



Shir Tikvah
שיר תקווה

JAMI 5783 | 2022-23 EVALUATION REPORT

BACKGROUND ON EVALUATION

The JAMI 5783 Evaluation was the second evaluation offered to families in Shir Tikvah's Youth and Family Education community, following up on the 2022 promise of better partnership.

45% of JAMI families completed this year's evaluation. This is compared to the 54% of families who completed the 5782 Evaluation.

The results have been compiled here. Each page begins with the evaluation prompt and continues with the corresponding, synthesized results. Short notes about the data are included on each page.

When numbers are shared, these figures reference families who submitted an evaluation.

#1 HOW HAS JAMI SUCCEEDED FOR YOUR FAMILY DURING THE 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR?

1. Making friends and building Jewish community [87%]
2. Teaching Jewish history and culture [78%]
3. Developing Hebrew-reading skills [90% of families with students learning Hebrew]
4. Getting help from my synagogue in fostering and nurturing my child(ren)'s Jewish identity/ies [75%]
5. Learning Jewish perspectives on relevant issues [43%]

In our Summer 2022 JAMI Evaluation, families were asked to select (from a provided list) ways they would like to see JAMI grow. The above five priorities were ranked the highest. In this year's evaluation, families were asked to share whether these intended growth areas improved. In other words, they shared how we did after absorbing last year's feedback. For example, 87% of families felt JAMI succeeded in their child(ren) making friends and building Jewish community.

COMMENTARY ON YOUR ANSWER FROM #1

- Students made connections in their *eidot* that carry them in class and influence with whom they spend time outside of JAMI.
- The breadth and depth of class content felt new and relevant.
- Parents felt their own community connections grew when they hung out during classes and attended family events.

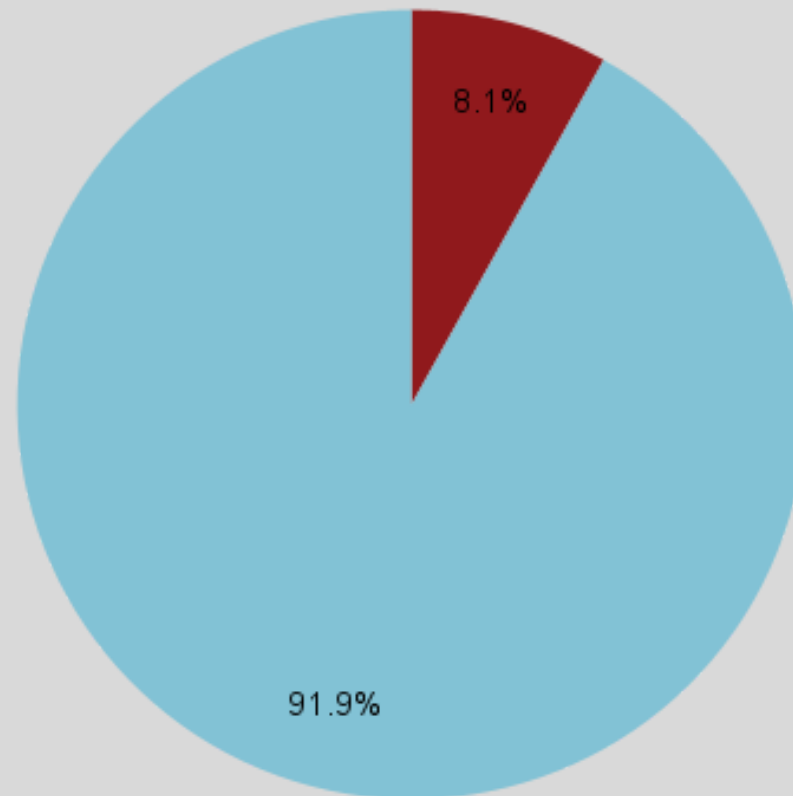


"All three of our children feel connected to their peers, look forward to going to Shir Tikvah, and have things to share after class."

In addition to selecting successes from provided options (Question 1), families were invited to share commentary in their own words. Answers were synthesized into the notes above.

#2 HOW WOULD YOU RANK THE EXPECTATIONS SHARED AT THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR AGAINST YOUR EXPERIENCE?

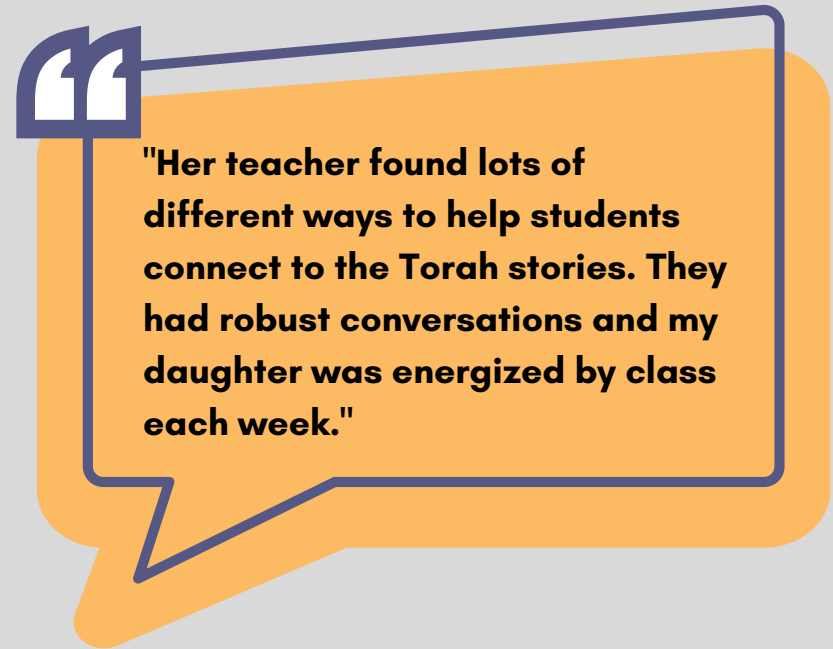
- Did not meet expectations
- Met or exceeded expectations



Families were invited to select their answer from a provided scale.

COMMENTARY ON YOUR ANSWER FROM #2

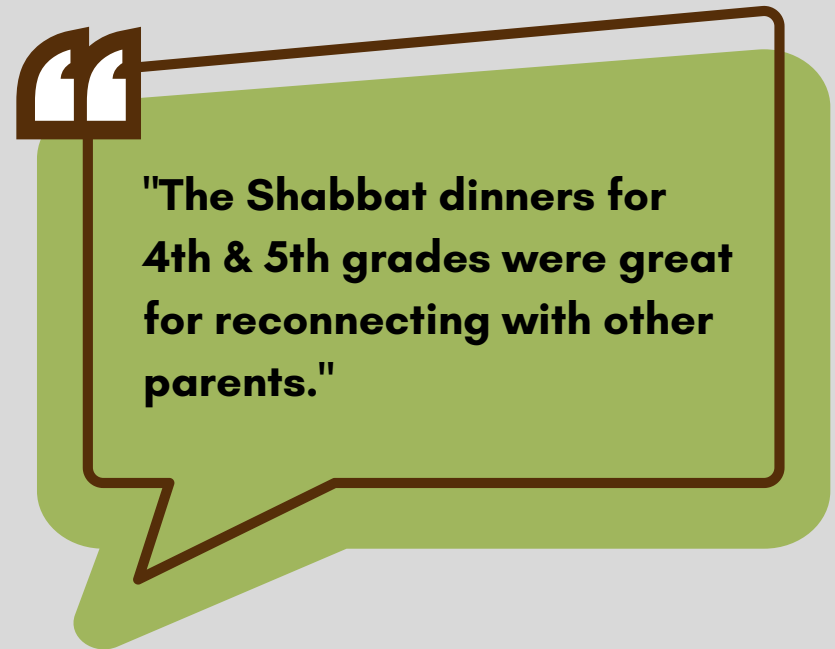
- Google Calendars by *eidah* helped families stay on top of their schedules. Print-out calendars and more notice for special events were requested.
- Parents appreciated the recap emails sent home by teachers each week, and felt their absence when they were not written regularly.
- Frustration was shared about snow-day decision-making.



In addition to ranking on a provided scale (Question 2), families were invited to share commentary in their own words. Answers were synthesized into the notes above.

#3 WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING YOUTH AND FAMILY EDUCATION GATHERINGS OR JAMI PROGRAMS DID YOU OR SOMEONE IN YOUR FAMILY ATTEND?

- 100% of families participated in at least one unique gathering or event this year. 57% of families participated in four or more.
- Our most-attended events were the Purim Carnival, Tzedek Tzunday, and our JAMI Shabbat Evening or Morning gatherings.



Families were invited to select from a provided list the gatherings and events they attended this year. Answers were synthesized into the notes above.

#4 HOW HAS YOUR CHILD'S PARTICIPATION IN JAMI IMPACTED THEIR LIFE OR THE LIFE OF YOUR FAMILY?

- "We have started lighting candles at home for *shabbat*. Our daughter starts conversations about G!d and how to be a good person in the world."
- "Our son proudly self-identifies as Jewish in a community where he is a minority!"
- "JAMI helped us reconnect to Shir Tikvah after feeling distant during the pandemic."
- "I am so much less overwhelmed at the prospect of raising actively Jewish children in a mixed-faith household with the solid base and community Shir Tikvah offers."
- "Our daughter has developed such a strong Jewish identity, and I credit JAMI for a lot of that."
- "JAMI gives my child something meaningful to do that she looks forward to."

The above are direct quotes pulled from evaluation responses.

#5 WHAT HOPES DO YOU HAVE ABOUT THE JAMI EXPERIENCE YET TO COME?

- Families continue to hope for strong connections and deep friendships between students and parents/guardians.
- Excitement was shared for continued joyous and meaningful Jewish learning and understanding.
- Folks expressed a desire for our education staff and teaching faculty to feel supported as so much is expected of them.
- Personal hopes were shared about attending more, leaning in more, and participating in more.

Answers were synthesized into the notes above.

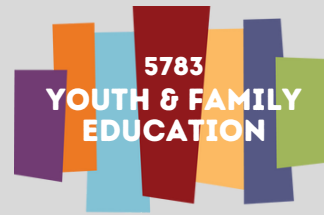
NEXT STEPS ON EVALUATION

It is an honor to partner with our families and to read their reflections on and hopes for the JAMI experience! We are grateful to all of our families who submitted an evaluation.

Feedback from this evaluation will help us continue to build our JAMI culture, strengthen our curricula, and firm up our procedures.

We look forward to even more opportunities to open up channels between families and leadership in 5784 and beyond.

This evaluation was designed for parents/guardians. Our leadership also gathered feedback from students directly, which is consolidated below.



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STUDENT FEEDBACK

BACKGROUND ON STUDENT FEEDBACK

During the final week of classes in *May*, Forrest visited each *eidah* and conducted a 10-15 minute activity to gather student feedback. Activities were designed and executed differently depending on the age of the students.

The results have been compiled here. Each page begins with the evaluation prompt or something similar, and continues with the corresponding, synthesized results. Short notes about the data are included on each page.

The feedback is simple but powerful and similarly helps inform us on culture, curricula, and procedure.

WHAT DID YOU ENJOY THIS YEAR? WHAT DID YOUR TEACHER(S) DO THAT WORKED FOR YOU?

- When the flow of class includes a beginning activity and continues with engaging other stuff and breaks
- We did so many different activities and played so many different games
- **"I'm sensitive to routine and this place is helpful in knowing what's next."**
- When we gathered on *Shabbat* and studied text, it was a nice and more chill time to learn and hang out
- We noticed a change in pace after a few years of intense B'Mitzvah-years, which was needed
- We like debating about texts
- When our teacher sets up the scene or topic and lets us take it from there

Answers were synthesized into the notes above.

WHAT WAS DIFFICULT THIS YEAR? WHAT NEEDS TO CHANGE OR IMPROVE?

- Class can feel long
- We would like it if our classroom was more colorful and had art and posters on the walls
- **"We get hungry during class and need to remember to get here for the Bagel Table."**
- We would like more time outside – even when it is cold
- Our class space is not always inviting or comfortable

Answers were synthesized into the notes above.