

COMMUNITY NEWS

Academy offers general, Judaic studies

At the Sonia and Max Silverstein Hebrew Academy (SHA), as at all Yeshivot, there is a balancing act between general education and Judaic studies that requires constant attention.

At SHA, the school's emphasis on academic rigor and an interconnected approach to curriculum has reaped benefits in this area.

The school has consistently proven its ability to navigate this philosophical tight rope—evidenced by its partnership with the Center for Initiatives in Jewish Education (CIJE), a nationwide organization dedicated to preparing students to succeed in the ever-changing global society.

Using hands-on approaches and extensive teacher training, SHA utilizes the tools available through CIJE to better prepare students for the 21st-century workplace.

At the same time, SHA emphasizes students' mastery of Torah and Talmudic studies, using collaborative learning and independent research, skills that are critical to success across all subject areas.



At SHA, students learn to blend millennia-old text with today's technology.

This structure of education also helps build students' confidence and helps SHA develop the strong moral character required of students at Yeshivot across the country.

It's built on the simple premise that

when a student achieves and succeeds, it builds character.

"Each child has a different style of learning. All our students will achieve their goals, but they might get to those goals differently. We take the time to understand how a child learns best and then use the necessary tools to create a

rich and engaging learning environment for each child," said Shireen Deen-Butman, the Head of School for the Silverstein Hebrew Academy. "Our teachers are committed...and trained...to individualize their teaching approaches to maximize each child's unique learning capabilities and strengths."

There is quantifiable evidence that SHA's methods are working.

Results from 2016 7th grade English language arts and math tests show academy students scoring significantly above state averages and comparable to Great Neck School District 7th graders on the ELA exam.

In terms of Judaic studies, SHA students excel as exemplified by their performance in the most recent Torah Bowl. SHA students took top prize against Yeshivot that have been competing in the Torah Bowl for many years.

For more information on the Sonia and Max Silverstein Hebrew Academy, call 516-466-8522, or visit www.shagn.org.