

29 Tamuz 5768
August 25, 2008

Dear Parents,

We all know that it takes a village to raise a child. Education is a group effort involving both school and home. It is a co-operative effort between parents and the entire professional staff that make up a school.

Part of school goes home on a regular basis in the form of homework and feedback around the dinner table or in the car about the day's events. However, in order to foster a sense of community, much more is required. We need to bring the home into the school. Our students need to feel that their parents are truly invested in their education and their school.

Research has shown that the greater the degree of active involvement of parents in their children's school, whether it be in the classroom, extra-mural activities, on field trips or supporting school activities, the greater are the achievement benefits of the students.

Today the expectation in most independent and public schools is for parents to contribute their time to school activities. For many years this was the expectation at South Peninsula Hebrew Day School. This year we once again ask each of our families to contribute a minimum of 15 hours per annum of parental time to school activities. We are confident that we will be able to find them the opportunity to contribute one and a half hours a month to be involved in some type of classroom or school activity.

Attached in the community link is a list of tasks that we foresee during the coming year. Please pursue it, indicate your preference and forward it to our Parent Participation Coordinator. This will enable us to more evenly call upon parents when assistance is needed. Parents will then report their hours based on the honor system.

Thank you for you participation. We look forward to working together to make this year a meaningful one for all of our students.

Sincerely,

Rabbi Avi Schochet
Headmaster