



# HEBREW ACADEMY OF LONG BEACH

## Head of School N-8

### Yeshivat Lev: כשמה כן היא

Also known as ישיבת ל"ב, HALB is just that. We are a yeshiva day school with a heart. At the very core, HALB strives to instill in our students a thirst for knowledge, a love for learning, and a commitment to לימוד תורה, יהדות, and Torah values, מדינת ישראל, and כלל ישראל.

With 1,000 students from nursery through eighth grade and 180 staff members, HALB is dynamic and full of positive energy. Despite its size, HALB maintains a small school feel. The warmth and caring is palpable. Relationships reign and learning is fun and engaging, geared towards the needs of each child. HALB is a school that values its relationships with entire families; we educate boys and girls within the same building, with separate classes beginning in the first grade.

Upon entering HALB, there is an immediate sense of its unique community; we are in essence a family. We aim to create a culture of excellence in which to develop a community of lifelong learners, and to foster an environment where all of our students are encouraged and empowered to reach their fullest potentials. We are a partnership of administrators, educators and families who are all committed to the academic, emotional, religious and spiritual growth of our children.

### Our mission

HALB is dedicated to creating a warm and nurturing environment, to developing academic excellence in Judaic and General studies, and to helping each student achieve his unique potential. HALB strives to cultivate in our students a passion for Judaism that is reflected in a life-long commitment to a relationship with Hashem, Torah Study, תפילה, love of all Jews, respect for all people, devotion to the State of Israel, and to positively contributing to society.



# HALB Highlights

At HALB, we believe that our students hold worlds of potential. Nurturing that potential means surrounding them with myriad opportunities to discover their possibilities - religiously, spiritually and academically. To that end, our educational program is designed to engage and empower each of our students.

**Meeting our students' academic and emotional needs:** HALB prides itself on meeting both the academic and emotional needs of its students. Our Student Support Services is an integral part of our educational model. Utilizing a team approach to planning and teaching, learning center teachers work with classroom teachers and students in both Judaic and General Studies. Surge, our enrichment program, provides students with opportunities to work on exciting, project based higher level thinking activities outside of the classroom. Second Step and Project Safe are classroom-based social skills programs where students are taught socio-emotional and problem solving skills.

**21st Century Education:** HALB strives to be at the forefront of Educational Technology and 21st Century Learning. We have created systems to allow our students to learn with the latest advancements in edtech, whether it be through a school-wide learning management system, a middle school 1:1 iPad program, or smartboard technology in every classroom. Our students are inspired and empowered to think creatively and collaboratively through project based learning, newly inaugurated critical reading and writing and STEM courses, as well as a growing number of academic extra-curricular offerings for the middle school.

**2 Sigma Educational Model:** Beginning in 2013, HALB has incorporated the 2 Sigma Educational model of blended and online learning into grades K-4 through its partnership with the Affordable Jewish Education Project (AJE). 2 Sigma Education expands on the existing HALB pedagogic approach of rotation and small group learning.

**Hebrew Reading (קריאה) program:** To successfully acquire the skills needed to study תנ"ך and other Jewish texts in their original Hebrew, קריאה skills are essential. To that end, HALB has instituted an exceptional קריאה program for students in grades 1-6, which aims to remediate lapses in students' Hebrew reading skills by providing individualized instruction to address specific gaps in letter and vowel discrimination and to improve fluency.

**Limudei Kodesh Offerings:** Contemporary curricula in גמרא, משנה, חומש, עברית and ידיעות כלליות are in place throughout grades 1-8, fostering an environment of curiosity, creativity and engagement, while developing strong skills and a thirst for and love of learning.

**Relationships and Role Models:** HALB Rebbeim and Morot develop strong relationships with their students and serve as inspiring role models for religious growth in an environment that stresses excellence in learning and skill development.

**Chesed as a value:** HALB provides numerous opportunities for its students to give back to the community at large. Programs include working at the Masbia soup kitchen, visiting nursing homes, engaging with special needs children at HASC, Chai Lifeline's Chanukah toy drive, and volunteering at Bobbie's Place, a unique model for providing clothing to families in need.

**Names Not Numbers:** A unique Holocaust oral history documentary project in which the students themselves collect oral histories of survivors and create a film based on this experience, which is then archived in Yad Vashem and the National Library of Israel. Our middle school students, through this program, connect to their own Jewish identities and those of their families, as well as the significance of the collective Jewish identity as seen through the lens of our history and the Shoah.

**New State of the Art Facility:** With continued growth over the last four decades, the HALB elementary and middle school has outgrown its Long Beach building and is now embarking on an exciting new adventure. Having recently purchased an old public school campus in the heart of Woodmere, HALB is designing a customized, state of the art, 21st century educational facility designed to offer our students the perfect environment to achieve our educational and developmental goals.

**Vibrant Modern Orthodox Setting:** HALB is situated In the heart of The Five Towns on the South Shore of Long Island, one of the most vibrant centers of modern Orthodox Judaism in the country. A community built on Torah, Avoda and Gemilut Chasadim, the options and opportunities for meaningful engagement in learning, t'fila and chesed abound, making it a unique and wonderful place to raise a family.

## Meet the rest of the HALB family

HALB began in 1954 as a kindergarten through eighth grade elementary school comprised of twenty students in a small house on Laurelton Blvd. in Long Beach, New York. It has since grown to include the Stella K. Abraham (SKA) High School for Girls, the Davis Renov Stahler (DRS) High School for Boys, and the Lev Chana Early Childhood Center (3-year old Nursery through Kindergarten) educating well over 1,600 students each year. In 2016, HALB plans to relocate to a new, state of the art, custom-designed educational center in the heart of the Five Towns.

Our [Lev Chana Early Childhood Center](#) is a world where young children are valued, understood, nurtured, and challenged to expand their developing minds. The love for learning, the laughter of happy children, and the warmth between teachers and students is palpable in the air. The integrated curriculum at Lev Chana provides learning opportunities through developmentally appropriate teacher instruction, meaningful child centered activities, and enjoyable hands-on experiences. Through these techniques the children develop important fundamental skills in both General studies and Limudei Kodesh. They also begin to acquire a love of Torah, the Jewish people, Medinat Yisrael, and an understanding of the importance of mitzvot and midot tovot. Teachers, assistants, therapists, special educators, mental health professionals, and administrators work together utilizing the whole child approach to education, considering each student's social, emotional, physical, intellectual and spiritual growth. We encourage children to become independent learners, to explore their Jewish identity, and to feel proud of whom they are. With this solid academic foundation and strong sense of self our children are inspired to become lifelong learners.

The [Davis Renov Stahler Yeshiva High School for Boys \(DRS\)](#), with 330 students, is a warm, nurturing and academically stimulating environment for the religious, intellectual and personal growth of each student. Our Jewish Studies program is geared to give students the skills and love for learning to prepare them for Yeshivot in Eretz Yisrael and for institutions of higher Jewish learning post-high school. Our College preparatory General Studies program invests our students with the knowledge and skills to gain acceptance to the colleges of their choice. To make the educational experience come alive, our Yeshiva combines academic excellence and rigor in both Judaic and General Studies with an exciting array of innovative co-curricular and extracurricular activities. The Yeshiva is a pulsating central hub of each talmid's life; a place to work hard and at the same time enjoy the company of friends and teachers in an atmosphere of mutual caring and respect. Mentschlachkeit, love of every Jew, respect for all people, and commitment to one's community and to Am Yisrael are essential components of our world view. Focus on [מדינת ישראל](#) as the spiritual heart of our people is of primary importance.

The [Stella K. Abraham High School for Girls \(SKA\)](#), with over 350 students, strives for academic excellence in both Judaic and Secular Studies. The school promotes a keen awareness of the ethics of interpersonal relationships and behavior, a deep appreciation for prayer, a devotion to the performance of acts of loving-kindness and sensitivity to personal modesty. Our academic program is designed to provide our students with a comprehensive education, emphasizing the development of critical thinking and research skills as well as written and oral expression. Academic preparation of our students for admission to institutions of higher learning of their choice is a primary goal. The academic offerings and extensive extracurricular program are geared toward instilling in our students a love of learning, a desire for personal growth, a respect for and understanding of the democratic process with the unique opportunities provided by the American experience, as well as an approach to life that emphasizes optimism, intellectual curiosity, community service and respect for all people, regardless of race, creed or economic status.



# Specific opportunities

The N-8 Head of School's vision and leadership will guide and empower an energized student body, a deeply committed parent base, and a supportive leading Orthodox and Zionist community. From day one, he will have the opportunity to build upon HALB's achievements as a flagship yeshiva day school in numerous impactful ways.

Serve as the face of HALB to the broader community by sharing our vision and mission with potential new families and inspiring them to join the growing HALB family; recruit and retain HALB families by cultivating new relationships while strengthening existing ones.

Lead a successful launch at our new state-of-the-art Woodmere campus. The N-8 Head of School's stewardship both within our institution and to the community at large will shape the next phase of our school's future.

Cultivate our dedicated faculty and staff by emphasizing educational leadership through effective professional development programs with rigorous oversight, assessment and support.

Work on upholding high standards and learning goals with continuous review of instruction and curriculum, while continuing to inspire religious growth and love of learning in our students and maintaining our school's distinctive nurturing and caring learning environment.

Facilitate further development and support for Hebrew language programs that emphasize and encourage spoken Hebrew in Judaic studies classes, moving the school toward a true Ivrit b'Ivrit model.

Champion our 21st Century education initiatives by extending educational technology across our school.

Implement innovative and effective special needs and enrichment programs, both in and out of the classroom, in furtherance of our commitment to the personal development of each and every one of our students.

## Our N-8 Head of School is

- Deeply committed to HALB's mission and to his own spiritual and professional growth.
- Driven to inspire students, faculty, staff, parents and prospective families with his vision and leadership.
- A warm and charismatic leader who loves children, is eager to engage with students, faculty and parents, and is talented at relationship and community building.
- Passionate about excellence in Judaic and General studies education for all students and has the necessary acumen to act on that passion.
- A decisive, nimble and strategic thinker with excellent administrative and management skills.
- An effective communicator who values transparency and can facilitate open communications with all school constituencies.
- A master educator, instructional leader, innovator and lifelong learner who supports and develops excellence in teaching, and the continued professional development of faculty.
- Collaborative - a team player and builder, who works well and constructively with others.
- A model of integrity, humility, and diplomacy with excellent listening skills and a strong work ethic.

Interested candidates are encouraged to contact our search consultants at YUSP Rabbi Maccabee Avishur (avishur@yu.edu) or Dina Rabhan (rabhan@yu.edu) or our search committee chair, Dr. Moti Weitz (markus.weitz@gmail.com) to confidentially discuss the opportunity and process.

Applicants should submit a cover letter indicating why they are particularly interested in serving as N-8 Head of School at HALB and a current resume to Rabbi Avishur no later than Dec. 15, 2015.

These materials should be transmitted via email to Rabbi Avishur at avishur@yu.edu.