

RICHARD WAGNER
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EMPLOYMENT

Current Adjunct faculty at Loyola University, Maryland; Notre Dame University, Maryland; Towson University.

2009-2012 Head of School, Striar Hebrew Academy, Sharon, Ma

Innovations include expansion of the Hebrew language and Judaic studies program and the STEM program in general studies. Growth in professional development focused on Differentiated Instruction; teacher-pupil interaction and special needs awareness. Increased fund development by one-third.

2006-2009 Independent consultant for schools, synagogues and organizations.

Highlights include curriculum development for international service organization; Developing general studies program, curriculum, and personnel for new high school; ongoing communication with four synagogues (Brooklyn and Manhattan) for program development and capacity expansion, sponsored by a UJA Federation grant; services for lay and professional leadership of a new elementary school.

2004-2006 First Head of School, Ben Porat Yosef, Leonia, New Jersey

Opened elementary program for a new Sephardic day school in Bergen County, NJ. Overall supervision of curriculum and instructional program; recruitment and retention of students and teachers; establishment of sound business and fund development practices by the school.

2003-2004 Interim Head, Geshur Jewish Day School, Fairfax, Virginia

Maintained a small (185 students) community day school, grades K-8. Established office of admissions director to address recruitment issues and worked in fund development efforts for annual and capital giving which resulted in a new facility.

1994-2003 Headmaster, Greenfield Hebrew Academy of Atlanta

Educational and executive responsibility for a large (550+) community day school, grades pre-K – 8. Duties include supervision, curriculum development, oversight of student services, leadership development, and budgets and planning. Some innovations include establishing “Pathways,” a school-within-a-school for children with learning disabilities; overseeing plant expansion of a performing arts center with a 700-seat auditorium; charter participation in the “Signature School” program with Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development.

1984 -1994 Director of Educational Services, Jewish Education Association of MetroWest (New Jersey)

Development and implementation of direct services and consultations for a large community central agency (44 schools; 10,000 students). Some innovations include development of commission on family education; opening of center for special education; establishing of day school for émigrés from the FSU; serving as first New Jersey state chair for the March of the Living.

1982 – 84 Principal, Hillel Academy, Ottawa, Ontario

Conduct elementary day school (N-8) of 350 students. Oversight of afternoon Hebrew school and articulation of education issues for Federation.

Major project was the securing a campus and consolidation of facilities on the new site.

1979 – 1982 Assistant Principal, Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School, Rockville, Maryland

Responsibility for Judaic studies in a large community day school (850 students, K- 12).

1975-79 Principal, United Hebrew Schools of Metropolitan Detroit

Responsibility for two branches of the community supplementary Hebrew school; supervision of an early childhood program and teaching of Judaic studies and Hebrew language at local colleges.

1969 – 1975 Educational Coordinator and Director, United Synagogue Youth, Pacific Southwest Region

Programming and administrative responsibility for twenty-seven-chapter area with enrollment of 1,200 teens.

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Columbia Pacific University, 1984; curriculum and instruction
M.A. California State University Northridge, 1974;
 foundations of education
B.A. San Fernando Valley State College, 1972; history
A.A. University of Judaism, 1972; Hebrew literature

Additional studies Harvard Principals Center; educational leadership
Wayne State University; research in education
Teachers College, Columbia University; curriculum and instruction
Jewish Theological Seminary; Jewish education
Hebrew University of Jerusalem; history

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

“Theodicy in the Classroom,” Religious Education (November-December, 1973).

“The Jewish School: Perspectives and Possibilities,” Religious Education (January-February, 1979).

“Reflections on the March of the Living,” Jewish Education (Fall, 1988).

Editor, Prejudice Reduction, Coalition for the Advancement of Jewish Education, (New York: 1989).

Editor, Our Story: The Jews of Sepharad, Coalition for the Advancement of Jewish Education, (New York: 1991).

“The Wisdom of our Traditions,” in What Works With Children, M. and S. Duke, eds., Peachtree Press, (Atlanta: 2000).

“Jewish Literacy is a Mitzvah – and not fulfilled with phonetics,” JTA, 2006.

“Get Ready, Get Set . . . Wait!” Joint Distribution Committee, Morim-Madrichim, (Paris:2008).

One School’s Practice of Modern Orthodoxy presented at the Conference of the Center for Modern Torah Leadership, August, 2011.

Review of *Wisdom by the Week: The Weekly Torah Portion as an Inspiration for Thought and Creativity*, edited by Naftali Rothenberg, Yeshiva University Press and the Van Leer Jerusalem Institute, New York and Jerusalem: 2011 on www.JewishIdeas.org

HONORS and AFFILIATIONS

Fellowship in Jewish Educational Leadership, sponsored by the American Association for Jewish Education at New York University, 1976-78.

Phi Alpha Theta (history honors)

Jewish Educators Assembly (convention chair; executive board)

Council for Jewish Education (treasurer, editorial board)

Coalition for the Advancement of Jewish Education (publications chair; day school conference co-chair, regional representative)

LICENSURE

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