

# EDUCATING FUTURE LEADERS TO SUPPORT ISRAEL AND OUR JEWISH COMMUNITY



# **RESPONDING TO THE CRISIS**

In the months since the horrific events of October 7th, support for Israel and the Jewish People has been front of mind for the Hausner community. We do not stand by idly-but continue to engage in meaningful responses to the challenges that our community confronts.

### WELCOMING ISRAELI STUDENTS

Over the last few months, Hausner has welcomed 30 visiting Israeli students whose parents sought normalcy and safety for their children. While many have returned, we continue to enroll those who wish to remain, and to offer financial assistance as needed.

## **ALUMNI IMPACT**

Our alumni have not only made us kvell with pride, but have demonstrated that a Jewish Day School education is a building block towards a proud Jewish Identity and a strong connection with Israel. Locally, Hausner alumni have spoken before various school districts, at city council meetings, and organized and spoke at gatherings in support of Israel at their high schools. One of our alumni students wrote a powerful essay published by the Times of Israel, and also spoke at the March for Israel in Washington DC.



### **COMMUNITY INITIATIVES**

Hausner's educational program builds strong connections to Israel and cultivates the capacity to stand up for our communal values.

Among our many initiatives:

- Welcomed 30 visiting Israeli students to our school this year.
- Hausner was the only Bay Area day School to send a delegation of 8 students and 2 staff members to the March for Israel in Washington, DC.
- Led an MLK Day Mitzvah project to benefit Kibbutz Kissufim in Israel (in partnership with the OFJCC).
- Parent Kesher (parent organization) is sponsoring Project Ofakim to support an Israeli city that was attacked on October 7th.
- 6th graders wrote personal letters to IDF soldiers, which were hand-delivered by a Hausner alumna and her parents.
- Hausner parents and staff gathered to sing together and share reflections on the current war in Israel and the recent rise of antisemitism.
- We are developing new Israel Studies resources in consultation with experts in the field.
- 8th graders are participating in an Israeli Supreme Court project piloted by Hausner, with students from the Wornick school.
- We partnered with Z3, a project of the OFJCC, to invite former Israeli Supreme Court Justice Elyakim Rubinstein to speak to our Upper school students.
- We have developed an exchange program with the Leo Baeck School in Haifa in which 8th graders from each school learn from and with one another as well as visit each others' schools.
- Hausner parent Amichai Magen, the Visiting Fellow in Israel Studies at Stanford University's Freeman Spogli Institute, spoke with our Upper Schoolers about the Israel-Hamas conflict.
- A <u>dedicated page on our website</u> lists ways **to donate and support Israel.**

