

Mabat At a Glance

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Schechter School
Office Hours
(Winter):

Monday- Thursday 8am -4pm

Friday 8am- 3:30pm

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For Your Calendar:

May 21 Shavuot: School Closed

May 23 7th Grade to NYC (rescheduled)

<u>May 24</u> Yad Family Program for 5th Grade **Shabbat Shalom**Parashat Bamidbar
Candlelighting 7:49 pm

May 18, 2018 5 Sivan, 5778

Reminder: Monday, May 21st SCHOOL CLOSED for Shavuot

A Message From Andrea

The following message was given at the Ner Tamid Gala on April 29th

Good evening and welcome to the Solomon Schechter Day School of Greater Hartford's 2018 Ner Tamid Gala. Thank you for joining us as we celebrate together our mighty day school.

When we come together for Ner Tamid we do so in a spirit of gratitude for all of you who make it possible for each of our students to be known, educated, cared for and loved. When I walk through the classrooms on a school day I am struck by the multitude of moments, moments of questioning, deep learning, student collaboration, teacher guidance and creativity. I feel overwhelmed at wanting to broadcast it all out to our community. None of it would be possible without your generous support. Thank you to the Federation of Greater Hartford and the Jewish Community Foundation for your partnership; thank you to our donors whose generosity makes our education possible; thank you to the parents who give their children to our care. Sending your children to Schechter is an investment and a gift made out of love and commitment to your children, their Jewish life and the Jewish community; thank you to Schechter's Board of Trustees and to Sharon Kochen and Jessica Zachs for three years of courageous partnership; thank you to Sherri Pliskin, Schechter's Development

May 29 Field Day

May 29-June 5 Book Fair

June 4
RESCHEDULED
7th Grade
Presentation of Facing
History Project

<u>June 13</u> Last day of classes 8th grade graduation

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Quick Links

Solomon Schechter Website

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Condolences to...

Gary and Debbie
Katz and their
children, Schechter
graduates Jessica
(2006) and Hana
(2008), on the loss of
their beloved father
and grandfather,

Bill Katz

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Join Our List

Would you like a grandparent, relative, or friend to receive the Schechter newsletter? Email ASobel@ssdshartford.org and include the name, email address, and relationship to Schechter and we will add them to our list!

Officer and Lauren Eisen and Gayle Temkin the co-chairs for this beautiful evening. Finally, thank you to Eric, Jessica, Ben, Paige, Jacob and Zoe for your guidance, vision and unwavering commitment to Schechter.



And now, would the faculty and staff of Schechter please stand up. This is team Schechter, these are the professionals who every day greet our students with a smile, the professionals who work with passion and commitment to educate each and every student. Teaching is one of the most complex, difficult and nuanced professions and those who choose to teach choose to make a difference.

they choose to do the hard work of understanding little human beings, they choose to wake up early and stay up late figuring out how to create the right learning experience and how to reach each student, this is work from the heart, work that can cause tears, determined to never give up. And this isn't work that is perfect, this isn't work that can be "figured out", it is a craft to be honed, it's work that takes perseverance and compassion and they do it, they do it every day.

I am humbled to lead this mighty Schechter. I am passionate and I am committed and I am also a flawed human being and to know that I have your trust is an honor and a great responsibility.

I want to share with you a quote:

"You could not remove a single grain of sand from its place without thereby ... changing something throughout all parts of the immeasurable whole."

- Fichte, The Vocation of Man (1800)

This beautiful quote is more commonly known as the butterfly effect - an aspect of chaos theory which says that a small change in one state can result in a large difference in a later state.

Recently, my brother shared a story with me. He was 12 years old and walked into the dojo for a karate class with 3 other students, and in that quickest of moments he noticed that his sensei was investing incredible energy, passion and hard work, just like he does when there are 25 students there and he remembers thinking, he was struck by how noble it was, how his sensei's commitment didn't waiver, and how he gave so fully to each of his students. This story is an example of the simple actions that put



Gesher Makers in the Makerspace!













good out into the world. That quick moment 33 years ago left an impact on a 12 year old boy, it was the flap of the wings, the pebble dropped in the lake - it's impact on him and those with whom he shared the story are the rings of water moving out farther and farther - we have no idea how far. Sensei had no idea that he put this particular good out into the world, yet see how far it has gone.

Over the last few weeks we have been speaking about how our 5, 6, & 7th grade girls thought about, designed, and wrote a Pesach seder. It's amazing to see the knowledge upon which they drew, incredible to listen as they decided which aspects of the seder they had to share and transmit and their connection to the Hebrew language. More impressive and far more important was the the earnestness with which they approached the need to be welcoming and inclusive; at every point of decision they considered how to best welcome their guests, students from Grace Academy (some of whom are here to tonight - welcome). From the moment our guests walked into the front doors Schechter students welcomed them with smiles and name cards. They welcomed them to the seder and after about 2 minutes of shyness the conversation, smiles, and questions began to flow and before too long there was laughter erupting and hysterical conversation about trying food and pure joy at finding the afikoman. The girls at Grace Academy had the opportunity to be welcomed in by our students, to experience a seder like none they had before, to see our culture and tradition come to life. They gave our students the honor of hosting, welcoming and teaching, they gave our girls the opportunity to tell of their lives and their history. More than that all these girls spent meaningful time with peers from their greater community who lead very different lives, and know the world differently. They shared a meal together learning that they harbored the same hopes and dreams. All the girls, Schechter and Grace Academy students, experienced something profound, as they had a glimpse of another perspective and another way of life. They were touched by smiles and new friendships and they left changed in some way. There is no way to know exactly how this experience of kindness and hospitality will impact them and those with whom they share their stories. In this little story, so many wings flapped and so many pebbles were dropped, it's impossible to follow the chain of everyone.

I share this story of good with you, yet it is only one of countless stories of good that occur every day and this is what a Schechter education is about.

Yes, we offer a rich and transformative education, our students mind's are developed through critical thinking, multi-language acquisition, accelerated math, individualized instruction, a depth of engagement in Jewish texts and an appreciation for Jewish life and learning, and these are all important things...



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Our current world is obsessed with metrics and measurement and in reality the most important things we do at Schechter are immeasurable and they happen every day, innumerable times because Schechter is filled with remarkable people and we are impacted by these relationships. I invite you to come in and walk the hallways with me. Come see the teachers sitting together to think deeply about a child, come see the morning hugs and the conversation about the weekend's game, students learning to work collaboratively and think through a challenge in multiple ways, the carefully thought through communication to a parent, the joy and delight at a student's learning, the quiet conversation between students about hurt feelings, the way the teachers help instill compassion and empathy in our students, the knowing smile passed between colleagues, the making of sandwiches, and the holding of hands to take an EC student to class.

Schechter because of the people in it and your support puts good into the world every day.

Thank you

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Getting Tech-y in MS Humanities

In Humanities Class this past week, Middle School students were given an assignment to use technology to explore their independent reading book. Students used an interdisciplinary model called Thinglink. By using this model, students were able to approach their book from a multitude of vantage points, contextualizing different topics in great detail. Students used their "ThingLink" accounts to construct a dynamic Audio/Visual presentation. The students presented their interdisciplinary technology projects to their peers, who responded with

enthusiasm and thoughtful, relevant questions.

After **Alex L.** read the book *The Martian*, he used "ThingLink" todiscuss the feasibility of space



travel and working on Mars as promoted by the private sector and pointed to outside sources including space entrepreneur Elon Musk's SpaceX.



Pauline read the book Wishtree and discussed insights into the life of its author, Katherine Applegate. Pauline shared the book trailer to encourage other students to read this

book. There was also a place on "Thinglink" where the class could create their own wish and place it on the tree. Finally, while researching what to include on their "Thinglink," Halaylah and Cooper found that the author of their book, Kimberly Newton Fusco, enjoyed receiving "snail mail" from students. They wrote to her and were excited to receive a reply.

This project was a tremendous success, one that demonstrates both a twenty-first century learning platform and a dedication to teaching excellence.

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Rogow MS Anemometer Project with HHNE

Supplies: PVC pipe, lumber, saw, cyclocomputer, concrete mix, cement block, ping pong paddles, gorilla duct tape,

and silicon glue...what in the world are the 7th and 8th graders creating in our MakerSpace?

Ane what??

Anemometer...oh... hmmm...so what do anemometers do? Check it out <u>HERE</u>



Anemometers are technology that measure wind speed... not quite ready for us to use lasers Look at the <u>Link Here</u>



Our students have thoroughly enjoyed having Zach Towne and our trusty HHNE mentors assisting them through the Engineering Design Process to make their own cleverly designed version of an anemometer.

In November, students began developing and building their first prototype using dixie cups and popsicle sticks; over time, the project has morphed into a far greater meteorological experience.

Students have met several times with their mentors to discuss ideas and to make changes to their original concepts; soon, we will be seeing the culmination of all of their modifications and hard work.



Since their anemometers will have working cyclometers, unlike their original prototypes which required students to count the



rates of dixie cup rotations to approximate wind speed, our students will now be able to more accurately collect data and more precisely share how blustery our days in West Hartford really can be. This information can be shared in the future with other students at Schechter, too!

We definitely could have used their anemometers on Tuesday evening, when phones and radios across the Greater Hartford area were pinging with alerts about impending severe storms and

tornado warnings. However, students also know that such technology is incredibly useful in helping engineers decide where to best place wind turbines, to determine air flow throughout mines, and even where to locate wind farms.



We are looking forward to seeing how their STEM projects turn out next week!

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Inside the ArtStudio: Discovering Papier-mâché

The final venture in the ArtStudio is 3-D design and sculpture. This year, Rimonim and Gesher are taking on Papier-mâché.





Papier-mâché (literally meaning 'chewed paper') is a technique using paper in combination with glue, starch, or wallpaper paste to create a composite that is hard and structurally sound to construct a 3-D design.

Although it is sometimes challenging to work with, and very goopy, the Gesher students are creating beautiful work inspired by their favorite animals, while Rimonim students are creating Ice Cream cones inspired by artist Wayne Thiebaud.



Finished works will be displayed in the art cases in the front lobby of school, beginning next week.



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What is Shabbat Share?

You've seen the advertisements. You've gotten the emails. But are you still wondering what is the Parent Association's Shabbat Share program? Shabbat share is a community building event held three times a year that is organized by our amazing Parent Association.

Current families sign up either to host or to be guests, and are matched up by the PA organizers. Each family pays for their own kosher meal, which is prepared by Yosi the caterer; accommodations are always made for



allergies or other dietary needs. On the designated date, host families collect the prepared meal at school, set their tables, and greet their guests as the food reheats in their oven. It's as simple as that!



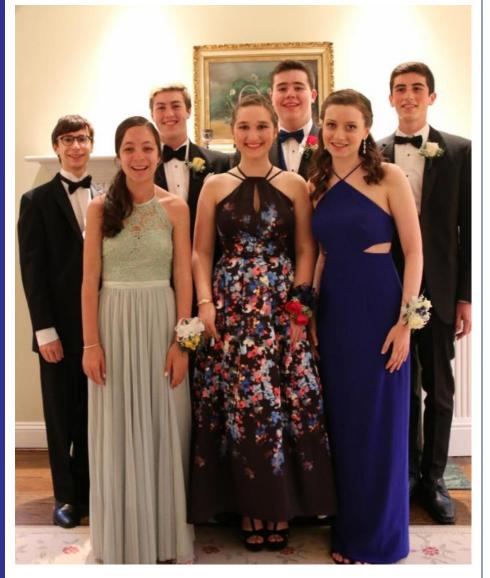


Next year, don't be shy about signing up! There is plenty of food for everyone, and it is a great way to get to know other Schechter families. Help strengthen our Schechter community... reach out and join the fun!



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Alumni News: From Preschool to Junior Prom!



Last weekend, Schechter alumni attending the Hall High School Junior Prom showed that their Schechter ties remain strong! This group of students, many of whom attended Schechter beginning as two-year-olds, as well as some who joined in elementary school, gathered together in their finery to take a few pictures before heading to the prom.

Pictured Left to Right (back) Zachary Goldberg, Joey Kornman, Samm Smith-Rapaport, Jonah Gershon; (front) Claire Peikes, Ahna Bielik, Shara Reimer

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Follow Schechter on Twitter & Facebook!!!

To keep up with all the happenings at SSDS, Follow us on Twitter HERE and on Facebook HERE

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Do you know someone who would love to experience

the spirit of our Shabbat RELISH? Invite them to join us for songs, dancing, and stories!

Experience the Joys of RELISH!

RELISH (n.) A morning communal celebration of song in anticipation of Shabbat. A time to sing, dance, and celebrate Shabbat together.

Friday, May 25 at 9:00am: Early Childhood RELISH (ages 0-5)

Questions? Contact Karen Shakun **kshakun@ssds-hartford.org**



Solomon Schechter Day School of Greater Hartford 26 Buena Vista Road West Hartford, CT 06107 860-561-0700



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Do You Shop at Big Y??

<u>Big Y Education Express</u> is a Family Program to help local schools get FREE, much needed supplies & equipment!

Everyone can participate! Do you have children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews or even neighbors? You can support Solomon Schechter by signing up for Education Express. Click <u>HERE</u> to see more information about how to sign up and the benefits you can earn for

Schechter.

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Please Join us for this Event!!



A PFLI Collaboration of Solomon Schechter Day School and Facing History and Ourselves: The Memorial Project

'Our Legacy Lives On'

The Event

We welcome you to join in the presentation, celebration and conversation of this Memorial Project, proudly brought to you by our phenomenal 7th Grade Class.



Where

Solomon Schechter Day School 26 Buena Vista Rd, West Hartford, CT 06107

When

Monday, June 4, 2018 7:00 PM

Contact Us

If you have questions or want to know more about our project please feel free to contact us at:

monumentproject7thgrade@gmail.com Please also check out our website and

https://monumentproject7th.wixsite.co m/2018

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Have you shopped at the Crown Lately?



Stop By the Crown Market TODAY!



Sunday, May 20th . 1st Pay of Shavuot 4:45 PM - 6:00 PM

Come learn Torah with your children as part of this annual Young Israel tradition. Specially prepared materials will be provided for study with separate programs for 1-4 and 5-8 grades.

Fun snacks and a dairy dinner will be served.

Generously Sponsored by Elisheva & Zev Davidovics

For more information, contact Juanita at Juanita.Moss@gmail.com



WEST HARTFORD YOUNG ISRAEL OF WEST HARTFORD 2240 ALBANY AVE. WEST HARTFORD, CT WWW.YOUNGISRAELWH.ORG



1. One Happy Camper grants for first time overnight campers



2. \$500 grants to attend Camp Laurelwood

A friend of Camp Laurelwood is offering a special \$500 incentive to attend any session of two weeks or longer this summer. The incentive applies to first time campers and anyone who did not attend Camp Laurelwood last year. Camp Laurelwood is Connecticut's premier Jewish co-ed overnight camp located in Madison, Conn. It has served Jewish families for more than 80 years. For more information, contact Heather Golub at heather@camplaurelwood.org or 203.421.3736.





Young Israel of West Hartford SHAVUOT SCHEDULE 5778

SHABBAT, PARSHAT BAMIDAR, MAY 19

After Musaf Shabbat University Breakout Sessions by YU Torah Tours

6:50 P.M. Why the Bavli when we have a Yerushalmi: The Mysterious 'Other' Talmud

- Stu Miller

Mishlei: Eishes Chayil – Rabbi Avi Robinson

TIKUN LEIL SHAVUOT, MAY 19 -20

11:00 - 12:30 AM Youth Learning w/ Rabbi Silver; Grades 3-5: 11-11:45 pm; Grades 6-8: 11:45-12:30

10:45 _ 11:30 PM Open Beit Midrash facilitated by Jo Bruce.

Learn your part of our Siyum Tanach Campaign or explore a different portion.

11:30 - 12:30 AM Ezekiel: Chariots of Fire - Rabbi Tuvia Brander

12:45 - 1:30 AM Bereshit: Creation & Loneliness: The Message at the Heart of the Torah - Rabbi

Jeremy Bruce

1:45 - 2:30 AM Jeremiah: The Significance of Bavel in Sefer Yirmiyahu - Rabbi David Fried

2:50 – 3:35 AM Pretty Repetitive, or Pretty and not Repetitive: Parallelism in Tanach – Michal Auerhach, Torah Tours

Auerbach, Ioran Iours

3:50 – 4:35 AM Chabakuk: Rhetoric, History & Canon Formation - Josh Glahn

1ST DAY OF SHAVUOT, MAY 20

After Musaf Sleepers' Special: Chariots of Fire & Yechezkel's Vision – Rabbi Tuvia Brander

6:00 pm

Parent-Child Learning. Celebrate the transmission of the Torah by learning with your child or grandchild. Special Tanach-themed age specific packets are available. Snacks and dairy dinner to be served. Sponsored by Elisheva & Zev Davidovics

2ND DAY OF SHAVUOT, MAY 21

6:00 PM Giving of One's Self: A Halakhic Imperative To Donate Bone Marrow? Presented by the champion HHNE Moot Beit Din Team

6:50 PM Isaiah: Responding to Idolatry in the Books of Yeshayahu and Yechezkel

– Dr. Deena Grant

Shem ot: Insights from the Torah on Building Character in our Children & Grandchildren – Rabbi Zev Silver

Special Welcome to Yeshiva University Torah Tours: Michal Auerbach, Yair Lichtman, Yael Mayer & Akiva Schiff

Refreshments are available

all night downstairs!

Post Mincha
WEST
HARTFORD
YULU
YOUNG G ISRAEL

UP ALL NIGHT ON SHAVU T

FOR TEENS

FREE AND OPEN TO ALL

SATURDAY, MAY 19, 2018

9:45PM DROP OFF AT EMANUEL SYNAGOGUE

160 MOHEGAN DRIVE, WEST HARTFORD

7:00AM PICKUP AT Young Israel of West Hartford

2240 ALBANY AVENUE, WEST HARTFORD

*ALTERNATIVE PICKUP TIMES AVAILABLE. CONTACT JTCONNECT OFFICE FOR MORE INFORMATION.

JOIN US FOR A JAM PACKED NIGHT OF FUN WITH YOUR FRIENDS. CHOOSE FROM NUMEROUS OPPORTUNITIES TO STUDY WITH LOCAL RABBIS AND THINKERS. ENJOY DELICIOUS TREATS THROUGHOUT THE NIGHT, INCLUDING:

BREAKFAST FOR DINNER... S'MORES... 2:00AM BBQ... AND MORE!

MUST RSVP by Wednesday, May 16 to participate! www.tinyurl.com/UpAllNightOnShavuot







FOR MORE INFORMATION
OR TO RSVP, CONTACT
OFFICE@JTCONNECT.ORG





The Story of Hebrew

A lecture by Professor Lewis Glinert



Professor of Hebrew Studies and Linguistics at Dartmouth College

- Wednesday, May 30, 2018
- 7:30pm
- The Emanuel Synagogue

In celebration of Israel's 70th Anniversary, join us to hear Professor Glinert tell the amazing story of the creation of Hebrew; from its biblical origins to emerging as the everyday language of the modern Jewish State of Israel.

Refreshments will be served; FREE & Open to the Public

RSVP to: gailadler@aol.com

This program is supported in part by a generous donation in memory of Eugene Frisch.

The Emanuel Synagogue, 160 Mohegan Drive, West Hartford CT 06117 https://emanuelsynagogue.org/





FILM



Rock in the Red Zone Featuring Micha Biton

*Rock in the Red Zone" is an intimate portrayal of life on the edge in the war-torn city of Sderot, Israel. Once known for its prolific rock scene that revolutionized Israeli music, for thirteen years the town has been the target of ngoing rocket fire from the Gaza strip. Through the personal lives and music of Sderot's diverse musicians, the film chronicles the town's trauma and reveals its enduring spirit.

Sunday, April 22 | 5 pm Beth David Synagogue 20 Dover Rd, West Hartford, 860-286-1241 Dinner and a Movie - \$5 for Beth David members, \$10 for the community. Falafel dinner for purchase from Yosi Kosher Catering.

Tuesday, May 22 | 7 pm Tuesday, May 25, 17, 18

Beth EI Temple
2826 Albany Avenue, West Hartford, 860-293-9698
Movie and popcorn, \$10

Thursday, May 24 | 7:30 pm Beth Shalom B'nai Israel 400 Middle Turnpike E, Manchester, 880-646-9563 \$10 includes entrance to performance on June 7.







CONCERT

Micha Biton is one of the early pioneers of the renowned music

Micha grew up in an extraordinary musical neighborhood, where creativity was abound and children sang and played instruments, formed informal youth ensembles and dreamed of the bands that they would create. Micha was nine when his father passed away, an event which profoundly impacted his outlook, his writing, and his personal direction.

His dramatic childhood, the impact of his strong Moroccan ethnic roots coupled with cultural Ashkenazic influences led to the formation of a musician who passionately calls upon both sides of his upbringing to create songs of hope and joyfulness.

Micha performs across Israel and abroad, bringing his story and his songs of inspiration and joy to audiences throughout the world.

Sunday, June 3 | 7 pm

Beth El Temple 2626 Albany Avenue, West Hartford, 860-233-9696 \$20, \$15 for Seniors and Students.

Thursday, June 7 | 7:30 pm Beth Shalom B'nai Israel 400 Middle Turnpike E, Manchester, 860-643-9563 \$10 includes entrance to movie on May 24.

Friday, June, 8 | 6:30 pm Farmington Valley Jewish Congregation 55 Bushy Hill Rd, Simsbury, 860-658-1075 Micha Biton will be performing during Shabbat services. Dinner is included after the service. Free and open to the community.

SAVE THE DATE
YOUNG ISRAEL OF WEST HARTFORD ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

SIYUM TANACH
Honoring Elisheva & Zev Davidovics
and Daniella & Robbi Avi Robinson
SUNDAY, JUNE 10, 2018
SIYUM TANACH CAMPAIGN? Join us as we work to study and complete
the entirety of the Hebrew Bible for a communal celebration June 10!
Choose a portion to study on your own, with friends or in your family! Visit
www.youngisraelwh.org/siyum!

WEST
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WIST HARTFORD



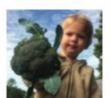


Sign Up for a Season of Fresh, Local, Organic Produce!

Pickup Location: Beth David Synagogue 20 Dover Rd, West Hartford

Pickup Time: Thursdays 4:30 - 6:45pm from 6/8 - 11/9

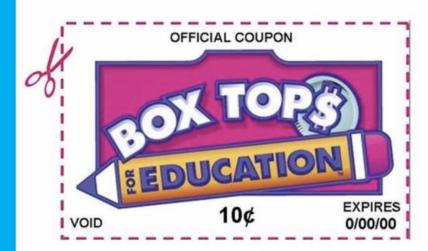
Size: Seasonal shares like the one pictured weekly or every-other-week







Learn More and Register at whcsa.adamah.org



Let's get clipping!

Box Tops for Education is <u>free money</u> for our school!

There are many brands that you may purchase that have this coupon on them...

Pillsbury Kleenex

Ziploc Betty Crocker

General Mills Hefty

Box Tops will be collected the **First Friday of each month!** Drop them off in any of the collection bins you
see around the school. Be sure to visit <u>www.btfe.com</u> to
sign up for additional offers, support Solomon Schechter
and even download the easy to use app!

Thanks for your support!

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Audrey Sobel and Rhiannon Van Bindsbergen, Co-Editors Solomon Schechter Day School of Greater Hartford