



Hillel Torah

בית ספר הלל תורה



OPPORTUNITY STATEMENT

Director of Judaic Studies

THE OPPORTUNITY

Director of Judaic Studies

Hillel Torah North Suburban Day School, a co-educational Modern Orthodox Jewish day school on Chicago's North Shore, welcomes applications for the position of Director of Judaic Studies. As part of the senior educational leadership team and reporting directly to the principal, the Director oversees all Judaic Studies teachers and curriculum for grades 1 - 8. Responsibilities include supporting and supervising teachers, curriculum oversight, monitoring student learning, and promoting the values of Torah, Tzionut, and Middot throughout the school. This is a rare opportunity to join a dynamic, growing Jewish day school and make a lasting impact on hundreds of students, families and faculty.

Start date: July 1, 2025

OUR MISSION

We are a **dynamic**, Modern Orthodox day school preparing the Jewish leaders of tomorrow. Our **progressive, child-centered** approach promotes academic excellence in Judaic and general studies. Rooted in Torah **learning and values**, we encourage children to develop a lifelong commitment to **Medinat Yisrael**, the **Jewish people** and the **global community**.



ABOUT HILLEL TORAH

Founded in 1961, Hillel Torah continues to be a leader in progressive Modern Orthodox education, serving the greater Chicagoland Jewish community. We provide an excellent and equally rigorous general and Judaic education with a child-centered approach where children are engaged in learning, exploration, creativity, collaboration, and critical thinking.

Our Judaic Studies program is anchored in our nationally recognized Ivrit b'Ivrit (Hebrew language immersion) program taught by our staff of Israeli *morim shlichim* and *bnot sherut* who bring an authentic taste of Torat Yisrael, Hebrew language and culture to our students and families.

OUR IDEAL CANDIDATE

BACKGROUND

The ideal candidate will hold an advanced degree in education, educational leadership, or a related field, have prior leadership and supervisory experience and a minimum of five years classroom experience. They should have a strong knowledge of Judaic texts and Hebrew language, be well-versed in educational research, and have experience applying it in practice. The candidate should also demonstrate success in building strong, mutually respectful relationships.

LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT

The Director will demonstrate strong leadership and management skills, fostering a positive and productive department culture. The Director will provide clear guidance and mentorship to Judaic studies staff, empowering teachers to excel in their roles. With a focus on collaboration and accountability, the Director will effectively manage and support the professional growth of the team, ensuring alignment with the school's educational goals and vision. The Director will oversee 20 lead and assistant Judaic studies teachers in grades 1-8.

EFFICIENT & ORGANIZED

Strong organizational skills are essential for success in this role. The Director will have a demonstrated ability to set clear goals, manage multiple initiatives simultaneously, and follow through on plans and communication promptly.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

The longstanding success and strong reputation of our Judaic Studies program create an ideal foundation for the new Director to set an ambitious vision for its continued growth. The goal is to help students deepen their Torah learning, Hebrew language skills, spirituality, and connection to Medinat Yisrael. The candidate will have the ability to think strategically and be innovative as a function of this role.

PROACTIVE & PEDAGOGICALLY DRIVEN

The Director will establish a proactive vision for the Judaic Studies department, grounded in a deep understanding of child development, Jewish education, Hebrew language acquisition, and lifelong Jewish commitment. With a strong grasp of best practices in Judaic studies pedagogy, the Director will work closely with the teaching team to set goals, assess progress, and identify growth opportunities, ensuring each student reaches their full potential.

COLLABORATIVE APPROACH

At Hillel Torah we pride ourselves on a collaborative staff culture. The Director will have strong interpersonal skills and work in partnership with administrative colleagues, faculty, parents and students toward a shared vision of great teaching and learning. The Director will communicate with all stakeholders in a clear and effective manner with empathy, passion, and compassion.



OUR EDUCATIONAL APPROACH



Student-Centered: Our rigorous curriculum engages the whole child by fostering collaboration, exploration, critical thinking, creativity, and real-world application. With a student-centered approach, we offer innovative and diverse learning opportunities that meet each student's unique academic and social-emotional needs, all within in a warm and nurturing environment.



Social Emotional Learning: Children learn best when they feel a sense of belonging with secure community. Guided by the Responsive Classroom philosophy, our nurturing teachers create warm, respectful learning communities that respond to the physical, emotional, social, and intellectual needs of each student. Social-emotional lessons are integrated into the curriculum to help students develop skills in stress management, self-awareness, mental focus, and inner calm, empowering them to feel confident both in and out of the classroom.



Israel Education and Jewish Values: At Hillel Torah, our love and pride for Israel is a daily presence. From the Hebrew and cultural immersion led by our wonderful Israeli Shlichim to our famous community-wide Yom Ha'atzmaut celebration, Israel is lived, loved, and learned about every day. In our classrooms, we emphasize kindness, resilience, empathy, a growth mindset, and age-appropriate social skills, while modeling these values.



Community Service: We have a robust service learning program that provides students with numerous opportunities to engage in community service. Whether packaging and delivering food to those in need, visiting the elderly, working with children with special needs, or fundraising for charities, our students are immersed in the values of giving back and caring for others.

OUR ENGAGING AND DYNAMIC JUDAIC STUDIES PROGRAM



Torah & Tefillah: Our Limmudei Kodesh faculty help students develop a deep connection to and fluency in tefilla and Torah learning. Supported by our Ivrit program, students learn Torah from original texts and commentaries, building their knowledge progressively. They study Parshat Hashavua, Chumash with Rashi and Meforshim, Neviim, Ketuvim, Mishna, Talmud, Halacha, Jewish Thought and Jewish History. The core of our program emphasizes living a Jewish life centered on middot, mitzvot and chesed.



Ivrit & Israel: Our Judaic Studies Department features an Ivrit B'Ivrit Hebrew language immersion program, taught by Israeli shlichim and native speakers. Students gain fluency through the Tal Am (grades 1-5) and B'Shvil Ha'Ivrit (grades 6-8) curricula, incorporating music, art, games, and technology. This learning is deeply connected to the history and culture of Medinat Yisrael.



Chagim & Special Programming: Throughout the year, we complement classroom learning with engaging informal experiences to foster creativity and personal expression. We celebrate Chagim with creative displays, special programming, and school-wide assemblies. Students eagerly anticipate milestones, such as Kabbalat Siddur, Kabbalat Chumash, Chagigat Rashi, and the Middle School Maccabia, a highlight for both students and staff.

STAFF

Every one of our teachers is preparing the Jewish leaders of tomorrow. Our collaborative and team-oriented culture fosters positive morale among staff. Our educators are warm, nurturing and committed to continuous improvement. With a strong focus on professional development and mentoring, we invest in our teachers' growth and success. We are proud to have a diverse and exceptional group of educators, support staff, and administrators who advance our school's mission and drive its progress.



"Hillel Torah is a warm and vibrant school and community where our kids are imbued with a deep and unabashed love of Judaism, Torah and Eretz Yisrael by an excellent and engaged faculty and administration!"

- Hillel Torah Parent

SCHOOL PROFILE

420

STUDENTS

85

FACULTY &
STAFF

6:1

STUDENT TO
FACULTY RATIO

2

CAMPUSES:
PRESCHOOL
AND K-8

FAMILY & COMMUNITY

At Hillel Torah, education thrives through a strong partnership with our families. Our welcoming community atmosphere is palpable with open communication and appreciation for every child, family, and teacher. Parents are encouraged to actively participate in their children's education, both inside and outside the classroom, and our Parent Teacher Association (PTA) provides numerous volunteer opportunities for parents to engage with students and faculty throughout the year.



Hillel Torah is more than just a school; it's a vibrant community with a warm, family-oriented environment. Our Parent Ambassador Program helps new and prospective families smoothly transition into our school community. We proudly celebrate the approximately one-third of our students who are second-generation, and we are eagerly welcome the growing wave of third-generation students.

WELCOME TO CHICAGO



Metropolitan Chicago is home to one of the largest and most active Jewish communities in North America. With over 50 Synagogues, 15 day schools and yeshivot, a wide range of kosher restaurants of all styles, multiple large kosher supermarkets, a vibrant JCC and more, the Chicagoland Jewish community has all of the resources of a large and diverse Jewish destination.

The Jewish communities of Skokie, West Rogers Park, and Lincolnwood among the other northern suburbs, are warm and welcoming with many opportunities for both children and adults to get involved. The community's close proximity to downtown Chicago makes museums, cultural arts, lakefront parks, trails, and institutions of higher education all easily accessible.

With its full array of Jewish community resources, wholesome Midwestern values, and proximity to a wide range of professional and cultural opportunities, Chicago is a great place to raise a Jewish family.

HOW TO APPLY

Interested candidates should contact Yael Harari, at yael@scottgoldbergconsulting.com to confidentially discuss the opportunity and the process.

Candidates who are ready to apply should submit a current resume as a PDF, via email to: search@scottgoldbergconsulting.com

For more details about Hillel Torah, visit us online at <https://hilleltorah.org>

