

Jewish Federation of Ottawa School Funding Report Funding for 2017/18

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1. Introduction

Studies show that the more Jewish education a child receives, the more likely it is that he or she will lead an active Jewish life as an adult. Federation is dedicated to strengthening and promoting quality Jewish education through day and supplemental schools, informal learning experiences and adult continuing education programs. This report presents recommendations for the distribution of funding from the Jewish Federation Annual Campaign to schools for fiscal year 2017-2018.

In January 2016, the Board of the Jewish Federation of Ottawa launched a Task Force to review day school and supplementary school funding formulas, which is one of the deliverables in Federation's Strategic Plan (2014-2019). The Task force recommendations were adopted in November 2016, and a new sub-committee has been added to Federation's Grants Committee to oversee the implementation of the recommendations.

The Task Force recommended that no changes be made to the funding formula for supplementary schools, and that changes be made to the funding formula for day schools starting only in 2018/19. Moreover, it recommended that Federation launch a holistic effort to gauge the level of funding necessary to support and sustain a robust day school system.

Report Recommendations:

- I. It is recommended that the School Funding Envelope increase by \$4,500 for 2017/18, and that this increase be directed to Supplementary schools.
- II. It is recommended that in addition to Torah Day School's allocation from the School Funding Envelope, the school receive an additional \$20,000 grant in 2017/18, to assist with its ongoing unification efforts. (The same amount was granted to the school in 2016/17 also to support their unification efforts.)
- III. Funding recommendations for Day Schools are found on page 4, and for supplementary schools on page 6.

2. Enrollment in Jewish Schools:

Day Schools:

Ottawa Jewish Community School (OJCS)
Torah Day School
Ottawa Torah Institute (OTI)

Supplementary Schools:

Chabad Hebrew School (OTC Chabad)
Or Haneshamah – Machaneh Shabbat
Ottawa Talmud Torah (OTT)
Ottawa Modern Jewish School (OMJS)
Temple Israel Religious School (Temple)
Torah High

Table 2: Enrolment in Jewish Education over the Years

Enrollment By School					
	2016/17	2015/16	2014/15	2013/14	2012/13
OJCS	184	199	216	224*	258
Rambam	-	43	55	54	56
Torah Academy	-	82	75	86	89
Torah Day School**	112	-	-	-	-
OTI	11	17	12	8	14
Total Day Schools	307	341	358	372	417
Or Haneshamah	12	-	-	-	-
OTC Chabad	99	94	79	79	81
OTT	58	18	29	29	32
OMJS	44	43	43	43	40
Temple Israel	77	68	77	83	87
Torah High	104	106	102	74	78
Total Supp. Schools	394	329	330	308	318

*2013/14 is the first year without Grades 9 – 12 at OJCS.

**Torah Day School was created through the unification of Rambam and Torah Academy in 2016.

Table 3: 2016/17 Enrolment in Ottawa Jewish Schools per Grade

Schools	Enrollment By Grade																	
	JK	K	1	2	3	4	5	K-5 Total	6	7	8	6-8 Total	9	10	11	12	9-12 Total	Total
Ottawa Jewish Community School		16	21	23	25	17	21	123	22	11	28	61						184
Torah Day School	3	14	11	11	15	12	10	76	11	12	13	36						112
OTI													4	2	4	1	11	11
Day School Total	3	30	32	34	40	29	31	199	33	23	41	97	4	2	4	1	11	307
	JK	K	1	2	3	4	5	K-5 Total	6	7	8	6-8 Total	9	10	11	12	9-12 Total	Total
Or Haneshamah		2	1		4	1		8	2	1	1	4						12
OTC Chabad		15	11	11	21	15	9	82	11	6		17						99
OTT	12	7	6	3	2	13	3	46	5	7		12						58
OMJS	4	6	5	1	8	4	5	33	8	3		11						44
Temple	4	9	6	11	9	10	8	57	5	8	4	17	1	2			3	77
Torah High											5	5	33	18	31	17	99	104
Supplementary School Total	20	39	29	26	44	43	25	226	31	25	10	66	34	20	31	17	102	394

3. Support for Jewish Education

Table 4: Support to Schools

School Funding Envelope			
Year	Day Schools	Supplementary Schools	Total
2014/15	\$676,966	\$100,973	\$777,939
2015/16	\$707,566	\$100,973	\$808,539
2016/17	\$707,566	\$100,973	\$808,539
2017/18	\$707,566	\$105,473	\$813,039

In addition to the allocations to schools from the School Funding Envelope, Federation has supported Jewish education in other ways. A dedicated fundraising campaign raised close to 6 million dollars to support OJCS. Also, in 2016/17, Federation’s Board approved innovation funding in the amount of \$20,000 for Torah Day School to assist with its unification efforts.

Moreover, schools are eligible to apply for grants through Federation’s Fund for Innovative Capacity Building to support innovation and new initiatives. To date, many schools have benefited from the grants.

New Fund for Innovative Capacity Building - Grants to Schools since 2013		
OJCS	i-Pads for students	\$15,000
Ottawa Modern Jewish School	Curriculum Review	\$12,400
Ottawa Torah Institute	Media and Recruiting Package	\$5,100
	US Donation Acceptance Capability	\$2,790
	Laptops for Tech Lab	\$3,125
Torah Day School	SmartBoards (Rambam & TA)	\$7,490
	SmartBoards (Rambam & TA)	\$10,541
	New governance structure	\$5,000
Total Grants to Schools		\$61,446

Federation continues to be committed to expanding involvement and engagement in Jewish life and learning, and continues to seek ways to support Jewish education. Federation initiatives to support Jewish education include:

- The PJ Library program provides a pipeline for young families into the community and into direct contact with schools
- Federation’s Shinshinim program brings young Israeli emissaries into Jewish schools to enhance their programs with an infusion of Israeli culture and traditions, and Hebrew language
- Joint professional development brings quality continuing education twice a year to day and supplementary school teachers
- Training sessions for agency leaders and volunteers help strengthen organizations’ governance
- Continued marketing efforts seek to increase the visibility of the schools within the community and to market the schools to new audiences.

4. Day School Funding

In September 2014, a new hybrid model of funding partner agencies was adopted, and Federation’s five largest beneficiary agencies began receiving Organizational Funding. These agencies are: OJCS, SJCC, Tamir, Jewish Family Services and Hillel Lodge. With Organizational Funding, rather than focus on whether the agencies should receive funding, the Grants and Evaluation Committee focuses on accountability and providing appropriate stewardship of donor dollars, and works to ensure that there is alignment with Federation’s mission, vision and values statement.

OJCS will receive \$554,526 in Organizational Funding for 2017/18, which is the same amount that it received last year.

The amount of funding remaining in the envelope after the allocation to the OJCS and the allocation by formula is \$62,540. It is recommended that these funds be directed to Torah Day School to continue to support its unification efforts. These funds are over and above the allocation they would have received based solely on the funding formula.

In addition to the above allocation for Torah Day School, it is recommended that the school receive an additional \$20,000 grant in 2017/18, to assist with its ongoing unification efforts. The same amount was granted to the school in 2016/17 also to support their unification efforts.

Table 5: Proposed Day School Funding

School	Current Funding 2016/17	Proposed Funding 2017/18
OJCS	\$554,526	\$554,526
Torah Day School	\$128,204	\$132,040
OTI	\$24,836	\$21,000
Day School Total	\$707,566	\$707,566

5. Supplementary School Funding

In 2016, several changes occurred in the landscape of supplementary schools in Ottawa. Or Hanesamah’s Machaneh Shabbat was added to the list of funded schools. Ottawa Talmud Torah saw a change in leadership and a new program format and this resulted in a significant increase in the school’s enrollment over the previous year. Ottawa Modern Jewish School also saw a change in leadership and undertook a full review of their curriculum. Temple Israel Religious School also had a change in leadership in the past few years. All of these positive changes bode well for the future and the increased enrollment in supplementary schools over last year is evidence of this positive momentum.

In order to continue to support this growth, it is recommended that an additional \$4,500 be added to bring the supplementary school funding envelope to \$105,473. This will help ensure that funding to schools will either increase or remain at least at the level of the previous year.

In previous years, \$6,000 of the supplementary school funding envelope was earmarked for efforts to improve supplementary schools and promote the schools in the community. The School Funding Task Force recommended that of the \$6,000, \$1,500 continue to be directed toward professional development for teachers, and that \$4,500 be directed toward a new Award of Excellence for supplementary schools. In consultation with the schools about the Award, it became evident that they are not in favor of an initiative that brings more competition to the field of supplementary education, and instead would prefer that efforts be focused on highlighting each of their unique strengths.

In light of this, it is recommended to not proceed with the Award at this time, and instead to direct the \$4,500 to help fund the increase in the supplementary school envelope.

Recommended Supplementary School Envelope	
Professional Development	\$1,500
Funds for Schools	\$103,973
Total Envelope	\$105,473

Since 2006, Federation has distributed funds to Supplementary Jewish Schools using a funding formula based on contact hours (calculation based on enrollment x hours of programming).

The formula is based on a 3-year rolling average of enrollment. Schools are allocated a proportion of the Supplementary School Funding Envelope based on their proportion of contact hours.

Table 6: Supplementary School Allocations

School	Contact Hours	% of Total Contact Hours	Allocation (Each receives a proportion of the funding envelope)	Current Funding 2016/17	Proposed Funding 2017/18
Or H	12	1%	\$1,040	\$950	\$1,040
OTC Chabad	227.5	22%	\$22,874	\$19,944	\$22,874
OTT	105	11%	\$11,437	\$10,447	\$11,437
Temple	261	25%	\$25,993	\$25,642	\$25,993
Torah High	306	29%	\$30,152	\$26,592	\$30,152
OMJS	129	12%	\$12,477	\$12,345	\$12,477
Total Schools	1040.5	100%	\$103,973	\$94,970	\$103,973

6. Conclusion

In 2016/17, several important changes have taken place among various schools. The OJCS is undergoing a change in leadership, the unification of Torah Academy and Rambam has resulted in a new school, Torah Day School, and several of the supplementary schools have undergone significant changes in leadership and program offerings. These positive changes bode well for the future of Jewish education in the community, although more work is needed to engage more families in formal Jewish education.

Federation continues to be committed to expanding involvement and engagement in Jewish life and learning, and continues to seek ways to support Jewish education. An important part of these efforts is PJ Library program as it provides a pipeline for young Jewish families to engage in the Jewish community. Working together with Jewish schools, Federation will continue its unwavering support for Jewish education.

APPENDIX – Calculations of Funding Formulas

A. Day School Funding Formula

Table 7: Day School per Capita Formula

Index of Per Capita Rates for Ottawa Jewish Day Schools	
➤	A basic per capita rate of \$500 per student enrolled
➤	A multiplying factor of 1.0 for K to grade 5 to give a rate of \$500 per student
➤	A multiplying factor of 1.5 for grades 6 to 8 to give a rate of \$750 per student
➤	A multiplying factor of 3.0 for high school to give a rate of \$1,500 per student

Table 8: Day School Enrolment - 3 Year Average

School	2014/15				2015/16				2016/17				3 Year Average		
	K-5	6-8	9-12	Total	K-5	6-8	9-12	Total	K-5	6-8	9-12	Total	K-5	6-8	9-12
Torah Day School	100	29		129	87	38		125	76	36		112	88	34	
OTI			13	13			17	17			11	11			14

Table 9: Allocations by Formula

School	Enrollment 3 Year Average			\$ Calculation by Grade			Allocation By Formula
	K-5	6-8	9-12	K-5 (x 500)	6-8 (x 750)	9-12 (x 1,500)	
Torah Day School	88	34		\$44,000	\$25,500		\$69,500
OTI			14			\$21,000	\$21,000
							\$90,500

The amount of funding remaining in the envelope after the allocation to the OJCS and the allocation by formula is \$62,540. It is recommended that these funds be directed to Torah Day School to continue to support its unification efforts. These funds are over and above the allocation they would have received based solely on the funding formula.

Table 10: Proposed Day School Funding

School	Current Funding 2016/17	Proposed Funding 2017/18
OJCS	\$554,526	\$554,526
Torah Day School*	\$128,204	\$132,040
OTI	\$24,836	\$21,000
Day School Total	\$707,566	\$707,566

*Torah Day School will also receive an additional \$20,000 grant in 2017/18, to assist with its ongoing unification efforts.

B. Supplementary School Funding Formula

Since 2006, Federation has distributed funds to Supplementary Jewish Schools using a funding formula based on contact hours (calculation based on enrollment x hours of programming). The formula is based on a 3-year rolling average of enrollment.

Table 11: Supplementary School Enrolment – 3 Year Average

	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	3-Year Average
School	Enrollment	Enrollment	Enrollment	Total
OTC Chabad	80	94	99	91
Or H	-	-	12	4
OTT	29	19	58	35
Temple	77	68	77	74
Torah High	96	105	104	102
OMJS	42	43	44	43

Table 12: Calculation of Contact Hours

School	3 – Year Average Enrollment	Hours of Programming	Contact Hours: Enrolment x Hours of Programming
OTC Chabad	91	2.5	227.5
Or H	4	3	12
OTT	35	3*	105
Temple	See below**		261
Torah High	102	3	306
OMJS	43	3	129
Total Contact Hours:			1040.5

*New this year, OTT allowed students to select the number of days that they attend each week, and each day offers 2 hours of programming. Some students selected 2 hours of programming per week and others selected 4 hours per week. For the purposes of the funding formula, we have calculated the average hours of programming at 3 hours per week (the average of 2 and 4).

**Temple Israel Religious School offers different hours of programming for each of the Grade levels, therefore separate calculations are required (see below).

Table 13: Calculation for Temple Israel Religious School

<i>Temple</i>	<i>K</i>	<i>Gr. 1</i>	<i>Gr. 2</i>	<i>Gr. 3</i>	<i>Gr. 4</i>	<i>Gr. 5</i>	<i>Gr. 6</i>	<i>Gr. 7</i>	<i>Gr. 8</i>	<i>Gr. 9</i>	<i>Gr. 10</i>
2014	9	10	7	7	7	8	6	6	3	7	7
2015	8	8	10	8	7	5	7	7	1	2	5
2016	13	6	11	9	10	8	5	8	4	1	2
3 year average =74	10	8	9	8	8	7	6	7	3	3	5

Temple Israel Religious School			
Grade	Hours of Programming	3-Year Average Enrollment	No. of Contact Hours
K-1	3	18	54
2-6	4.5	38	171
7-10	2	18	36
		74	261

Table 14: Supplementary School Allocations

School	Contact Hours	% of Total Contact Hours	Allocation (Each receives a proportion of the funding envelope)	Current Funding 2016/17	Proposed Funding 2017/18
Or H	12	1%	\$1,040	\$950	\$1,040
OTC Chabad	227.5	22%	\$22,874	\$19,944	\$22,874
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