



June 8, 2016

Dear Temple Beth El Religious School Families:

We would like to thank our current Religious School families for a great year and welcome our new families.

The 2016-2017 Religious School form has been posted on the Temple Beth El website. You are welcome to fill out the hard copy included or complete your form electronically. Either way, please fill out the form completely and make sure to get it in by **July 15th**, the deadline for classmate and session requests. After the deadline, we will do our best to honor your session choice if it is possible. Assignments are made on a first-come, first-served basis. We are sorry, but we are unable to honor any classmate requests after the July 15th deadline. Please only request one student for classmate requests. In order to register for Religious School you must complete all school registration forms, as well as all Sacred Gift forms.

Temple Beth El subsidizes every Religious School student to help keep the cost of tuition reasonable. **No family is denied a Jewish education because they are unable to pay.** All families are valued and welcome. For those who are financially able, it is a mitzvah to pay the Actual Cost Option. This additional payment helps offset the over \$42,000 of financial assistance given to Temple members. The Actual Cost Option also helps to cover the Bernstein Education Building fees which are set by the Foundation of Shalom Park. The building expenses, which cover the security, rent, and maintenance, increased 7% this year. The Actual Cost Option covers the 7% increase. There is a third option to choose an amount between the two that will enable you to give above the subsidized amount and help at a level at which you are comfortable. Even a small increase will help decrease the subsidy the Temple must provide to defray school costs. Regardless of which option you choose, I thank you for enrolling your child/ren in our school. Tuition payments may be paid in full or added to your TBE account and paid according to your payment schedule.

Families who are in need of financial assistance are welcome to contact Candace Naliboff, Director of Congregational Engagement, to arrange for financial assistance at cnaliboff@templebethel.org. Financial assistance is limited and based on need. All requests are confidential.

All Religious School students will be members of the TBE youth groups. There will be no separate forms to fill out and no fees to pay. Every kindergarten through Sheva (7th Grade) student will be welcomed and encouraged to attend our nationally recognized youth group functions. We are excited to welcome our new Director of Youth Engagement, Sam Swire, and you can look forward to a variety of experiences to help our young students connect socially and Jewishly to our TBE and Charlotte community. LIBERTY registration forms for 8th – 12th graders will be sent separately.

Temple Beth El Religious School will begin on Sunday, September 11, 2016. You will receive class assignments in early September.

If you have any comments, concerns or suggestions, we would love to hear from you. Please email school inquiries to sjacobs@templebethel.org and youth group inquiries to sswire@templebethel.org or call 704-749-3046. Forms may be turned in to the Temple or Religious School offices. Students will be registered when Sacred Gift and Temple accounts are in good standing. The entire Temple Beth El Religious School and Youth Engagement department wishes you a happy and safe summer.

L'shalom,

Susan Jacobs
Director of Education

Sam Swire
Director of Youth Engagement and
Assistant Director of Education