



## STATUS REPORT

July 30, 2020

The Israel Arts and Science Academy (IASA) celebrates its 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this fall. This high school (for grades 10-12) admits high-achieving young Israelis from all across Israel. It celebrates its diversity with a student body of Jews (religious and secular) and Israeli Arabs (Muslim, Christian and Druze), representing all socioeconomic areas of the country. Admission is solely by merit. Every qualified student is accepted, irrespective of financial ability.

The IASA experience provides talented young Israelis with an outstanding educational experience. Students major in four areas: Science, Art, Music and Humanities. This is combined with a rich values laden social experience, emphasizing excellence, leadership and community service. Study at IASA provides each student with the tools to reach his/her full potential. Our goal is for each of them to become a *mensch*. IASA has had an enormous impact on Israel's education system and is poised to accelerate that impact.

IASA-Middle School (IASA-MS) (for grades 7-9) was inaugurated in the Fall of 2017. It is already recognized as one of the best middle schools in Israel. IASA-MS, like IASA-High School, is a living laboratory for new and exciting, 21<sup>st</sup> century teaching methodologies, curricula and programs. It is the first middle school in Israel to perform community service as an integral part of its curriculum. Applications for admission are 5 times the capacity, so admission is by lottery. IASA-MS was built as a model for middle school across Israel. It is poised to train teachers and principals throughout Israel.

Jerusalem, City of Excellence in Education: This fall, a pilot program of Al Ma Da, our transformational math and science curriculum for elementary schools (for grades 4-7), will be introduced in 24 schools Jerusalem. Al Ma Da has already successfully been adopted by the Government of Singapore for all of its elementary schools. In Israel, in partnership with the Ministry of Education, Al Ma Da has been an extraordinary success, demand far exceeding supply.



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IASA has developed a treasure of intellectual property, new and exciting teaching methodologies, curricula and programs that have been developed over the past 30 years for students from elementary school through high school (grades 4-12):

- **Al Ma Da** trains teachers and principals in this exciting 21<sup>st</sup> century curriculum by accompanying each school over a 3 year period. Al Ma Da is introduced in the 4<sup>th</sup> grade, then the 5<sup>th</sup> and then the 6<sup>th</sup>. During this time, Field supervisors regularly visit the schools to aid the teachers and assure that the curriculum is being implemented correctly. After this three year period, schools continue Al Ma Da on their own. Contact with our field supervisors and the training of new teachers are always available.
- The same approach will be taken with **IASA-Middle School**, except the training will encompass all of the unique educational experiences introduced.
- **IASA-High School** will adapt all of its unique IP for high schools across the country.

**This unified plan will grow on a municipality by municipality basis for all to become cities of “Excellence in Education.” This enormous initiative will quickly raise the level of education in Israel towards excellence.**