

# YEDA News

## Recent Developments

- The Wexner Foundation is active in Israel and runs a Senior Leadership Program to strengthen Israel's public leadership. The goal of the Wexner Israel Programs is to provide Israel's senior and mid-career public leaders with superlative training in public management and leadership development, thus enhancing the quality of democracy and the institutional vitality of Israel's public sector. The Wexner Foundation has added the YEDA network to its flagship program in Israel to foster social-economic-community development in Shibli, a Bedouin village in northern Israel whose youth serve in the Israel Defense Forces. The Foundation has initiated a process to open a YEDA school in Shibli in the 2017-2018 academic year. The new primary school under development will be the first YEDA school in the Arab sector in Israel.

We are also looking closely at the possibility of opening new schools in the cities of Lod, Yerucham, and Kiryat Malachi in the 2017-2018 school year.

- In March Leo Baeck YEDA network teachers participated in a training course for English teachers offered in Israel by the Relay Graduate School of Education in NYC. The program took place in the city of Nazareth with the participation of dozens of English teachers from around the country. The Relay Graduate School of Education, was originally established as a teacher training institute in New York City and now has ten campuses throughout the United States. Negotiations are currently in progress in the Israeli Ministry of Education to bring Relay to Israel as a teacher training institution for the public school system.
- Next year we will begin hiring new teachers from "Chotam" - Teach First Israel (TFI) inspired by the activity of the American Teach for America (TFA) organization. The heads of TFI expressed great interest in the YEDA educational model and welcome the beginning of the collaboration between YEDA and "Chotam."

## YEDA Celebrates Purim

- Purim celebrations were held during the week of March 20th in our Kiryat Bialik and Petach Tikvah schools. In Kiryat Bialik a variety of events took place culminating in a school Purim parade around the city. All the students were dressed in costumes and marched with their parents through the streets of Kiryat Bialik, singing songs, rattling gragers (Purim noisemakers) in festive holiday spirit.
- Leo Baeck Junior High school students prepared and sent Purim treats to the YEDA Kiryat Bialik children.
- In the YEDA Petach Tikvah School we celebrated with a large and colorful Purim (Purim festival). Activity booths were set up at the school by parents and students exchanged holiday gift packages.



## YEDA Kiryat Bialik News

- Thanks to the generous contribution of the SEED THE DREAM Foundation, we renovated the first building of the YEDA Kiryat Bialik School. In light of the success of the school, its growth, and the high demand to study there, the Kiryat Bialik Municipality and the Ministry of Education collaborated to renovate the second structure of the school and this time without a request for assistance from donations. During the ongoing renovation of the second school building, the Municipality decided to build two new nursery schools on our campus so that our educational model will be able to operate for children from the age of 4. The second renovated school building will be ready for use by students at the beginning of the next school year in September 2016 and the new nursery school will open in September 2017.
- During the week of March 20th, Mayor Eli Dokorski of Kiryat Bialik spent a morning at the YEDA school and read a story to our first grade students. The children listened attentively while the mayor discussed the story with them and they demonstrated great interest and comprehension.



## YEDA Petach Tikvah News

- A postcard designed and prepared by a YEDA Petach Tikvah School student adorns the invitation to a Passover exhibit and happening to take place in the Petach Tikvah Museum of Art. We are very proud of our student.



- Family Day celebrations at the Petach Tikvah School included sports activities for parents and children. Students and parents organized various activity stations that encouraged cooperation between the kids and their parents. Sports competitions between parents and children were also organized, such as volleyball, soccer, a dodge ball game, rope pulling, and an amazing experience of operating a parachute. Afterwards everyone gathered in the classrooms for a delicious breakfast prepared by the parents. The tremendous excitement, energy and enthusiasm of all participants was evident.



Yours,

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