

## **Special Needs Programming 2015-16**

September, 18, 2015

Dear parents,

Shana tova! We hope that you and your families enjoyed the summer. We know that new school years can be overwhelming for both children and parents. We hope that your transitions are going well.

Over the past few years, we have steadily worked on the development of our programming for children who need extra support to have successful and meaningful experiences in religious school. Our goal is, as always, to make Judaism accessible to every child in our school.

Diane Usen continues this year as our Coordinator of Special Needs Programming. Mrs. Usen is an active member of our community and teacher in our Religious School. She is a certified and experienced special education teacher with over 16 years of religious school experience as well.

Mrs. Usen's role is to work with me, as well as with students, parents, teachers, and teen madrichim to coordinate all of our work on programming, accessibility, and supported learning. She will be available to speak with parents to discuss effective learning strategies for their children.

You will be hearing directly from Mrs. Usen at orientation on Sunday. You may contact her directly at [Diane3715@gmail.com](mailto:Diane3715@gmail.com). Please feel free also to contact me with any questions. Both of us will be available for meetings and discussions during the coming weeks and throughout the year.

B'shalom,  
Cantor Jamie