

Discover Greenfield Hebrew Academy



Katherine and Jacob Greenfield
Hebrew Academy of Atlanta

בית המספר היהודי ע"ש גרינפילד





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Blue Ribbon School Award by the U.S. Department of Education

Jerusalem Prize for Exemplary Achievement in Zionist and
Torah Education by the World Zionist Organization

Accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools

Accredited by the Southern Association of Independent Schools

Welcome to Greenfield Hebrew Academy!

We invite you to walk through the welcoming halls of GHA, feel the ruach (spirit) and see children and faculty who are passionate about learning. Students' drawings, paintings and projects line the walls as songs echo through the school. Students launch homemade vehicles down the hallways to test physics principles. Young bakers braid challah Friday mornings in our child-centered kitchen. Outside, children feed fish, turtles and frogs at the pond in our outdoor classroom. GHA is a school alive with tradition, exploration and learning!

Our mission is to provide students an outstanding day school education, integrating Judaic and general studies in a vibrant curriculum that is both challenging and stimulating. We nurture within each student respect for the individual, commitment to Judaism, devotion to Israel, passion for learning, appreciation for American ideals and dedication to the Jewish community.

The religious practices of our student body reflect the breadth of Atlanta's Jewish communities. We believe in the importance of having an inclusive student body that is a composite of synagogue affiliations, religious traditions and socioeconomic levels. In our school, we follow modern orthodox practices and tradition, and are respectful of our GHA families and the choices they have made in Judaism.

**“When our students walk through the doors, I want them
to feel like they’re coming to their second home.”**

—Leah Summers, *Principal*



We teach “kids,” not curriculum.

We tailor learning to meet each child’s needs in the safe, warm environment of our classroom community.

Academics

Our rigorous programs endorse and challenge multiple learning styles. Our dual curriculum offers students the opportunity to develop connections between Judaic and general studies, while preparing them for high school and beyond. We provide the educational structure and counseling services to make sure that each student’s academic, emotional and social needs are met.

Faculty

Just like our students, our teachers bring their diverse experiences and backgrounds to every classroom. Our focus on responsive teaching allows everything we do to be responsive to the developmental needs of each child. Nearly half of our full-time teachers have advanced degrees. We encourage our faculty to further their own professional development and offer various opportunities throughout the year. Our passionate, dedicated and experienced teachers guide our children on their journey toward maturity and intellectual growth.

General Studies

Our general studies courses consist of challenging curriculum, including language arts, mathematics, science and social studies. The exceptional education we offer cultivates each student’s distinctive talents to inform the mind, develop the

body and enlighten the spirit. We create programs that cater to multiple learning styles and we encourage our students to achieve their potential and progress even further.

Early Childhood

Our students’ educational quest begins at age three. They experience the joys of learning through play and exploration in our Early Childhood Department. In our multifaceted curriculum, we encourage creativity and individuality, as we introduce readiness skills. Our friendly and nurturing environment enhances each child’s self-esteem and love for learning.

Lower School

In 1st through 4th grades, our curriculum emphasizes differentiated learning using auditory, visual, tactile and experiential techniques. We make sure each student is appropriately challenged and experiences successful learning.

Middle School

Our middle school is divided into Lower Middle School, 5th and 6th grades, and Upper Middle School, 7th and 8th grades. Our middle school program is unique and innovative and addresses our students’ needs as they transition into early adolescent years. GHA provides a structure in which students safely strive for independence and individuality.

Feed the turtles. Read a novel. Fill a test tube. Solve a problem. Multiply and divide. Find the solution. Calculate a square root. Write a poem. Tend our garden.



M'silot

Hebrew for 'Pathways,' M'silot welcomes children who learn differently and helps them develop skills to maximize their potential and a positive self image. The classes have a 1:5 teacher-student ratio and emphasize remedial strategies to help children compensate for their learning differences. Children's unique needs are met while still being an integral part of a larger community of learners.

Student Support Services

Our qualified staff offers general and Judaic studies support to students who learn differently in 1st-8th grades. These students learn in a regular classroom, but receive modified learning support within the classroom and in groups with other students of similar needs outside the classroom. The students can also attend an after school homework program in which they can begin organizing their school work, make plans for assignments and start their homework.

Enrichment

In keeping with our philosophy of teaching children and meeting the educational needs of each child appropriately, we have personnel who are particularly assigned to enrich students who function beyond their grade level.

GHA students...

- in our upper classes **consistently score above** other independent and suburban schools on the standardized CTP4 exams
- **won** the regional Exploreavision contest
- **reached the state level** of the MathCounts competition
- **achieved top honors** in the Georgia Regional and State Technology Fair
- **were finalists** in the Animal Planet Environmental Competition
- **were named** to the National Math Olympiad Honor Roll
- **50% of our upper class students qualify** for the Center for Talented Youth Program at Johns Hopkins University



Our children are confident in their own religious expressions and we teach them to respect the different practices and beliefs of their classmates.

Jewish Life and Learning

We teach students the fundamentals of Judaism and the timeless values of the Jewish community that transcend denominational difference. Students participate in daily Tefillah (prayer), Torah and Hebrew study.

We rejoice in the shared values of the Jewish people and Zionism. Our children are confident in their own religious expressions and we teach them to respect the different practices and beliefs of their classmates.

Hebrew

Both Hebrew language and literature instruction focus on the linguistic skills needed to study, read, comprehend and analyze Jewish texts in depth, which provides students life-long Jewish learning and spiritual development. In our approach to teaching Chumash, Mishna and Talmud, students learn to appreciate the relevance of ancient texts and apply their teachings to everyday circumstances. Our Judaic teachings inspire and ground our students in morals and ethics. Our students learn modern Hebrew, allowing them to connect with Jews around the world.

Israel

The historical and religious importance of the State of Israel is a vital part of our school. Our three-year “History of Israel” program explores key events in Israeli and world history that shape current events. The course culminates with an amazing 8th grade trip to Israel.

Religion and Traditions

On Friday afternoon, GHA families are invited to join students and teachers as we welcome Shabbat with a special Oneg. We sing songs, bless the wine, light Shabbat candles and share words of Torah wisdom.

From Rosh Hashana to Yom Ha’Atzmaut, we celebrate and experience each chag (holiday). On Sukkot, we build a school Sukkah. On Pesach, we enjoy model seders. On Purim, students and their teachers dress up and enjoy a carnival of games and activities.

Throughout the year, each grade has a family event which focuses on learning and celebrating an upcoming Jewish festival. Whether it is a Shabbaton, a family education program or Hebrew class, our school is rich with a wide-range of religious and personal experiences for all members of the family. All these celebrations permeate the Jewish soul and strengthen each student’s Jewish identity.

Do a mitzvah. Braid a challah. Light Shabbat candles. Spin the dreidel. Sing Hatikvah.
Dip apples in honey. Shake the lulav. Visit Israel. Read the Torah. Be a mensch.



**“It doesn’t matter what branch of Judaism you’re in—
at GHA, we’re just one big family.”**

—Alexandra, *GHA student*



The impact of theater on our students is immeasurable and we have seen that children are truly transformed on stage.

Student Life

In addition to academics, GHA offers a wide range of extracurricular programs. Students can explore and develop their abilities in sports, art, music and theater.

Sports

Students in 6th through 8th grades can participate in GHA team sports. GHA is a member of the Metro Atlanta Athletic Conference and fields teams in basketball, soccer, volleyball, track and field, baseball, golf and tennis. The GHA Wolves have historically dominated in all sports in the MAAC league.

Physical Education

Our Physical Education Department has programs that address the physical, emotional and psychological development of our students. In our full-size gymnasium, students enjoy teambuilding, cooperative play, sports and games. We teach students to incorporate aspects of healthy living, from athletics to nutrition to fitness.

The Arts

Visual Arts and Music

Students create their own masterpieces, experiment with classic techniques and learn about the history of art. Kids' artwork lines our walls. Students are exposed to music everyday in our music program. The sounds of melodies and songs fill GHA's halls daily.

Performing Arts

Each year, our students work with professional directors, musicians and choreographers in our Performing Arts Department to stage top quality productions. Shows include Peter Pan, Fiddler on the Roof, Honk, The Wizard of Oz, Seussical the Musical and Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory. These performances greatly enhance our students' self-confidence. Children are truly transformed on stage. Our Artist-in-Residence guides our students through drama, dance and music programs.

Counseling

Our counseling department is committed to helping students focus on their academic, personal, social and spiritual development. GHA's counselors provide proactive leadership that develops and implements curricula and services to help students succeed academically and be the best young people they can be.

Paint a masterpiece. Score a goal. Sing a song. Hit a homer. Make a hole-in-one.
Play an instrument. Star in a show. Dunk it. Learn to cook. Play ball.



After School Programs

Club Kef

Club Kef (Fun) gives students a chance to play, do homework and have a snack, everyday after school. We provide students innovative and engaging activities in a safe, structured environment. A Homework Club is also available three times a week.

GHAce

Students meet once a week in this enriching seven-week program for fun classes on Scrapbooking, Gymnastics, Hip Hop, Debate and Public Speaking, Photography, Yoga, Cooking and French. We offer students the opportunities to work and learn together, while sharing common interests.



“The theater department provided so many children with an introduction to **the joy of the theater process.** The musical can only be described as **a brilliant experience for the children** and a truly spectacular production.”

—Nadia, GHA parent

Our Campus



Our gorgeous campus is nestled in more than 18 lush wooded acres in a residential area of Atlanta. We are centrally located in the city with close proximity to major highway access. We offer bus transportation. GHA is becoming “greener” every year through our school recycling and environmentally friendly “green” student activities.

Performing Arts Center

Our Performing Arts Center includes a 650 seat professional state-of-the-art theater. Our theater is equipped with computerized sound and light booths. It is the only theater of its kind for elementary age students in an Atlanta Jewish day school.

Science Labs

Microscopes, telescopes and living animals all have a home in our newly expanded science labs, which allow hands-on experiences for all grades.

Computer Labs and Technology

Students learn in our four state-of-the-art computer labs, mobile laptop labs and video studio. Teachers use SMART boards, which are in most of our classrooms, as an integral part of class instruction. Our faculty members are trained to incorporate technology into the classroom. We have wireless capability throughout our campus. Teachers use the website Edline to communicate with parents and this helps in our “green” efforts to go paperless.

Arnovitz Library & Media Center

Students can further enhance their intellectual development in our library and media center. With internet resources, video and audio tapes, and more than 23,000 general and Judaic volumes at their disposal, students can explore topic areas in depth and produce well documented work.

Physical Education Facilities

In addition to our full-size gym, our campus has an outdoor playing field and two playgrounds. One playground features equipment appropriate for our preschool children.

Outdoor Classroom

In our outdoor classroom, students learn in a natural setting and interact with the environment. Students can feed fish, turtles and frogs that live in our pond and tend to our butterfly, vegetable and herb gardens.

Lunch

Our experienced kitchen staff prepares and serves nearly 600 kosher lunches everyday. With both meat and dairy kitchens, all appetites and special dietary needs can be accommodated.

Our Graduates



For more than 50 years, GHA has been preparing our students for the future. They have excelled at the world's top universities including Harvard, MIT, Dartmouth, Brandeis, Yeshiva University and Emory. Our graduates are leaders in their communities and professions. They are teachers, doctors, dentists, attorneys, journalists, Jewish community professionals, CEO's and anything they choose to be, even an Olympic champion!

GHA's thorough intellectual and emotional preparation is a gift to our students that stays with them throughout their lives. We teach them to live with integrity, courage, compassion, empathy and honesty as Jewish citizens of the world.

“From generation to generation, we've watched GHA become **Atlanta's premier Jewish day school**. With our children as graduates and grandchildren as students, we all are so **proud to be part of the GHA family.**”

—Betty and Malcolm Minsk,
GHA grandparents



“Certainly, being **introduced to sports at an early age at GHA** helped me understand how important it is as a life long activity.”

—Sada Jacobson
*GHA Alumnus &
Fencing Silver Medalist
2008 Beijing Olympics*

We invite you

to learn more about
Greenfield Hebrew Academy.

- Walk our halls.**
- Meet our students.**
- Talk with our teachers.**
- Join our GHA family.**

Call us today at 404-843-9900 to schedule your visit.



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