

ANTI BULLYING

by Dan Berman,
Director of Education & Family Programming



Temple Beth-El has made it a priority this year to support our students' individuality and provide positive reinforcement and resources. Factors such as Covid-19, rising antisemitism and social media have presented challenges for children, especially young adults. Access to books and reading materials, especially for children ages 0-13, has also diminished over the recent years. Throughout the 2022-23 School year, materials including posters, books and resources have been added to the school to reinforce the concepts of empathy and support. The goal of the project is to provide an environment where children can learn safely and develop pro-social skills they can use as productive members of our community. This project will continue to take place through the end of Summer 2023, with the resources and concepts put in place for indefinite use. Families will be offered continued access to the on-site Family Library, with book recommendations that fit within positive education and mental well-being. Children will receive their own personalized library cards, with the database link for reserving books.

Recommendations for materials have been requested from the Anti-Defamation League and

PJ Library. This includes ADL's 'No Place for Hate' and "Anti-Bias Building Blocks."

Temple Beth-El was approved for a grant to be expending for our project *Being an Ally and Upstander through Anti-Bullying Education and Literacy*. Thank you to Smith & Associates Real Estate Foundation for approving funds to support this initiative, including to purchase anti-bullying, pro-positive well being and support materials, as well as helping educate and empower our students to be Upstanders.



