net of Tuition Assistance of \$952,445)	\$ 10,049,485
Fees	1,877,185
Investment Income	554,148
Auxiliary Services	714,900
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	130,250
Total Revenue	\$ 13,325,968

OPERATING EXPENSES

Instructional Programs	
Personnel	\$ 8,614,135
Program Supplies & Services	718,642
Student Activities	985,625
Facilities	1,351,944
Food Service	748,566
Depreciation	469,139
Total Instructional Programs	\$ 12,888,051
Management & General (Includes \$332,012 of non-operating budget expenses)	2,113,249
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 15,001,300

EXCESS OF OPERATING EXPENSES OVER REVENUES BEFORE SUPPORT \$ (1,675,332)

SUPPORT

Annual Giving	\$ 1,180,421
Events	323,766
Unrestricted Contributions and Grants	499
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	407,678
Fundraising Expenses	(498,085)
Net Support	\$ 1,414,279

Unrealized Gain on Investments \$ 188,783

CHANGE IN UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS \$ (72,270)



BE INVESTED

Your Support Is Our Strength

Every milestone we achieve at Bernard Zell is truly made possible by the generous support of parents and grandparents, students and teachers, and faculty and friends. Special thanks also goes to the amazing volunteers who led the 2014-2015 Development Committee, Annual Campaign, Class Challenge and Annual Fundraiser.

ANNUAL CAMPAIGN

Your donations set another record in 2015.

1,000 ▷ **\$1.2M**

DONORS

DOLLARS

93% **100%**

SUPPORT FROM
BERNARD ZELL
PARENTS

SUPPORT FROM
BERNARD ZELL
FACULTY AND STAFF

IMPACT

Your donations made possible:



**2 MATH
SPECIALISTS**



**DIFFERENTIATION
SPECIALIST**



**ENHANCED
SECURITY**



**NEW STEM
OPPORTUNITIES**



**INCREASED
JEWISH STUDIES
FACULTY**



**TUITION
ASSISTANCE**

NEW AREAS OF ENRICHMENT AND EXPERTISE, THANKS TO YOUR GENEROSITY

Annual Campaign and restricted donations in the 2014-2015 school year allowed us to add several exciting areas of study and support. A Lower School Differentiation Specialist now helps teachers support high-achieving students through differentiated instruction while fostering faculty professional development and parent education. Both our Lower School and Middle School added specialists to differentiate math instruction, foster math-related

opportunities for professional development and parent education, and support technology integration. We also added a Lower School Jewish Studies Coordinator to expand creative, content-rich programming. It's all a testament to the unique spirit of Bernard Zell, where students, faculty, teachers and alumni share an ongoing commitment to our heritage and to lifelong learning.



A LIBRARY AND A LEGACY

Sylvia Gordon Created Both

When Sylvia Gordon was asked to create the school library in 1968, she readily agreed—but “not because I needed something to do with my time or my thoughts,” she says. She’d already put three children through Bernard Zell, worked in her family’s real estate business, and was president of Anshe Emet Synagogue’s Sisterhood. “But someone needed to get the ball rolling and stick with it.”

She’s stuck with it for 47 years and counting. Enlisting the help of Naomi Cohen, whose husband, Rabbi Seymour Cohen of Anshe Emet Synagogue, was an advocate for the library’s creation, Ms. Gordon stocked the double classroom that housed the library until it moved to its current home in 1999. For decades, she raised tens of thousands of dollars, handwriting thank-you notes and envelopes (computer-generated labels were too impersonal). She recently stepped back from fundraising, but she remains personally invested.

“Sylvia’s support allows us to keep the best of what libraries have historically offered and to innovate at the same time,” says Head of School Noah S. Hartman. “She cares deeply about the school.”

“Sylvia is the benefactress of the library,” says Library Media Specialist Rena Citrin. “She is an inspiration to people who care about books, children and support of the school.”

Ms. Gordon in turn praises the work Ms. Citrin has done to make the library “the envy of librarians throughout the city. They’ll call and ask if they can come view it, and they are absolutely amazed.”

The library holds 18,000 books that are continually being updated, countless eBooks and databases, and space for guest speakers to interact with children. Ms. Citrin collaborates with each grade in engaging and sometimes surprising ways. For example, when sixth-graders learn about literary elements (the author’s purpose, themes, settings and characters), they use picture books. And those books are about the Civil Rights movement, to tie in with history classes.

That kind of inventiveness requires commitment, Ms. Gordon says. “A library is a living, breathing organism. It needs constant attention if it is to be up to the high standards we want for our children.” That’s why she’s made plans for her estate to support the library even after she is gone.

“The school needs the library,” she says simply. “I am working to enable it to continue for another 50 years.”

BERNARD ZELL LIBRARY JOINS THE MAKER MOVEMENT

Students check out more than books from our library. Maker Kits give kids and parents a “deep dive” into topics from bird watching and jump rope rhymes to music composition, calligraphy in Hebrew, and electronic circuitry. Each self-contained kit inspires independent, expeditionary learning—one of our core values. And Maker Kits are a hit: in just four months, they circulated nearly 400 times!

BE REMARKABLE

Bernard Zell Alumni Make Their Mark On The World

2011 GRADUATE REFLECTS ON HER BERNARD ZELL EDUCATION

The following is excerpted from an article by Bernard Zell graduate Meredith Leon '11. Read the full article at www.bernardzell.org/blog.

It is rare to find a place you can walk back into years later as though you never left. Bernard Zell is that place for me and for thousands of alumni.

Teachers taught me so much more than multiplication, history, and Hebrew. Field trips illustrated the materials’ impact on society. Speakers inspired us to question our world. Projects challenged us creatively, from curating mini-museum exhibitions to writing a diary from the perspective of a figure in the French Revolution. When I went on to high school and was often taught to a test, I realized the importance of a day school education that teaches students *how* to think.

Most importantly, Bernard Zell laid the foundation of Judaism in my life, culminating in the unbelievable opportunity to travel to Israel in eighth grade. Now a freshman at the University of Southern California, I am very involved with Hillel and have found my place attending Shabbat dinners, planning Jewish social events, and joining Trojans for Israel. Bernard Zell ingrained in me the necessity of seeking out Jewish communities, no matter where life takes me.

ALUMNAE GIVE JEWISH GIRLS IN CHICAGO A VOICE IN PIONEERING RESEARCH STUDY

Bernard Zell alumnae Simone Wallk '13, a student at Walter Payton College Prep, and Daniella Rafaeli '13, who attends Whitney M. Young Magnet High School, created the first research project of its kind to ask Jewish teenage girls in Chicago about relationships, mental health and their Jewish faith. The study was part of The Research Training Internship (RTI), hosted by the Jewish United Fund (JUF) in partnership with Ma'yan and the DePaul University Beck Research Initiative for Women, Gender, and Community. As Wallk told *JUF News*, “It was an empowering experience that gives Jewish girls a voice in our community.”

CLASS OF 2015 HIGH SCHOOL ADMISSIONS

Ninety percent of the Class of 2015 gained admission to the top five selective enrollment high schools in Chicago, attending 16 different high schools overall. These include: Jones College Prep, Lane Tech College Prep, Northside College Prep, Walter Payton College Prep and Whitney M. Young Magnet High School. Nearly 60% of graduates were admitted to public high school programs such as the Double Honors and International Baccalaureate Program at Lincoln Park High School. Graduates also attend independent schools including Beacon Academy, Francis W. Parker School, The Latin School of Chicago, The University of Chicago Lab School, and The Wolcott School.

CLASS OF 2011 COLLEGE ADMISSIONS

We are proud to announce that our 2011 alumni are attending the following colleges and universities:

- Amherst College
- Bates College
- Beloit College
- Boston University (2)
- Brandeis University
- Butler University
- Case Western Reserve University
- Colorado College
- Columbia College Chicago
- Emory University
- Georgetown University
- Harvard University
- Indiana University
- Illinois Wesleyan University
- Miami University of Ohio
- Pomona College
- Quest University
- Tufts University
- Tulane University (2)
- University of Chicago
- University of Illinois
- University of Iowa
- University of Michigan (6)
- University of Pennsylvania (5)
- University of Southern California (3)
- University of Wisconsin
- Wesleyan University



Clockwise from left: Linda Hagan, Denise Sprague, Dr. Alyson Horwitz, Rina Greenberg, Renee Kruss and Idie Zimbler



BE EXTRAORDINARY

A Tribute to Our Retiring Leaders and Educators

ALYSON HORWITZ, ED.D.

In 11 years as Head of School, Alyson Horwitz, Ed.D. was known for sincerity, empathy and quiet strength. She helped increase enrollment by nearly 100 students, and her curriculum review established key standards in general and Jewish studies. Dr. Horwitz added leadership roles in science, math, Hebrew and differentiated instruction and encouraged faculty participation in the Kivunim program in Israel. She was happiest observing children engaged in learning.

RINA GREENBERG

For 32 years, Rina Greenberg combined love of the Hebrew language with dedication to inspiring every student. She embraced challenges while teaching first through eighth grade, coaxing reluctant students to speak Hebrew and always eager to experiment with new curricular materials, teaching methods and learning strategies.

LINDA HAGAN

Linda Hagan began her career in 1974 as a learning specialist teaching primary communications in senior kindergarten (SK) to fifth grade. In 2000, she became a first grade teacher at Bernard Zell. For the past nine years, she lent her educational expertise to our SK classroom. She was known for encouraging children to take risks and grow as members of the classroom community.

RENEE KRUSS

Renee Kruss joined Bernard Zell in 1982 as the Lower School Physical Education teacher. During her tenure, she raised three daughters who attended the school. From 1995 until retirement, Ms. Kruss also taught Life Skills to grades two through five. She chaired the school's annual Jump Rope for Heart Program, earning the Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Heart Association.

DENISE SPRAGUE

For Denise Sprague, teaching was a labor of love. Joining Bernard Zell in 1996, Ms. Sprague taught visual arts in the Lower School, was a longtime advisor of the yearbook, and acted as the photographer for daily and special events. She believed strongly in the importance of inspiring students through integrating arts education.

IDIE ZIMBLER

Before becoming Head of Middle School in 2004, Idie Zimbler spent four decades teaching language arts, social studies, science, math, French and the arts. In 2010, she became Head of Curriculum and Professional Development, researching ways to support gifted and struggling students and developing the intersection between creative play and academics. She created a curriculum review process and led faculty research in subjects ranging from reading and science to teacher evaluation and mentoring.

BE INVOLVED

We Rely On Our Community

BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2014-2015

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HONORARY TRUSTEES

Richard Sager

In 2015-2016, we were pleased to welcome new board members Coby (Steve) Derringer, Lori Komisar, Michael Masters, Lonnie Nasatir, Ashley Netzky and Ellen Zickmann. Get to know our entire 2015-2016 Board of Trustees at www.bernardzell.org/about/board.

YOUR GIFT HELPS US BUILD ON ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND OUR JEWISH HERITAGE

We are deeply grateful to our community for their voluntary philanthropic support of Bernard Zell.

GIFTS BY CASH, CHECK OR CREDIT CARD

A gift of cash is available immediately for the school's use and is fully deductible from your federal income taxes. Please make checks payable to Bernard Zell Anshe Emet Day School. Pledges made are payable through June 30 of a given school year. A gift also may be made by credit card.

ONLINE DONATIONS

A gift may be made online at www.bernardzell.org/donate.

GIFTS OF SECURITIES

By giving appreciated securities that you have held for one year or more, you avoid a capital gains tax and receive a deduction at full market value on the date of the stock transfer to the school. Please contact the Development Office or visit us online for more information.

MATCHING GIFTS

Donors may be able to maximize their annual gift by leveraging their corporate matching programs. Please contact the Development Office to assist you with the process.

PLANNED GIVING

Planned gifts such as bequests, real estate, stocks, life insurance or other assets are not only very generous, but also have potential benefits for a donor as a component of thoughtful estate planning. Create a legacy by making a meaningful contribution, and also maximizing tax and other financial benefits.

TRIBUTES

Tribute cards offer a thoughtful way to honor a simcha—a bar/bat mitzvah, birthday, anniversary, or graduation—or to send condolences to those who have lost a loved one. Please contact the development office or visit us online at www.bernardzell.org/tribute to purchase your tribute cards.

For more information, please contact:

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Visit us at www.bernardzell.org/giving.



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