



Shmuel Bass

# TORAH ACADEMY

of San Antonio

## THE TASA TIMES

PARSHAT RE'EH

August 30th, 2019

29 Av, 5779

Issue 1, 2019-20

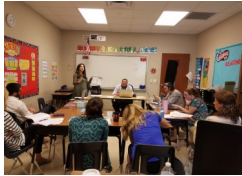
## 7th Year Starts on a High Note

Our **First Day of School** was Thursday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019. Students showed up bright and early eager to start a fresh new school year. TASA students started their day with morning Teffilah (prayers) lead by Rabbi Grossbaum and Mrs. Endzweig. Afterwards, a full-school assembly was held where TASA Staff introduced themselves and students were separated into special "Spirit Teams" in order to participate in some fun team building activities to "break the ice". The students enjoyed the activities and got to meet each other and learn new things about their peers. "This activity was especially helpful for our Kinder-

garteners and new students" said Mrs. Diric, Director of General Studies. "We are extremely excited to begin our school year with 40 students, marking significant growth" said Rabbi Marrus, Dean of Students and Director of Judaic Studies.

## School Year Prep

Faculty and Staff worked very hard before students returned cleaning the building, getting the classrooms ready, participating in staff training, preparing lesson plans for General and Judaic Studies and a book



study on The Blessing of a Skinned Knee by Wendy Mogel, Ph.D.

On Tuesday, August 20th, 2019 we had our "Back to School Social Night", in the Rodfei Social Hall. The event was a great success with all returning and new students showing up with a big smile, happy to see each other again after a long fun summer.



## TASA Safety Update - Fire & Lock-down Drill

We would like to take this opportunity to communicate to the members of our TASA families that here at TASA we are committed to providing our students and staff the safest environment possible. As part of our continued efforts to create and maintain a safe environment for our students and staff, we feel it is essential that you know we are dedicated to practicing coordinated emergency response procedures regularly. These safety procedures/drills provide administration valuable knowledge and understanding as well as feedback for improvements.

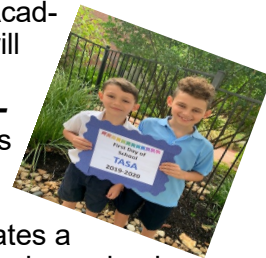
We ask that you stress to your children the importance of these drills and the attention to detail they demand.

With this said, we will coordinate a

morning practice fire drill on the second week of September.

## Changemakers

Shmuel Bass Torah Academy of San Antonio will continue with its "**Changemakers Program**", which provides students with a dynamic and tangible experience that facilitates a connection between their academic pursuits and professional endeavors in the future. Additionally, Changemakers provides a platform to develop meaningful and personal connections between our students, alumni, parents and friends.



Our program will offer the authenticity of professionals from the local community. Parents, businesses and community leaders are

an amazing resource. Their objectives are to provide kids with a relatable link to the real

world, hands-on expertise, and concrete examples of how academics relate to future educational and occupational opportunities.

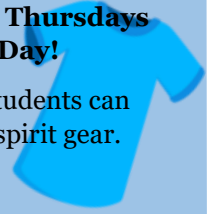
This Friday, August 30th, 2019 we will give a warm welcome to our first Changemaker visitor: Mr. Nathan Gershon.



# What's New TASA Crew!

Remember **Thursdays** are **Spirit Day!**

All TASA students can wear their spirit gear.



## New Faces at TASA

We are excited to welcome some new faces to our staff this year! We're thrilled to welcome a new P.E. Coach, Ms. Carla Keegan. Mrs. Erika Henderson will be focusing all her great energy and creativity in our Art Program. We also welcomed a new Kindergarten teacher Mrs. Rebecca Belka and Mrs. Vanessa Kock as our Office Administrator. Additionally, Rabbi Moshe Rosenwasser has assumed a greater role in teaching Middle School Judaic Studies.

## Teacher Feature



Get to know a little about Mrs. Becky Belka our new Kindergarten General Studies Teacher:

She graduated from Utah State University with a B.S. in Elementary Education and a minor in

P.E. Mrs. Becky has a wide experience being around children including teaching ESL grades K - 4th, aide in a special needs preschool, piano lessons instructor and if that wasn't enough last year she earned her Master's Degree in Sports Conditioning and Performance. So rest assured that all those sweet kindergarteners are in great hands!

## RABBI'S CORNER



This week we begin the Hebrew month of Elul. This month is a month of stock-taking and introspection as we begin preparations for the High Holidays. Among the special customs/Minhagim of this month are:

- \* Blowing of the Shofar daily (except for Shabbat)
- \* Recitation of Psalm 27 twice daily (Shachrit & Mincha in the Sefardic Tradition and Shachrit & Maariv in the Ashkenazic Tradition)
- \* Recitation of extra Psalms daily
- \* We begin to wish each other in person and in writing a happy and sweet New Year.



Shout out to Mrs. Malkie Marrus & Mrs. Loreleigh Glassburner for running PTO this year as well as their amazing team of volunteers!!  
**Together we can do so much!**



## Coming Soon!!



- ◇ **Monday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019** is Labor Day, there will be no school.
- ◇ **Wednesday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019** is TASA Open House Night @6:30pm
- ◇ **Sunday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019** Super Sunday! - more information to follow.
- ◇ **Wednesday, September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018** is Picture Day! Be ready to have a brand-new hair cut or hair do and be picture 📷 perfect!