



As our global Jewish community continues to process the brutal attacks on Israel on October 7th and the current war, the MJDS community is committed to providing unwavering support for the people of Israel, and our students, staff, and families with loved ones there. Israel is our Jewish homeland and is central to who we are as a people, historically, in modern times and in the future. Our connection to Israel is deeply rooted in our history as a people and through the *shinshinim* we've hosted, the *shlichim* families we've welcomed, our alumni students and staff living in Israel, our currently enrolled Israeli families and the incredible Israelis who are on our staff. Our love for the people suffering and those we've lost is profound.

Our Jewish tradition inspires within us a great love of and connection with Israel. It also teaches us love, compassion, and empathy. Our hearts and prayers extend to all innocent people who are suffering from this war.

So what do we do? With empathy, compassion and grace, we support one another locally and our people in Israel. We provide safe and loving spaces for our children and staff to share feelings, ask questions and connect with one another. We show up to community events, donate to causes close to our hearts, and act as upstanders in the face of anti-semitism and teach our children to do the same, reminding each other that Jews don't engage in hate.

These are challenging times. Our core values of wonder, empathy and *tikkun olam* continue to guide us and compel us to come together as a *Kehila Kedosha*, a holy community, and support one another, our collective family in Israel and our Jewish peoplehood. We continue to pray for the State of Israel, the members of the IDF, the safe return of the hostages and for the safety of the people of Israel.

עוֹשֶׂה שְׁלוֹם בְּמְרוֹמָיו הוּא יַעֲשֶׂה שְׁלוֹם עֲלֵינוּ
וְעַל כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל וְעַל כָּל יוֹשְׁבֵי תְּבֵל
וְאָמְרוּ אָמֵן

*May the One who makes peace in the high heavens
make peace for us, for all Israel and all who inhabit the earth. Amen.*

Shabbat Shalom,

Aaron Lippman
Head of School

Lina Dreyfus Wallace
Board President