



2021 Faculty & Staff Appreciation Lunch

May 14, 2021
12:30 PM

#Tigers



Teachers



Questions for our 2020-21 honorees:

- 1. What's your favorite picnic spot?**
- 2. What's your favorite picnic food?**
- 3. What's your favorite picnic activity?**
- 4. Please write us a bio that is reflective of your time at Denver Jewish Day School.**

Honorees

Jason DiGioia - 5 years

1. Overlooking the Pacific in Jenner, California
2. Whatever pairs well with the wine
3. Whale watching
4. When I began teaching at DJDS, I did not expect to develop such close bonds with colleagues, students, and families. Though I am saying goodbye, I will always have fond memories of my time here. The DJDS sense of family is a beautiful, rare thing, something I wish I could take with me. Thank you for five special years.



Matan Halzel - 5 years

1. Wash Park!

2. Veggie trays or sandwiches

3. Tossing a frisbee

4. These past five years at DJDS have been really meaningful for me. I care about DJDS deeply, and I could not be prouder to work at this school. I love watching students grow up here every day, and I am incredibly proud of the recent success of the Varsity Boys Basketball team. Having the opportunity to see this school through various lenses - as a student and employee in marketing and as an athlete and a coach - has been valuable and eye-opening for me as I have learned how to help guide students into young adulthood. In addition to the friends that I have maintained from the Class of 2012, I'm most thankful for the new friends that I've made through the DJDS faculty and staff. This mishpacha and community is truly like no other.



Charlene Irani - 5 years

1. Sloan's Lake

2. Mustard potato salad with lots of pickles

3. walking, talking, playing Left, Right, Center, a dice game

4. I have made quite a few friendships throughout the years. Some are now gone but not forgotten and those here, I'm growing old with. Oh, excuse me, growing young with..I have made new friendships this year and will see where they may lead. But, Miss B (Brigitte), she tops my list!



Why I have stayed? I love the school. I love what it stands for and what the school tries to accomplish. I believe we do our best or do what we can for every student and family. I watch daily the interactions of all, striving for that very goal. We are a community, a family of sorts with our highs and lows, everything goes or don't and its a great feeling to be a part of.

Rebekah Kochavi - 5 years

1. Anywhere in Hawaii, if you're treating
2. Anything I don't need to make myself - vegetarian, of course!
3. Mah Jongg
4. I love the community here at DJDS and watching my own kids go through the school. Color war brings back great memories of my own childhood. I've made lifelong friends here.



Sam Tluscik - 5 years

1. An alpine lake
2. Mandarins
3. Kan Jam (frisbee)
4. I can't believe it's been 5 years already! This school has been such a wonderful place to grow as a teacher. Through color wars, trips to L.A., final exam weeks and scoring basketball games, I have been lucky to be a part of such a genuine community that educates the whole child.



Megan Zitron - 5 years

1. Any botanical garden, especially near water
2. Chicken peri peri
3. Relaxing with a glass of chardonnay
4. I enjoy the diversity amongst colleagues, they are supportive and understanding. I appreciate that there is no age discrimination. The Upper Division administration are very supportive. I enjoy the autonomy in the classroom. All in all, I enjoy coming to work every day.. Every day is interesting and challenging - this keeps me going.



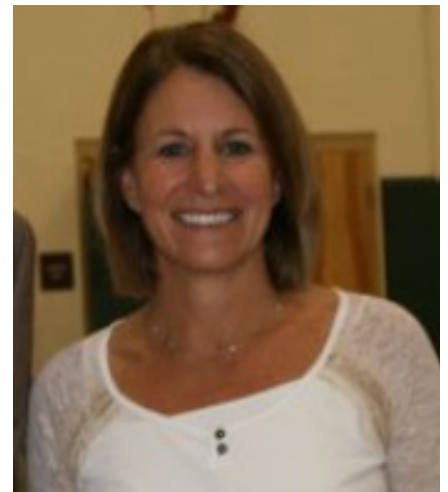
Jodie Applebaum - 10 years

1. My backyard
2. Anything I don't have to cook!
3. Cornhole
4. My time at DJDS began as a kindergartner and the journey continued as I graduated from 12th grade. After going away to college and returning to teach preschool in Denver, I decided I wanted to become a teacher. After completion of my licensure program, a job opened at DJDS and I decided it was time to come home. My teaching career at DJDS spanned 8 years and then the dean position became available. I was excited to represent the voices of teachers and be a part of the leadership team. I love working with students, amazing and brilliant colleagues, and being a part of this big mispacha that I have been involved with for more than half of my life. Helping students to reach their full potential and encouraging them to be their best selves is a rewarding job that I get to be a part of each day at school.



Laurie Morris - 10 years

1. Provence France
2. Wine and cheese
3. Cornhole
4. So many memories! I loved watching all the sporting events especially baseball. I've built many friendships over the years not just with other parents but hopefully with staff as well. It has been my pleasure to volunteer as the Health Coordinator and help the staff with any health care related needs. I plan to continue as long as you'll have me.



Thank you to our faculty and staff at Denver JDS!



Extraordinary Education. Timeless Traditions. Inspired Lives.

Denver JDS is the Rocky Mountain region's only K-12 community Jewish day school where academic excellence goes hand-in-hand with inquiry-based pluralistic Jewish education. Our K-12 curriculum combines challenging college preparatory classes, powerful Judaic values, and an individualized and supportive environment that stimulates intellectual, spiritual, physical, and social success.

Our Mission

Our pluralistic Jewish community day school prepares and inspires Jewish students through an extraordinary secular and Judaic education to live purposefully, act ethically, and thrive in the world.

Divrei Chaim (Words to Live By)

Kindness
Integrity
Curiosity
Community
Purpose

Today's Faculty/Staff Appreciation Lunch provided by:

Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)

**Alyson Slatkin President
Clarissa Cohen, Vice President**

**A HUGE thank you to our PTO President, Alyson Slatkin
and Vice President, Clarissa Cohen.**

**Alyson and Clarissa, thank you so much for all you have done throughout
this entire school year. This year hasn't been easy for any of us, and you
have gone above and beyond to make the DJDS faculty & staff feel
appreciated and then some!**

THANK YOU!

