



Daniel M. Shlufman
President

Daniel Herz
*Vice President,
Financial Resource
Development*

Joelle Halperin
*Vice President,
Planning & Allocations*

Andrew Kent
Vice President, Treasurer

Marni Kriegel, MD
*Vice President,
At Large*

Donna Weintraub
Secretary

Lee Lasher
Immediate Past President

Jason M. Shames
*Chief Executive Officer
Executive Vice President*

Board of Trustees

Lisa Marcus Abramowitz
Roberta Abrams*

Lauri Bader
Dina Bassen

Bruce Brafman
Paul Brensilber

Marcy Cohen
Stephanie Cohn

Ruth Cole
Merle Fish

Judy Taub Gold
David J. Goodman*

Adam Groveman
Andrew Jacobs

Glenn Kissler
Joan Krieger

Nathan J. Lindenbaum
Zvi S. Marans, MD*

Susan Penn
Jayne Petak*

Ron Rosensweig*
Rena Donin Schlusssel

Paula Shaiman
Larry Silverman

Jeff Tucker
Steve Wechsler

Andrea Weinberger
Tracy Zur

**Past Presidents*

Dear Middle School Teachers and Principals:

Jewish Federation of Northern New Jersey is pleased to confirm the participation of your student in our exciting educational program, IsraelNow Northern New Jersey, taking place February 12-20, 2024. This program is a week-long, hands on Jewish educational experience designed specifically for eighth graders.

Students who attend this program make a serious commitment of their time and focus. The intense trip itinerary includes visits to sites of biblical, medieval, and modern Israeli history. Students will also learn about Israel's absorption of immigrants from many different parts of the world, as well as its technological and agricultural innovations. They will be exposed to a new language and to Israel's diverse culture and will meet with Israeli peers who will share details of their life in the Middle East.

IsraelNow has been running this program out of Chicago for over twenty years. We sent students as part of IsraelNow Northern New Jersey for the first-time last year. Parents of last year's participants have reported how pleased they are that the trip has had such a profound and transformative impact on their children. We are confident that this year's experience will be just as impactful for students from our northern New Jersey community.

We hope that you will view your student's participation in IsraelNow Northern New Jersey as a legitimate school absence. Please note that due to the intense daily schedule, students will have extremely limited time for assignments during the trip. You may want to encourage projects such as reports, presentations, scrapbooks, or picture albums to be shared with fellow students. In addition to their firsthand experiences, we will supply supplemental educational material to support such projects.

If you have any questions, please contact Linda Heller at LindaH@jfnnj.org. You can also find additional information on the trip website at IsraelNowTrip.org.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jason M. Shames
Chief Executive Officer
JasonS@jfnnj.org