

Jewish Federation of Ottawa
School Funding Report
Distribution of funding to schools for 2020-21

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1. Introduction

In June of 2020, Federation notified all funded agencies that due to the challenges presented by the global pandemic, Federation was reviewing its allocations for the current fiscal year. Agencies were notified that they would continue to receive their monthly allocation, based on last year's amount, for July through and including December 2020. This provided time for Federation to better gauge the results of Campaigns 2020 and 2021, and has allowed for better insight into our ability to allocate dollars.

On November 25, 2020, Federation's Board approved allocations for the current fiscal year, 2020/21. The Board approved allocations for Day and Supplementary Schools as follows:

- Maintain funding at the same level as last year for the Big six agencies, including Day Schools, OJCS and Torah Day School (TDS).
- No change to the way Supplementary Schools are funded, and the same funding formula should be used to determine this year's allocations. Furthermore, the overall level of funding (the funding envelope) will remain the same as last year.

This Report outlines the allocations to schools for fiscal year 2020/21.

There are a variety of ways in which Federation supports Jewish day and supplementary schools, and promotes Jewish education in the community:

- Federation provides annual school funding to day and supplementary schools.
- Schools received additional funding through the Emergency Campaign for Community Resilience.
- New strategic funding has been made available to schools, and the amounts allocated through several funding streams are outlined in this Report.
- Jewish schools are supported through capacity building grants.
- Jewish education and the schools are promoted through ongoing marketing efforts directed at Federation's broad network.
- Federation's successful PJ Library program actively partners with each of the schools, bringing new and potential families into direct contact with teachers and school leadership.

2. Enrollment in Jewish Schools:

Day Schools: Ottawa Jewish Community School (OJCS), Torah Day School (TDS) and Ottawa Torah Institute (OTI).

Supplementary Schools: Chabad Hebrew School (CHS), Ottawa Talmud Torah (OTT), Ottawa Modern Jewish School (OMJS), Temple Israel Religious School (Temple) and Torah High.

Federation is delighted that enrolment INCREASED at both Jewish Day Schools in 2020/21.

Enrollment in Jewish Education over the Years

	2020/21	2019/20	2018/19	2017/18	2016/17	2015/16
OJCS	181	168	172	158	184	199
Rambam				-	-	43
Torah Academy				-	-	82
Torah Day School**	106	98	100	118	112	-
Ottawa Torah Institute	17	5	13	10	11	17
Total Day Schools	304	271	285	286	307	341
Or Hanesamah***		-	-	10	12	-
OTC Chabad	44	90	103	106	99	94
OTT	20	70	61	60	58	18
OMJS	33	49	44	47	44	43
Temple Israel	91	99	95	92	77	68
Torah High	50	56	76	75	104	106
Total Supp. Schools	238	364	379	390	329	330

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

***As of funding year 2018/19, Or Hanesamah receives "Program Funding" (not from the School Funding Envelope) so enrollment will no longer be tracked with schools.

Last Year's Enrollment in Ottawa Jewish Schools per Grade, 2019-2020

Schools	JK	Enrollment By Grade															Total	
		K	1	2	3	4	5	K-5 Total	6	7	8	6-8 Total	9	10	11	12		9-12 Total
Ottawa Jewish Community School		17	30	25	17	23	16	128	17	14	9	40						168
Torah Day School	11	11	16	6	13	6	10	73	7	7	11	25						98
OTI													3	4	1		5	5
																		271

Supp. Schools	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	12	10	3	16	5	8	8	62	14	14		28						90
OTT	10	9	14	8	15	5	7	68	1	1		2						70
OMJS		10	10	5	6	8	0	39	7	3		10						49
Temple	8	7	7	8	11	10	10	61	12	10	4	26	8	4			12	99
Torah High											11	11	17	12	9	7	45	56
																		364

3. Support for Jewish Education

Total School Funding through the Years			
Year	Day Schools	Supplementary Schools	Total
2016/17	\$707,566	\$100,973	\$808,539
2017/18	\$707,566	\$105,473	\$813,039
2018/19	\$727,566	\$105,473	\$833,039
2019/20*	\$1,032,066	\$130,473	\$1,162,539
2020/21	\$797,566	\$105,473	\$903,039

*Represents annual allocation plus the addition of NEW strategic funding.

Note that in 2019-2020, thanks to the success of Federation's Matching Campaign, both day and supplementary schools received annual funding in addition to generous levels of strategic funding. Overall funding for Jewish education in Ottawa increased by almost 40% in that year.

Strategic funding available to agencies in the current fiscal year, 2020/21, include Microgrants and the Fund for Innovative Capacity Building. Moreover, schools have received Emergency Funding to enable them to address needs arising due to the pandemic. Emergency funding for schools will be outlined below.

In addition to support through direct funding, Federation continues to be committed 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. Many of the families participate in events throughout the year, and PJ families receive marketing

material from Federation promoting Jewish education and connecting families to Jewish schools. Events are held in partnership with schools to bring families into contact with the school leadership and teachers. **Federation invests \$40,000 annually, in providing monthly books mailed to families, and an additional \$12,000 for events and programs. This is in addition to staff time (approx. .3 FTE).**

- 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.

Other Sources of Federation Support for Schools last year, in 2019/20:

2019/20	
Fund for Innovative Capacity Building	
TDS	
Website improvements	\$3,000
STEAM Curriculum	\$10,000
Strategic Planning	\$6,000
TOTAL:	\$19,000

Note: TDS was the only school to receive a grant from this Fund in 2019/20.

2019/20		
Strategic Funding for Day Schools		
<u>Financial Sustainability</u>		(\$)
TDS	Mortgage & debt payments	\$20,000
OJCS	Software, marketing, Case for Giving	\$8,375
	Total:	\$28,375
<u>Excellence in Education</u>		
TDS	VR Headsets French learning	\$2,500
TDS	Mobile Science Labs	\$24,000
OJCS	French - TACLEF consulting Yr 1	\$30,250
	Total:	\$56,750
<u>Collaborative Projects</u>		
	Bus from Alta Vista	Total: \$14,000
<u>Special Education</u>		
TDS	Gifted/Enriched Consultant and Resources	\$5,500
OJCS	Star Literacy Prog., Audio Book Subscription, equipment	\$14,000
	Total:	\$19,500
	GRAND TOTAL:	\$90,250

2019/20		
Strategic Funding for Supplementary Schools		
Chabad Hebrew School	Educator's Conference, Gr. 3-4 curriculum, marketing	8,000
Ottawa Modern Jewish School	Special Needs & B'nai Mitzvah Program	\$3,400
Temple Israel Religious School	Special Needs training, Tablets for Hebrew	\$7,000
Ottawa Talmud Torah	Curriculum materials/books	\$2,000
Or Haneshamah	Educator conference	\$1,500
	TOTAL FUNDING:	\$21,900

4. Day School Funding

One of the silver-linings of the pandemic has been a modest increase in the number of families enrolling their children in Jewish day schools. Contrary to the fear at the outset of the pandemic that families would decide to leave day schools as the result of financial and other stresses, instead families have recognized the many benefits and the value proposition. Moreover, early in the crisis Federation stepped in to ensure that there were sufficient funds for increases in potential scholarship needs. The increase in enrolment is no doubt also the result of the tremendous pivot that both of the day schools were able to make early in the pandemic, and continuing throughout this year, in their effective and successful adjustments to virtual and now hybrid learning. This is a testament to their strong leadership and faculties, and we are proud to have been able to provide support through the challenging times.

Emergency Funding

In March 2020, Federation moved quickly to address immediate and projected needs of agencies providing critical services to the Jewish community to help see them through the crisis so they could continue to serve our community. Jewish education was deemed to be essential to the fabric of Jewish life in Ottawa. *“No community member – especially a child – should have to lose access to meaningful Jewish activity (be it Jewish education..) due to temporary job loss or financial devastation as the result of the pandemic.”* Dollars raised through the Emergency Campaign were provided to schools to keep community members connected to Jewish life and to keep our schools strong.

Day schools received emergency funding from the Emergency Campaign as follows:

Emergency Funding			
School	Assessment of Critical Needs	Total Emergency Funding Available Per School	Allocated to Date (Nov. 2020)
Torah Day School	Emergency funding for TDS was projected based on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Projected tuition shortfall for 2019/20 of \$37,000, • Projected \$85,000 tuition shortfall for 2020/21, • plus tuition relief offset of 20% of current subsidy budget (\$74,600) 	\$196,000	\$89,300 (For tuition relief)
OJCS	Emergency funding for OJCS was projected based on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anticipated increases in requests for scholarships (38% increase, \$226,420), • Funds to help offset part of the subsidy budget to help the school manage anticipated increases in costs due to the crisis (20% offset: \$119,250). 	\$345,670 Allocated in Aug: \$95,173, Allocated in Nov: \$150,634	\$245,807 (For tuition relief and operating costs)
TOTALS:		\$541,670	\$335,107

Funding from the Emergency Campaign is an iterative process and discussions regarding additional needs are on-going. As per the Board’s recommendation, both schools have been informed that any unused dollars this year, can be applied to pandemic needs in 2021/22.

Annual Funding

Both OJCS and TDS receive Organizational Funding. Each has a “Tailored Funding Agreement” which details the commitments and conditions of funding. The Agreements are developed through a collaborative process between the Grants Committee and each individual school, and are reviewed together with them every 2 years. The Agreements include general requirements that apply to all the agencies receiving organizational funding, as well as individual tailored requirements. The Agreements are currently being reviewed and updated.

Additional oversight:

- Schools are subject to a more thorough financial analysis every 2nd year,
- On an annual basis, schools are required to submit their Annual Report, audited financial statements, and a written compliance report (based on the “Tailored Funding Agreement”) of their activities,

- Schools have a face-to-face meeting with the Grants Committee in the non-review year for updates about progress, successes and challenges.

The table below recommends that operational funding for day schools in 2020/21, be provided as follows:

Proposed Day School Funding

School	Funding 2019/20	Proposed Funding 2020/21
OJCS	\$554,526	\$554,526
Torah Day School	\$222,040*	\$222,040*
OTI	\$21,000	\$21,000
Day School Total	\$797,566	\$797,566

*Includes \$70,000 in strategic funding for TDS school operations that was first recommended by the Board last year, in 2019/20.

School funding for OTI Machon Sarah is recommended to remain at the same level as last year. Although enrolment dropped last year, it is now at seventeen students for the academic year 2020/21. Also, Torah Day School had planned to open a new High School, but decided that the timing was not right, after collaborative discussions with Federation. Both TDS and OJCS recently collaborated on a survey to their parent body.

Note that OTI funding is usually calculated using the day school funding formula (based on enrolment and a multiplying factor based on the grade levels of students). An explanation of the day school funding formula is in the Appendix.

The Jewish Federation of Ottawa recognizes that more funds are needed to support and sustain quality Jewish education into the future. Federation’s 5-year Strategic Plan includes the establishment of the Generations Trust for Jewish education to support and sustain the two day schools into the future, at the levels needed by each of the schools to be successful and provide high quality education. Due the pandemic, fundraising for the Generations Trust has been paused.

5. Supplementary School Funding

Supplementary schools have been very hard-hit by the global pandemic. When the pandemic began to impact Ottawa in March 2020, and all schools were closed for in-person learning, supplementary schools made tremendous efforts and successfully pivoted their programs to online platforms. They tried to assist families to adjust, and did their best to complete the school year despite the many challenges.

The 2020/21 academic year has presented huge challenges for families of school-aged children, and thus for supplementary schools. **Parents have had to navigate difficult decisions regarding their children’s education and their family situations, and as a result, Supplementary Schools have seen a steep decline in the numbers of families able and/or willing to participate this year.** While the numbers vary across schools, many families have indicated that in January they may re-evaluate, and reconsider joining the programs. Though, with the current increase in infection rates, this seems unlikely.

Despite these challenges, all of the supplementary schools are operating, with some in person, some virtual, and some hybrid classes, as the situation evolves and guidelines shift in Ottawa.

It is too soon to evaluate the emergency needs of the supplementary schools, and this evaluation of needs will take place in early 2021. A total of \$15,000 was raised in the Emergency Campaign to support supplementary schools in 2020/21.

The total amount of annual operational funding available for Supplementary Schools in 2020/21 is \$105,473. This amount remains unchanged from last year.

Since 2006, Federation has distributed funds to Supplementary Schools using a funding formula that takes into consideration enrollment and hours of programming. The formula is based on the past 3-year rolling average of enrollment. **Note that the impact of pandemic will not be felt in this year’s allocations to supplementary schools, as the funding formula is based on the past 3 year’s enrollment.** Schools are allocated a proportion of the Supplementary School Funding available, based on their proportion of contact hours. **See the full formula calculations in the Appendix.**

Supplementary School Annual Funding

School	Contact Hours	% of Total Contact Hours	Allocation (Each receives a proportion of the funding envelope)	Funding 2019/2020	Proposed Funding 2020/21
OTC Chabad	250	23%	\$24,259	\$23,204	\$24,259
OTT	192	17%	\$17,930	\$16,876	\$17,930
Temple	311	28%	\$29,532	\$29,532	\$29,532
Torah High	207	19%	\$20,040	\$23,204	\$20,040
OMJS	141	13%	\$13,712	\$12,657	\$13,712
Total Schools	1101	100%	\$105,473	\$105,473	\$105,473

6. Conclusion

The 2020/21 academic year has been one of the most challenging in recent memory for schools, due to the global pandemic. The schools have been affected in many ways, and Federation remains a proud partner. We are committed to continuing to support Jewish education in Ottawa to the best of our abilities, and in many different ways. Maintaining Jewish educational options is a priority and a key component of the Federation’s vision of a thriving Jewish Superhighway.

APPENDIX

Day School Funding Formula

The recommendation is to **NOT** to use this funding formula to calculate OTI’s funding this year. These details of the funding formula are provided for information purposes only. According to the formula, high school students receive \$1,500/student in Grades 9 through 12. The formula is based on the average of the 3 previous year’s enrolment.

OTI funding, if applying the funding formula:

	2019/20	2018/19	2017/18	3-Year Average	Allocation by formula
School	Gr. 9-12	Gr. 9-12	Gr. 9-12	9-12	
	5	13	10	9	\$13,500

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 for the 3 previous years.

Supplementary School Enrollment – 3 Year Average

	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	3-Year Average
School	Enrollment	Enrollment	Enrollment	Total
OTC Chabad	106	103	90	100
OTT	60	61	70	64
Temple	92	95	99	95
Torah High	75	76	56	69
OMJS	47	44	49	47

Calculation of Contact Hours

School	NEW 3 – Year Average Enrollment	Hours of Programming	Contact Hours: Enrollment x Hours of Programming
OTC Chabad	100	2.5	250
OTT	64	3*	192
Temple	See below**		311
Torah High	69	3	207
OMJS	47	3	141
Total Contact Hours:			1101

* 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).

Calculations 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
2017/18	11	11	7	12	12	10	10	9	5	5	0
2018/19	11	8	13	5	10	11	11	10	8	4	4
2019/20	15	7	8	11	10	10	12	10	4	8	4
3yr average	12	9	6	6	11	10	11	10	6	6	3

Temple Israel Religious School			
Grade	Hours of Programming	3-Year Average Enrollment	No. of Contact Hours
K-1	3	21	63
2-6	4.5	44	198
7-10	2	25	50
			311

Total Proposed Funding for Supplementary Schools for 2019/2020

School	Contact Hours	% of Total Contact Hours	Allocation (Each receives a proportion of the funding envelope)	Funding 2019/2020	Proposed Funding 2020/21
OTC Chabad	250	23%	\$24,259	\$23,204	\$24,259
OTT	192	17%	\$17,930	\$16,876	\$17,930
Temple	311	28%	\$29,532	\$29,532	\$29,532
Torah High	207	19%	\$20,040	\$23,204	\$20,040
OMJS	141	13%	\$13,712	\$12,657	\$13,712
Total Schools	1101	100%	\$105,473	\$105,473	\$105,473

*\$1500 in funding that was put aside in the previous year (2018/19) for professional development for teachers has been added to amount for direct funding for schools in 2019/20.