

## Youth and Family Education Committee Charter

---

### **Vision of the Committee**

The Vision of Shir Tikvah's Youth and Family Education Committee is to cultivate and sustain a culture of community-inspired, mission-driven education at Shir Tikvah.

### **Responsibilities of the Committee**

- Build and maintain a culture of belonging, collaboration, and community among Shir Tikvah's Youth and Families community
- Ensure Youth and Family Education reaches toward Shir Tikvah's visions and holds fast to its mission at all times
- Inform decisions and make recommendations about Youth and Family Education policies, procedures, and programs
- Recruit talent for Youth and Family Education staff, faculty, and other partners
- Represent Shir Tikvah Youth and Family Education to prospective families and in the wider community
- Serve as a voice of the family experience
- Support the Youth and Family Education department, staff, and faculty - in conceptual and hands-on ways

### **Member Roles and Skills**

The committee is made up of congregants who are invested in Shir Tikvah's young people and families, who believe in Shir Tikvah's staff and faculty, and who are inspired by Shir Tikvah's visions and mission. Priority is given to parents/guardians actively participating in Youth and Family programming.

Committee members are experienced in and passionate about Jewish education and community engagement. They are committed to ensuring Shir Tikvah serves our young people and families to the best of our abilities. They are energized when considering what Shir Tikvah is capable of and what a Jewish education makes possible. They are dreamers and realists. They are collaborative, creative, and problem solvers.

Committee members play an active role in raising our community's children and in fostering their Jewish identities. They view themselves as doers, thinkers, and as part of something special.

They are present partners. They take pride in the responsibility of this collective work, seeking opportunities to build relationships and volunteer their time and energy.

Committee members are skilled in event-planning and execution; fundraising; hospitality; listening; and organization. They are poised to learn about the field and work of Jewish Education.

The committee is made up of congregants who represent and embrace the diversity of Shir Tikvah families. Our families are made up of people who are Jewish and not Jewish. Our families are made up of people who are Black, Indigenous, People of Color, and white. Our families are queer and not. They are neurodivergent and neurotypical. They have children across the ages, from tots to high-schoolers.

### **Notes on Committee Structure**

- The committee's work is ongoing; members serve for at least two years and no more than four years. Members are determined by the co-chairs via an application process
- Members of the committee offer roughly 3 hours of their time to the meetings and work of the committee every month, and at most 5 hours during busier or more involved seasons
- The committee is made up of at least five and at most ten members, including co-chairs (lay leader and Forrest Yesnes, Director of Youth and Family Education)
- The committee shares reports with the Board of Trustees on a regular basis, via a Board Liaison

*Student perspectives are core to the vision, mission, and values of Shir Tikvah's Youth and Family Education; their voices are heard parallel to the voices of our parents/guardians in this committee in an emerging student council.*

### **2024-25 Committee Priorities**

- Establish the committee and come together as a team and identify priority areas for the committee to support Youth and Family Education staff and faculty in 2024-25

---

*This charter was peer-reviewed by Alison Weikel, MAJE; Dr. Cindy Reich; and Deborah Shapira*