

Board Blessing and Covenant of Speech

Blessing of Our Sacred Work

(Stated before each board meeting)

צָרְכֵיב קוֹלְעֵס וְנִינֹץ, תִּיּוֹמְצוֹ בְּנִשְׁקֵד רֶשֶׁא, לְמוֹהֶע מֶלֶךְ וְאֱלֹהֵינּוּ יִי הֵתָא הַנְּרֵב
רְבוּץ

*Baruch atah adonai eloheinu melech ha'olam asher kidshanu b'mitzvotav
v'tzivanu la'asok betzorchei tzibur.*

Blessed are you, Eternal One, our God, majesty of the Universe, who has sanctified us with Your mitzvot, and commanded us to occupy ourselves with the needs of the community.

Covenant of Speech

(Stated before each board meeting)

At TBI, We cherish our diverse expressions of principles and Jewishness. TBI strives to be a safe place to talk about difficult matters with passion and compassion. To that end, we covenant one with the other to discuss matters of importance with *Lashon HaShalom*, the language of peace, both within the TBI community and beyond it. This Covenant of Speech proposes aspirational behaviors and attitudes to guide, not govern, our discourse.

As members of this sacred community, in covenant with each other we aspire:

- TO LISTEN: Listen for fact and feeling with an open heart and an open mind.
- TO INQUIRE: Ask questions to gain understanding.
- TO SPEAK: Share your ideas while respecting other ideas and people.
- TO PAUSE: Know when to be quiet. W.A.I.T (Why am I talking?)
- TO DISAGREE: Recognize that wisdom and good policy is built on respectful disagreement.
- TO APOLOGIZE: Apologize and accept the apologies of others.

Developed at the JRC in Evanston and provided to us by Amy Alfred consultant.