

Jewish Federation of Ottawa School Funding Report Funding for 2018/19

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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 continuing education programs.

This report presents recommendations for the distribution of funding from the Jewish Federation Annual Campaign to schools for fiscal year 2018-2019. Funding recommendations for Day Schools and supplementary schools are on page 5.

2. Enrollment in Jewish Schools:

Day Schools:

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

Supplementary Schools:

Chabad Hebrew School (CHS)
Ottawa Talmud Torah (OTT)
Ottawa Modern Jewish School (OMJS)
Temple Israel Religious School (Temple)
Torah High

Note that Or Haneshamah's Shabbat Camp received funding last year as a supplementary school. It is now categorized as a program, and as such receives Program Funding from Federation.

Table 1: Enrolment in Jewish Education over the Years

Enrollment By School					
	2017/18	2016/17	2015/16	2014/15	2013/14
OJCS	158	184	199	216	224
Rambam	-	-	43	55	54
Torah Academy	-	-	82	75	86
Torah Day School**	118	112	-	-	-
Ottawa Torah Institute	10	11	17	12	8
Total Day Schools	286	307	341	358	372
Or Haneshamah***	10	12	-	-	-
OTC Chabad	106	99	94	79	79
OTT	60	58	18	29	29
OMJS	47	44	43	43	43
Temple Israel	92	77	68	77	83
Torah High	75	104	106	102	74
Total Supp. Schools	390	329	330	308	318

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

***As of funding year 2018/19, Or Haneshamah receives “Program Funding” (not from the School Funding Envelope)

Table 2: 2017/18 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		19	18	22	24	15	16	114	14	19	11	44						158
Torah Day School	15	8	17	11	11	14	11	87	10	10	11	31						118
OTI													4	2	1	3	10	10
Day School Total	15	27	35	33	35	29	27	201	24	29	22	75	4	2	1	3	10	286
	JK	K	1	2	3	4	5	K-5 Total	6	7	8	6-8 Total	9	10	11	12	9-12 Total	Total
OTC Chabad		22	6	10	12	19	18	87	10	9		19						106
OTT	12	7	6	3	2	13	3	46	5	7	2	12						60
OMJS	6	5	6	7	2	9	3	38	2	7		9						47
Temple	5	6	11	7	12	12	10	63	10	9	5	24	5				5	92
Torah High											9	9	24	22	7	13	66	75
Supplementary School Total	33	40	29	27	55	53	34	234	27	32	16	75	29	22	7	13	71	380

3. Support for Jewish Education

Table 3: Support to Schools

School Funding Envelope			
Year	Day Schools	Supplementary Schools	Total
2015/16	\$707,566	\$100,973	\$808,539
2016/17	\$707,566	\$100,973	\$808,539
2017/18	\$707,566	\$105,473	\$813,039
2018/19	\$727,566	\$105,473	\$833,039

It is recommended that funding to day schools increase by \$20,000. For the past two years, Torah Day School has received a \$20,000 grant to assist with its efforts to promote excellence. This funding was not part of the School Funding Envelope, but was a separate grant to help Torah Day School with unification efforts and with efforts to improve the quality of education. This year’s funding recommendation includes this \$20,000 in the School Funding Envelope specifically for Torah Day School.

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 5.5 million dollars to support OJCS. Also, in 2016/17, and 2017/18, 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. Since 2013, many schools have benefited from close to \$100,000 in additional grants from Federation. One school has also benefitted from an EG Grant to hold a Shabbat Dinner for young families.

Table 4: Innovative Capacity Building Fund – School Grants

Grants to Schools since 2013		
OJCS	i-Pads for students	\$15,000
Ottawa Modern Jewish School	Curriculum Review	\$12,400
OMJS & Ganon	School technology implementation	\$10,000
OTTAS	Educational Computers	\$2,524
	Shabbat Dinner for Young Families	\$1,200
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
	Chromebooks	\$11,639
Torah High	Laptops	\$2,565
	Education Technology	\$8,065
	Total Grants to Schools	\$97,439

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. 71% of eligible families in Ottawa subscribe to the program.
- 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
- 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

Federation’s School Funding Task Force of 2016 recommended changes to the day school funding formula starting in 2018/19. The Task Force recommended that the funding model that would best meet Federation’s and the schools’ requirements is one in which schools receive a base or fixed amount of funding, and then an additional bonus or variable amount of funding. The idea behind the variable funding was that it would incentivize schools to attract more families by including a “bonus amount” based purely on specified performance measures.

Since 2016, the amount of funding available for day schools remains unchanged. Moreover, the creation of Torah Day School through the unification of Rambam and Torah Academy is still in its early years, and the school continues to work towards excellence. In addition to the findings and recommendations of the School Funding task Force, a new hybrid model of funding partner agencies was adopted in 2014, and Federation’s five largest beneficiary agencies began receiving Organizational Funding. These agencies are: OJCS, SJCC, Tamir, Jewish Family Services and Hillel Lodge.

In light of this, it is recommended that OJCS receive \$554,526 in Organizational Funding for 2018/19, which is the same amount that it received last year. It is recommended that TDS and OTI receive funding based on historic levels, as outlined in Table 5, until such time when more funds are raised for Jewish education.

With Federation’s Campaign 2019, plans are underway to raise more funds to support the Jewish Superhighway, and a key part of this is increasing the funds available for Jewish education. If successful, this will help to address the needs of day schools and allow for additional funds to be allocated based on considerations such as the commitment to bridge the gap in funding between OJCS and TDS, and possibly other performance measures. Implementing a model that uses historic funding as the base and allowing for additional funds to be added when more funds become available, both addresses the Task Force recommendations while also provides stability for day schools.

Note that for the past two years, Torah Day School has received a \$20,000 grant to assist with its efforts to promote excellence. This funding was not part of the School Funding Envelope, but was a separate grant to help Torah Day School. This year’s funding recommendation includes the \$20,000 grant so that TDS’s level of funding is the same as last year.

Table 5: Proposed Day School Funding

School	Current Funding 2017/18	Proposed Funding 2018/19
OJCS	\$554,526	\$554,526
Torah Day School	\$152,040	\$152,040
OTI	\$21,000	\$21,000
Day School Total	\$727,566	\$727,566

5. Supplementary School Funding

In 2016, several changes occurred in the landscape of supplementary schools in Ottawa including changes in leadership, new partnerships and upgrades to curricula. All of these positive changes bode well for the future, and the overall increased enrollment in supplementary schools over the last two years is evidence of this positive momentum.

The total amount of Federation funding for Supplementary Schools is \$105,473. Of this, \$1,500 is directed toward professional development for teachers. Each year, Federation coordinates and funds joint professional development, and all teachers in Ottawa’s Jewish schools are invited to participate. Joint professional development uses Federation funding strategically, benefiting all schools by helping to improve the quality of education. As an example, in 2017/18, a session was provided on how to integrate new and free technologies and on-line resources into the classroom.

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 enrollment and hours of programming. The formula uses 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. See the formula calculations in Appendix A.

Table 6: Supplementary School Allocations

School	Contact Hours	% of Total Contact Hours	Allocation (Each receives a proportion of the funding envelope)	Current Funding 2017/18	Proposed Funding 2018/19
OTC Chabad	247.5	23%	\$23,914	\$22,874	\$23,914
OTT	135	13%	\$13,516	\$11,437	\$13,516
Temple	287	26%	\$27,033	\$25,993	\$27,033
Torah High	282	26%	\$27,033	\$30,152	\$27,033
OMJS	132	12%	\$12,477	\$12,477	\$12,477
Total Schools	1083.5	100%	\$103,973	\$103,973	\$103,973

6. Conclusion

In the last few years important changes have taken place among various schools. The OJCS underwent a change in leadership, the unification of Torah Academy and Rambam resulted in Torah Day School also under new leadership, 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. Federation's Campaign 2019 seeks to raise more funds to sustain a robust system of Jewish education now and into the future. An important part of Federation's efforts is the PJ Library program that 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 - Supplementary School Funding Formula Calculations

Since 2006, Federation has distributed funds to Supplementary Schools using a funding formula based on enrollment and number of hours of programming. The formula uses a 3-year rolling average of enrollment.

Table 8: Supplementary School Enrolment – 3 Year Average

	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	3-Year Average
School	Enrollment	Enrollment	Enrollment	Total
OTC Chabad	94	99	106	100
OTT	19	58	60	46
Temple	68	77	92	79
Torah High	105	104	75	95
OMJS	43	44	47	45

Table 9: Calculation of Contact Hours

School	3 – Year Average Enrollment	Hours of Programming	Contact Hours: Enrolment x Hours of Programming
OTC Chabad	99	2.5	247.5
OTT	45	3*	135
Temple	See below**		287
Torah High	94	3	282
OMJS	44	3	132
Total Contact Hours:			1083.5

* OTT allows 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 Grade level, therefore separate calculations are required (see below).

Table 10: Calculation for Temple Israel Religious School

Temple	K	Gr. 1	Gr. 2	Gr. 3	Gr. 4	Gr. 5	Gr. 6	Gr. 7	Gr. 8	Gr. 9	Gr. 10
2015	8	8	10	8	7	5	7	7	1	2	5
2016	13	6	11	9	10	8	5	8	4	1	2
2017	11	11	7	12	12	10	10	9	5	5	0

Temple Israel Religious School			
Grade	Hours of Programming	3-Year Average Enrollment	No. of Contact Hours
K-1	3	19	57
2-6	4.5	44	198
7-10	2	16	32
		79	287