



MISSOURI TORAH INSTITUTE
- ישיבה ומתיבתא ד'מיזורי -



A PUBLICATION OF MISSOURI TORAH INSTITUTE • WINTER 2017-2018

Our New Menahel RABBI MENACHEM WACHSMAN

We are excited to welcome Rabbi Menachem Wachsmann as our new Menahel! Rabbi Wachsmann has served as the Assistant Menahel at MTI for the past seven years and has helped create and guide the chinuch approach and methodology which has elevated the Yeshiva to be at the forefront of chinuch in America.

Rabbi Wachsmann, a talmid chacham and an exemplary baal midos, is a great role model for our rebbeim and talmidim. His pleasant and approachable demeanor has earned him the trust of the talmidim and creates a happy, positive environment in which talmidim feel understood, respected and supported. His encouragement and belief in each talmid helps

influence their growth in making positive choices, empowering and challenging them to reach incredible heights.

Rabbi Wachsmann is gifted with tremendous insight and understanding of human nature, and rebbeim and talmidim alike look to him for advice and input. His professionalism, expertise and diligence facilitate the seamless running of our Mesivta.

The MTI family feels honored and privileged to have Rabbi Wachsmann lead and empower our dedicated staff of rebbeim and teachers.

We wish him much hatzlacha in his new position!



GUEST SPEAKERS INSPIRE TALMIDIM

Shortly before Rosh Hashana, the talmidim of MTI had the zechus of hearing divrei chizuk from Rabbi Aaron Winter, the Rav of Tpheris Israel (TICK), the founding home of MTI. Rabbi Avroham Goldman introduced and thanked Rabbi Winter for all he has done for the Yeshiva and related what a privilege it was to have him address the students. Rabbi Winter shared with the talmidim the need to perfect ourselves in bein adam l'chaveiro going into the Yom Hadin. He analyzed the Mishna in Pirkei Avos that discusses the seven middos that characterize a Chochom as compared to a Golem. According to the Torah, what truly defines a person is how they conduct themselves with others.



Rabbi Winter greeting the talmidim of MTI following divrei chizuk

All who were in attendance, from rebbeim to talmidim, were inspired and appreciated the message going into the Yomim Noraim. We look forward to hosting Rabbi Winter on many more occasions in the future.

The Yeshiva was honored to host Rabbi Shaya Cohen, Rosh Yeshiva of Yeshiva Zichron Aryeh and founder of Priority-1 in Far Rockaway, on Shabbos Parshas Lech Lecha. Rabbi Cohen spoke to the talmidim throughout Shabbos on varying topics including “Appreciating Shabbos”, “Understanding the Power of Tefilla”, and “Dealing with Life’s Challenges”. Some of the talmidim were even treated to chavrusa learning with him on Shabbos afternoon!

Rabbi & Mrs. David Bermanski, Chesterfield community members, graciously hosted a community lecture on Motzai



Rabbi Winter addresses the entire high school and bais medrash before the Yomim Noraim



Rabbi Cohen sharing parenting insights with members of the community

Shabbos during which Rabbi Cohen shared practical advice on parenting in the 21st century.

On Sunday morning, Rabbi Cohen gave a powerful and thought-provoking talk to the talmidim of Torah Prep Day School about recognizing our purpose in this world. Rabbi Yossi Golombeck, menahel of the Torah Prep Boys’ School, remarked that “Rabbi Cohen was able to take one of the most fundamental hashkafos of Yiddishkeit--living a life of true simcha--and present it in an exciting and interactive way to our talmidim. Each talmid was impacted by his presentation.”



MTI talmidim enjoying a discussion with Rabbi Cohen in the Bais Medrash

On Sunday evening, all the mechanchim and mechanchos of Saint Louis were invited to the Yeshiva to hear Rabbi Cohen address critical lessons about the proper way to give our talmidim and talmidos a passion for yiddishkeit and the tools for growing in emunah and bitachon.



What’s New? GENERAL STUDIES

“Every student, every year!” is the slogan that guides our general studies program. It reflects our goal of ensuring that every student is college- and career-ready by graduation. Building a program that supports the success of each student is how our General Studies Department tackles individual challenges. At the same time, students who are ready for greater challenges are offered more demanding work, raising the bar of academic achievement in a customized way. “Every student, every year!” is a mindset, driven by data, collaboration with all stakeholders, and professional learning that will help every student in MTI be successful.

An exciting development this year at MTI is the addition of a dual-credit class in Human Anatomy. Qualified students can receive four college credits, in addition to their high school credits, through a partnership with the University of Missouri St. Louis (UMSL). This gives students a head-start in college and also introduces them to the kind of rigor found in a college-level science course. We are excited that ten students qualified for this program, and all ten have decided to join!

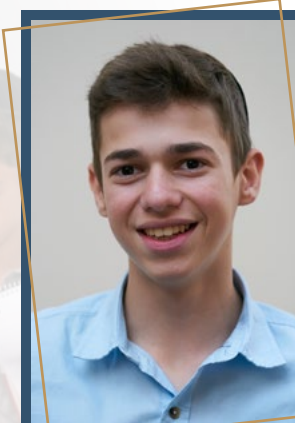
A new year means a new roster of elective options, and this year we are proud to offer four new classes for our students. In addition to krav maga/self-defense, guitar band, and basketball, we initiated a “Makerspace” program, where students are charged with designing and building something with the goal of enhancing life for another person.



“Every student,
every year!”

MTI on the map

Beachwood, OH	Kew Gardens, NY
Bexley, OH	Oak Park, MI
Brooklyn, NY	Overland Park, KS
Buenos Aires, Argentina	Richmond Hill, NY
Buffalo Grove, IL	Rochester, NY
Chesterfield, MO	San Diego, CA
Chicago, IL	Savannah, GA
Cincinnati, OH	Seattle, WA
Columbus, OH	Silver Spring, MD
Denver, CO	Southfield, MI
Edison, NJ	Spring Valley, NY
Flushing, NY	St. Louis, MO
Greenwood Village, CO	Tucson, AZ



Shlomo Krausz

HOBBIES: I enjoy reading, running and studying.

WHY I CHOSE MTI:
It has a good secular studies program and nice kids.



Nachi Lefton

HOBBIES: I enjoy playing sports, playing video games and exercising.

WHY I CHOSE MTI:
I chose MTI because the learning is geshmack. They have a big game room and an exercise room. All the kids here are nice and friendly. All the rebbeim and teachers are nice. I think I can grow in MTI.

an inside look GRADE 9



Eliyahu Dubovick

HOBBIES: I enjoy playing basketball, playing the drums, and working out.

WHY I CHOSE MTI:
I chose MTI because at MTI we are all one unit, and we treat each other like a family. I really feel like I can grow a lot here.



Moshe Genauer

HOBBIES: I enjoy reading, as well as watching and playing sports.

WHY I CHOSE MTI:
The learning is at a good level for everyone, and the rebbeim and students are very friendly. Also, the building is perfect for my goals. I feel like I can grow at MTI.



Eliezer Rosen

HOBBIES: I enjoy drawing, reading and relaxing.

WHY I CHOSE MTI:
The rebbeim, teachers and students are kind and caring. The learning is catered to everyone's needs. MTI's dorms are beautiful and relaxing - it's a home away from home. From all that I have learned already, I think I can grow to amazing heights at MTI.



Akiva Cohen

HOBBIES: I enjoy videography and chillaxing.

WHY I CHOSE MTI:
MTI's campus is exceptional! From the learning that takes place, to the special activities that go on, or simply the amazing dorm life, MTI is the place to be.

Netaniel Fuzailov

HOBBIES: I enjoy playing guitar and playing basketball.

WHY I CHOSE MTI:
I chose MTI because it isn't only focused on learning, but also on having fun and enjoying the school year. Another reason I chose MTI is because of the amazing rebbeim that make every talmid feel at home.



Shiya Kass

HOBBIES: I enjoy playing sports, learning and hanging out with friends.

WHY I CHOSE MTI:
The rebbeim are great, and everyone is nice. There are also a lot of trips. I feel that I can grow at MTI.



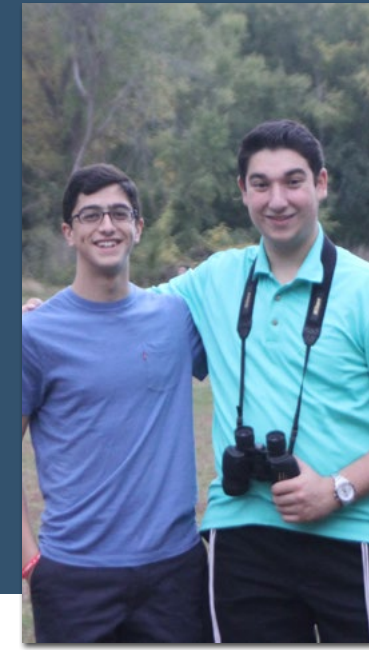
Gavi Stein

HOBBIES: I enjoy watching basketball and playing basketball. I also like spreading joy.

WHY I CHOSE MTI:
I chose to attend MTI because the learning adapts to everyone's pace, and the rebbeim are very inspiring and supportive. Also my two older brothers attended MTI a few years ago.



Castlewood State Park FALL UNITY TRIP



Missouri Torah Institute GROWS

RABBI GIDEON NITSUN Sho'el U'Meishiv

Rabbi Gideon Nitsun joined the staff of MTI as a Sho'el U'meishiv in the Beis Medrash. Originally from South Africa, he spent 14 years learning in Eretz Yisroel before relocating to the United States. Rabbi Nitsun moved to the St. Louis area more than 20 years ago to join the St. Louis Kollel. Currently, he runs the newly established senior kollel program.

Rabbi Nitsun very much enjoys working with this age group of talmidim and appreciates the opportunity to be a consistent presence during sedarim to answer questions and direct the talmidim. We are delighted to have a talmid chochom like Rabbi Nitsun at MTI to assist our students in reaching new heights in their learning.

We welcome Rabbi Nitsun and his family to our MTI Family!

RABBI GERSHON ROCKOVE Rebbe

MTI welcomes Rabbi Gershon Rockove, who has joined our yeshiva as a high school rebbe. Rabbi Rockove, an alumnus of Yeshivas Chofetz Chaim in Queens, first moved to Chesterfield to join MTI several years ago, after a pilot trip during which Rabbi Rockove fell in love with the MTI vision. "There is a unified commitment to truly working with the individual to maximize his opportunity for success."

Following a great year in St. Louis, Rabbi and Mrs. Rockove relocated to Atlanta for several years, where Rabbi Rockove studied in the kollel and continued teaching high school classes at Yeshiva Ohr Yisroel. This year, Rabbi Rockove has rejoined the staff at MTI. We know that the students of MTI will gain tremendously from the knowledge and warmth that Rabbi Rockove has to offer.

We welcome Rabbi Rockove and his family back to our MTI Family!

CHANA PLOTNIK Director of Food Services

Another change at MTI this year is the appointment of Mrs. Chana Plotnik as Food Service Director. Having visited the St. Louis area a few years ago, she witnessed the close-knit community of Chesterfield and was touched. The Plotnik family was happy that their paths led them to settle in the area, where they truly enjoy being part of and contributing to the growth of the community.

Mrs. Plotnik has smoothly taken over all aspects of our food service program and brings a positive energy to mealtime. "I'm really enjoying this new role and I look forward to continuing to prepare delicious, well-balanced meals for the talmidim." The boys are truly benefiting from the nutritious and tasty meals, always served with a smile. (Parents - keep those positive emails coming; we love them!)

We welcome Mrs. Plotnik and her family to our MTI family!

EETA BERMANSKI Media & Communications

Mrs. Eeta Bermanski joined MTI this year to develop and enhance MTI's media and communications department. The Bermanskis moved to Chesterfield after carrying out a comprehensive search for a warm, growth-oriented, out-of-town community for their family.

Mrs. Bermanski's close to 15 years of experience in multimedia, design and video production, mostly for Jewish schools and organizations, have provided her with the skills needed to assist in building upon the wonderful image that MTI enjoys throughout the St. Louis community and beyond. (Visit our website to see the incredible videos produced by Mrs. Bermanski at last year's dinner!)

In addition to an independent video production business, Mrs. Bermanski has worked in an administrative capacity in elementary schools for more than seven years and has advanced training in school leadership and development. "I believe that MTI is succeeding tremendously in the world of chinuch, and I'm pleased to be a part of it."

We welcome Mrs. Bermanski and her family to our MTI family!



Talmidim utilizing Makerspace



Rosh Chodesh Kislev dancing



Cholent cook-off



Former police chief Eddie Simmons



Computer Class

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR ISRAEL RAFFLE WINNERS - MR. & MRS. CHARLES FISHER OF EDISON, NJ



We would like to thank all those who participated in our raffle campaign this year.
Through your generous support, the learning at Missouri Torah Institute continues to thrive!

RECENT DEDICATIONS

DRS. MOSHE & JILL ABRAMS

Student Study Hall

In Loving Memory of מחלה שיינדל בת ליב הכהן

RABBI PESACH & DEBBIE WACHSMAN

Netilat Yadayim Station

לעלוי נשמות ר' אברהם יצחק ב"ר יחזקאל הכהן
מרת חנה מלכה בת ר' משה
ר' יוסף ברוך ב"ר פסח
מרת לאה חיה בת הרב יקותיאל רפאל הלוי

WASSER FAMILY

Main Beis Medrash Bima

In Loving Memory of Max & Rose Wasser, A"H



The Fink Family

dedicates the
Digizman board
in the main lobby of the Yeshiva

**in loving memory of
Mr. Sam Shanker**

